

BC Tech's Policy Priorities

GROW CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN BC

To encourage the investment and retention of private capital into technology companies, projects and jobs in BC, Government should:

1. Lobby the federal government not to proceed with the proposed increase in the capital gains tax inclusion rate.
2. Build investor confidence through strongly articulated support for the innovation ecosystem and intellectual property rights.
3. Establish a BC Strategic Innovation Fund to create a mechanism to co-invest in innovation projects and proposals.
4. Use government procurement as a lever to create more value-for-BC.
5. Adjust InBC's scope of investment to allow greater access to that capital for smaller companies.
6. Invest in capturing better data about BC's economy, particularly in the technology and innovation sector.

GROW THE TALENT SUPPLY TO MEET DEMAND

To grow BC's tech talent pool to meet industry demand, Government should increase its focus on attracting and retaining talent and its investment in education and skills training.

1. Lobby the federal government not to proceed with the reduction in provincial nominee places in 2025 and expand the use of the H1B Visa pathway.
2. Fund an additional 10,000 tech-relevant public post-secondary graduates.
3. Double annual investment in short-course credentials and the highly effective rapid re-skilling courses that enable workers to re-train for a career in tech.
4. Explore opportunities to encourage Canadian talent which is located overseas to return to BC.
5. Invest in targeted programming for entrepreneurs to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to successfully scaleup their companies.
6. Continue to invest in the infrastructure of the services economy — affordability, safety, education, childcare and transit — to build thriving communities where skilled workers want to stay.