



# CENTRAL OKANAGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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## **Business Services Guide**



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## Introduction

Whether you already own or operate a business in the Central Okanagan, or plan to do so in the future, this publication is for you. This guide has been prepared to provide the user with an introduction and contact source when doing business in the Central Okanagan. The guide lists major areas of interest and includes a list of Central Okanagan business services, associations and other useful information available through the Economic Development Commission.

The information obtained within this publication has been compiled from sources deemed to be reliable and while every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, it is not guaranteed. Readers should be aware that any information stated herein may change at any time and without notice. This publication is intended as an information source and does not imply endorsement of any service, association or organization herein. To help us serve you better, should you find any errors, inaccuracies or omissions, please notify the COEDC and we will tend to any concerns immediately.

**For further information on regional economic development opportunities, please contact:**



**CENTRAL  
OKANAGAN**

ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION

Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission  
1450 K.L.O. Road  
Kelowna, BC V1W 3Z4

Tel: **1-877-332-2673 or (250) 469-6280**

Email: [info@investkelowna.com](mailto:info@investkelowna.com)

Web: [www.investkelowna.com](http://www.investkelowna.com)



## Economic Development Commission Services

# THE REGION'S PRIMARY BUSINESS RESOURCE



**Economic  
Profile & Data**



**Workforce  
Development**



**Business  
Development**



**Agriculture  
Support**



**Export  
Development**



The Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission (COEDC) is a service of the [Regional District of Central Okanagan](#) providing economic development services to the communities of Lake Country, Kelowna, Westbank First Nation, West Kelowna, Peachland and Electoral Areas East and West.

See our [Moving Forward to 2025 Strategic Plan](#) and [2021 Operational Plan](#) to find out what we're up to.

## Get In Touch with Our Team



**Krista Mallory**  
Manager  
(250) 469-6283  
[kmallory@investkelowna.com](mailto:kmallory@investkelowna.com)



**Eva Weston**  
Business Development Officer  
(250) 469-6294  
[eweston@investkelowna.com](mailto:eweston@investkelowna.com)



**Bill Wang**  
Business Development Officer  
(250) 469-6180  
[bwang@investkelowna.com](mailto:bwang@investkelowna.com)



**Sascha Lesack**  
Research & Marketing Coordinator  
(250) 469-6282  
[info@investkelowna.com](mailto:info@investkelowna.com)

## Program Specialists



**Tory (Victoria) Braun**  
Okanagan Young  
Professionals Collective  
(250) 215-2125  
[oyp@investkelowna.com](mailto:oyp@investkelowna.com)



**Myrna Stark Leader**  
Agriculture & Connector Program  
(306) 536-5691  
[agriculture@investkelowna.com](mailto:agriculture@investkelowna.com)  
[connector@investkelowna.com](mailto:connector@investkelowna.com)



The [Connector Program](#) is a formalized community integration initiative designed to broaden a job seeker's network through one-on-one meetings with established business leaders in the community. It is a simple but effective referral process that puts newcomers in touch with highly networked individuals so they can connect to our workforce and settle successfully in our community.

## Interested in Participating?

We are currently building our network of Connectors. If giving back by helping newcomers and recent graduates integrate into the community interests you or you are new to the region, a post-secondary student or recent post-secondary graduate, email [connector@investkelowna.com](mailto:connector@investkelowna.com) for more information.

Guides and Economic Profiles available for download at [www.investkelowna.com/resources](http://www.investkelowna.com/resources)

- Central Okanagan Business Services Guide
- Financing Resources Guide
- Resources for Farm Operators
- Central Okanagan Economic Profile
- Industry Profiles in Aerospace, Agriculture, Cannabis, Digital Tech, Manufacturing, Viticulture
- Investor Guide
- Quarterly Economic Indicators Report



# GOVERNMENT

## Local Government Offices



**City of Kelowna**  
1435 Water Street  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4  
(250) 469-8500  
Email: [ask@kelowna.ca](mailto:ask@kelowna.ca)  
Web: [www.kelowna.ca](http://www.kelowna.ca)



**City of West Kelowna**  
2760 Cameron Road  
West Kelowna, BC V1Z 2T6  
(778) 797-1000  
Email: [info@westkelownacity.ca](mailto:info@westkelownacity.ca)  
Web: [www.westkelownacity.ca](http://www.westkelownacity.ca)



**District of Lake Country**  
5806 Beach Avenue  
Lake Country, BC V4V 2M1  
(250) 766-5650  
Web: [www.lakecountry.bc.ca](http://www.lakecountry.bc.ca)



**District of Peachland**  
5806 Beach Avenue  
Peachland, BC V0H 1X0  
(250) 767-2647  
Email: [info@peachland.ca](mailto:info@peachland.ca)  
Web: [www.peachland.ca](http://www.peachland.ca)



**Regional District of Central Okanagan**  
1450 K.L.O. Road  
Kelowna, BC V1W 3Z4  
(250) 763-4918  
Email: [info@cord.bc.ca](mailto:info@cord.bc.ca)  
Web: [www.regionaldistrict.com](http://www.regionaldistrict.com)



**Westbank First Nation**  
301 – 515 Hwy 97 South  
Kelowna, BC V1Z 3J2  
(250) 769-4999  
Email: [mail@wfn.ca](mailto:mail@wfn.ca)  
Web: [www.wfn.ca](http://www.wfn.ca)

## Bid & Business Opportunities

**Kelowna**  
<https://www.kelowna.ca/business-services/business-opportunities/bidding-opportunities>

**Regional District of Central Okanagan**  
<https://rdco.bidsandtenders.ca/Module/Tenders/en>

**British Columbia Government - BC Bid**  
[www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca)

**Lake Country**  
<https://www.lakecountry.bc.ca/en/business-information/bids-and-tenders.aspx>

**West Kelowna**  
<http://bids.westkelownacity.ca/Module/Tenders/en>

**Canadian & US Public Tenders**  
[www.merx.com](http://www.merx.com)

**Peachland**  
<https://www.peachland.ca/bids>

**Westbank First Nation**  
<https://www.wfn.ca/business-development/business-services/bidding-opportunities.htm>

**Civic Info BC**  
<http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/bids>

**Government of Canada**  
[www.buyandsell.gc.ca](http://www.buyandsell.gc.ca)

## Dark Fibre Network

For businesses or institutions operating in Kelowna that have demanding data requirements. For more information, visit <https://www.kelowna.ca/business-services/business-city/our-data-network-businesses>

## Permits and Inspections

### Kelowna

<https://www.kelowna.ca/homes-building/building-permits-inspections/apply-building-permit>

### Peachland

<https://www.peachland.ca/building-inspection>

### Regional District of Central Okanagan

<http://www.regionaldistrict.com/your-services/inspection-section/permits-inspections.aspx>

### Lake Country

<https://www.lakecountry.bc.ca/en/business-information/building-and-planning.aspx>

### West Kelowna

<https://www.westkelownacity.ca/en/building-business-and-development/building-department.aspx>

### Westbank First Nation

<https://www.wfn.ca/business-development/building-permits-inspections.htm>

## Economic Development Offices

Economic Development Offices are available to assist businesses in establishment and expansion and offer helpful advice for start-up and operation.

### Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission (COEDC)

COEDC Manager: Krista Mallory  
1450 KLO Road  
Kelowna, BC V1W 3Z4  
Phone: (250) 469-6280 / Toll Free 1-877-332-2673  
Email: [info@investkelowna.com](mailto:info@investkelowna.com)  
Web: [www.investkelowna.com](http://www.investkelowna.com)

### Kelowna

Partnership Office Director:  
Bob Evans  
1435 Water Street  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4  
Phone: (250) 469-8500  
Email: [bevans@kelowna.ca](mailto:bevans@kelowna.ca)  
Web: [www.kelowna.ca](http://www.kelowna.ca)

### Lake Country

Economic Development & Public Engagement Specialist:  
Ruth Sulentich  
10150 Bottom Wood Lake Road  
Lake Country, BC V4V 2M1  
Phone: (250) 863-9940  
Email: [rsulentich@lakecountry.bc.ca](mailto:rsulentich@lakecountry.bc.ca)  
Web: [www.lakecountry.bc.ca](http://www.lakecountry.bc.ca)

### Peachland

Director of Community Service:  
Cory Labrecque  
5806 Beach Avenue  
Peachland, BC V0H 1X0  
Phone: (250) 767-3705  
Email: [clabreque@peachland.ca](mailto:clabreque@peachland.ca)  
Web: [www.peachland.ca](http://www.peachland.ca)

### West Kelowna

Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator:  
Salina Petschulat Curtis  
2760 Cameron Road  
West Kelowna, BC V1Z 2T6  
Phone: (778) 797-2214  
Email: [salina.curtis@westkelowna.ca](mailto:salina.curtis@westkelowna.ca)  
Web: [www.westkelownacity.ca](http://www.westkelownacity.ca)

### Westbank First Nation

Director of Economic Development & Communications: Mandi Carroll  
301 – 515 Hwy 97 South  
Kelowna, BC V1Z 3J2  
Phone: (250) 769-4999  
Email: [mcarroll@wfn.ca](mailto:mcarroll@wfn.ca)  
Web: [www.wfn.ca](http://www.wfn.ca)



## Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

As a regional contact for investors, local business, and government, the ministry works closely with other provincial and federal agencies at a local and regional level to assist businesses, community organizations, and local government access services, resources, and program funding information related to economic development. They actively support local and regional economic development initiatives, including international investment attraction.

Regional Manager, Thompson-Okanagan  
Region: Myles Bruns  
Suite 510 – 175 2nd Avenue  
Kamloops, BC V2C 5W1

Phone: (250) 371-3931  
Mobile: (250) 318-5150  
Toll-Free Enquiry BC 1-800-663-7867  
Email: [Myles.Bruns@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Myles.Bruns@gov.bc.ca)  
Web: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/jtst>

## Provincial & Federal Tax Information

### BC Corporate Tax Rates & Credits

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/businesses/topics/corporations/provincial-territorial-corporation-tax/british-columbia-provincial-corporation-tax.html>

### BC Corporate Income Tax

<https://www.britishcolumbia.ca/invest/why-british-columbia-canada/low-business-costs/taxes>

### Federal Corporate Tax Rates

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/businesses/topics/corporations/corporation-tax-rates.html>

### CRA Guide for Canadian Small Business

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed-income/checklist-small-businesses.html>

### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/gsthst.html>

### BC Provincial Sales Tax (PST)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/pst>

### Canada Revenue Agency

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes.html>





## Property & Tax Assessment

### Kelowna

<https://www.kelowna.ca/homes-building/property-taxes/payment-options>

### Lake Country

<https://www.lakecountry.bc.ca/en/living-in-our-community/taxes.aspx>

### Peachland

<https://www.peachland.ca/property-taxes>

### West Kelowna

<https://www.westkelownacity.ca/en/city-hall/property-taxes.aspx>

### Regional District of Central Okanagan

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/rural-area>

### Westbank First Nation

<https://online.wfn.ca/eServices/Property-Tax>

## Developer Incentives

### Kelowna

<https://www.kelowna.ca/homes-building/developers/developer-incentives>

### Peachland

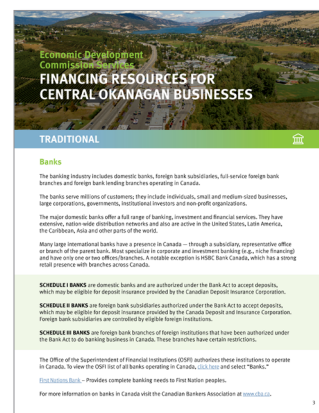
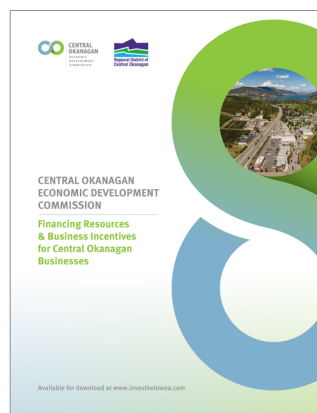
<https://www.peachland.ca/revitalization-tax-exemption-bylaw-no-2035-2012>

### Lake Country

<https://www.lakecountry.bc.ca/en/business-information/incentives-and-funding-programs.aspx>

## Funding & Business Incentives

See the COEDC Financing Resources Guide at [www.investkelowna.com/resources](http://www.investkelowna.com/resources)



# COMPANY FORMATION & REGISTRATION

## BizPal

[www.bizpal.ca](http://www.bizpal.ca)

A free online service that helps identify which permits and licenses are required and how to obtain them. Select the business activities you plan to undertake and BizPal then automatically generates a list of all required permits and licenses from all levels of government (federal, provincial, territorial and municipal), along with basic information on each, and links to government sites where you can learn more and, in some cases, apply online.

## Municipal Business Licenses

Any person owning or operating a business within the Central Okanagan must obtain an annual business license. When preparing to do business in the Central Okanagan you will need to contact the municipality in which you will be conducting business. If you will be setting up your business in an unincorporated electoral area (Central Okanagan East and West) contact the Regional District. Reserve 9 and 10 (IR9 & 10) are administered through the Westbank First Nation. Licenses are not required for the Duck Lake Reserve; however, permission is required for business operation and is administered through Okanagan Indian Band.

### Big White Ski Resort

Permission to operate at this private resort is required.

Phone: (250) 765-3101

<https://www.bigwhite.com/geo/kel>

### Duck Lake Reserve - Okanagan Indian Band

12420 Westside Road, Vernon, BC

Phone: (250) 542-4328

<http://www.okib.ca>

### Kelowna

1435 Water Street

Phone: (250) 469-8960

<https://www.kelowna.ca/business-services/permits-licences/business-licences>

### Lake Country

10150 Bottom Wood Lake Road

Phone: (250) 766-5650

<https://www.lakecountry.bc.ca/en/business-information/business-applications-licences-and-permits.aspx>

### Peachland

5806 Beach Avenue

Phone: (250) 767-2647

<https://www.peachland.ca/business-licencing>

### West Kelowna

2760 Cameron Road

Phone: (778) 797-8820

<https://www.westkelownacity.ca/en/building-business-and-development/business-licences.aspx>

### Regional District of Central Okanagan

1450 KLO Road, Kelowna

Phone: (250) 469-6211

<https://www.rdco.com/en/business-and-land-use/business-licences.aspx>

### Westbank First Nation

301 – 515 Hwy 97 South

Phone: (250) 769-4999

<https://www.wfn.ca/business-development/business-services/licences-permits.htm>

## Inter-Community Business License Program

Kelowna, West Kelowna, Peachland, Lake Country and the Regional District of Central Okanagan participate in the Inter-Community Business License Program designed to simplify business licensing and reduce costs. Companies doing business in more than one community (with only one fixed location) may now purchase a Mobile Business License for an annual fee of \$150 in addition to the municipal fee. Contact your municipality for more information.

## Provincial & Federal License Requirements

There are specific provincial and federal licensing regulations and requirements which may affect your business. Before you begin operation of your business, you are advised to contact the provincial ministry having jurisdiction over the types of business activities you will be conducting to ensure that you are fully licensed and obeying current regulations. You may contact the government through their toll free telephone service or through their web site as follows:

### **Provincial**

Enquiry BC: 1-800-663-7867  
<http://www.gov.bc.ca>

### **Federal**

General Inquiries: 1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)  
<http://www.Canada.gc.ca>

## BC Registry Services

[www.bcregistryservices.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bcregistryservices.gov.bc.ca)

All registrations of businesses, not-for-profit societies, cooperatives, personal property and manufactured homes are administered and supported by BC Registries and Online Services.

## Multi-Jurisdictional Registry Access Service (MRAS)

Search active or in active businesses from the official registries of Alberta, British Columbia, Corporations Canada, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan. This service lets you search across these registries at one time. For more information about the MRAS program go to:

<https://www.isc.ca/CorporateRegistry/Pages/MRAS.aspx>

## One Stop Business Registry (OSBR)

[www.onestopbc.ca](http://www.onestopbc.ca)

OneStop lets you apply for and complete registrations for a new or existing business with local, provincial and federal governments.

- Create and register new businesses
- Submit business applications with various levels of government including:
  - Provincial sales tax account - PST
  - Business license application (local government)
  - WorkSafeBC coverage
  - Business BCeID
  - Canada Revenue Agency accounts
    - Goods and Services Tax - GST (Federal Tax)
    - Payroll deductions
    - Import/Export accounts

## Protecting Your Intellectual Property

### Canadian Intellectual Property Office

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/ip.html>

### World Intellectual Property Organization - IP Panorama

<http://www.wipo.int/sme/en/multimedia>

### Patent Agents list for BC

[https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/h\\_wroooo1.html](https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/h_wroooo1.html)

### Trademark Agents for BC

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/ip/trademarks.html>

## SMALL BUSINESS PLANNING

## Startup and Business Planning Resources

### Digital Accelerator for Innovation and Research

<https://www.canarie.ca/cloud/>

### Farm Operators Resource Guide

[www.investkelowna.com/resources](http://www.investkelowna.com/resources)

### Indigenous Small Business Resources

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/small-business/indigenous\\_sb\\_resource\\_handout.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/small-business/indigenous_sb_resource_handout.pdf)

### **Incorporating a Business**

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cd-dgc.nsf/eng/home>

### **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada**

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ic1.nsf/eng/home>

### **Small Business BC Free Business Planning Resources**

<http://smallbusinessbc.ca/resources/howtos-checklists/#more>

### **Starting a Small Business Guide, Province of BC**

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/small-business/starting\\_a\\_small\\_business\\_guide.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/small-business/starting_a_small_business_guide.pdf)

### **Starting a Restaurant in BC**

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/managing-a-business/starting-a-business/starting-a-restaurant-in-bc>

### **University of British Columbia Small Business Accelerator Program**

<https://sba.ubc.ca>

## **Business Plan Guides, Templates**

### **Canada Business**

<http://canadabusiness.ca/business-planning/writing-your-business-plan>

### **Bplans.com**

[www.bplans.com](http://www.bplans.com)

### **Business Development Bank of Canada**

<https://www.bdc.ca/en/articles-tools/entrepreneur-toolkit/templates-business-guides/business-plan-template>

### **Farm Business Planning Tool**

[www.FarmBusinessAssessment.com](http://www.FarmBusinessAssessment.com)

### **Futurpreneur Canada**

<https://www.futurpreneur.ca/en/resources/start-up-business-planning/tips-tools/business-plan-writer>

### **Small Business Accelerator Program**

<https://sba.ubc.ca/learn-business-basics/business-plans>

### **Small Business BC**

<http://smallbusinessbc.ca/article/how-write-a-business-plan>

## **Disaster Planning and Recovery**

[https://www.bceda.ca/disaster\\_preparation\\_and\\_recov.php](https://www.bceda.ca/disaster_preparation_and_recov.php)

The BC Economic Disaster Program is the first program of its kind in Canada focused on the resiliency and recovery of distressed economies.

<http://www.preparemybusiness.org/planning.html>

When disaster strikes, having a plan and being able to put it into immediate action can mean the difference between staying open to service the needs of your customers and community or shutting down for a few days. Following a disaster, statistics show ninety percent of companies fail within a year unless they can resume operations within five days. Having a plan can ensure that you are back in business quickly and able to provide products and services to your community.

## BUYING OR SELLING A BUSINESS

### BritishColumbia.ca - Opportunities in British Columbia

[www.britishcolumbia.ca/invest/opportunities](http://www.britishcolumbia.ca/invest/opportunities)

Search for:

- Investments or an opportunity to find a partner to compliment your array of service offerings
- Office, retail and industrial space for rent or sale in BC
- Businesses for sale

Are you a business owner looking to attract investment, sell or lease your business? Submit your opportunity to OpportunitiesBC to enable domestic and international representatives to promote your opportunity across their network.

### Business Finders Canada

[www.businessfinderscanada.com](http://www.businessfinderscanada.com)

Certified business brokers specializing in the confidential representation of buyers, seller and investors for businesses and commercial property in Western Canada. Certified business brokers also provides assistance to new immigrants who just arrived in B.C. and want to buy a company, or are looking to find a different opportunity.

### Venture Connect

[www.ventureconnect.ca](http://www.ventureconnect.ca)

Business succession specialists, providing professional guidance to BC business owners to plan for their transition and ready their business for sale. List or browse businesses for sale on their website.

## Succession Planning

### BDC Succession Planning Assistance

<https://www.bdc.ca/en/articles-tools/change-ownership/plan-succession/pages/default.aspx>

### Canada Business Network Succession Planning

<https://canadabusiness.ca/business-planning/succession-planning/?it=eng/page/2819>





## CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS



### **Kelowna Chamber of Commerce**

544 Harvey Avenue  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 6C9  
Phone: (250) 861-3627  
Email: [info@kelownachamber.org](mailto:info@kelownachamber.org)  
Web: [www.kelownachamber.org](http://www.kelownachamber.org)



### **Greater Westside Board of Trade**

2372 Dobbin Road  
West Kelowna, BC V4T 2H9  
Phone: (250) 768-3378  
Toll Free: 1-866-768-3378  
Email: [admin@gwboardoftrade.com](mailto:admin@gwboardoftrade.com)  
Web: [www.gwboardoftrade.com](http://www.gwboardoftrade.com)



### **Peachland Chamber of Commerce**

5878C Beach Avenue  
Peachland BC V0H 1X5  
Phone: (250) 767-2455  
Email: [peachlandchamber@gmail.com](mailto:peachlandchamber@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.peachlandchamber.com](http://www.peachlandchamber.com)



### **Lake Country Chamber of Commerce**

32 – 10042 Main Street  
Lake Country, BC V4V 1P6  
Phone: (250) 766-5670  
Toll Free: 1-888-766-5670  
Email: [info@lakecountrychamber.com](mailto:info@lakecountrychamber.com)  
Web: [www.lakecountrychamber.com](http://www.lakecountrychamber.com)



### **Uptown Rutland Business Association (URBA)**

158 Valleyview Road  
Kelowna, BC V1X 3M4  
Phone: (250) 451-9861  
Email: [info@uptownrutland.com](mailto:info@uptownrutland.com)  
Web: [www.ourrutland.ca](http://www.ourrutland.ca)

## **DOWNTOWN KELOWNA**

### **Downtown Kelowna Association**

200 – 287 Bernard Avenue  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 6N2  
Phone: (250) 862-3515  
Email: [info@downtownkelowna.com](mailto:info@downtownkelowna.com)  
Web: [www.downtownkelowna.com](http://www.downtownkelowna.com)

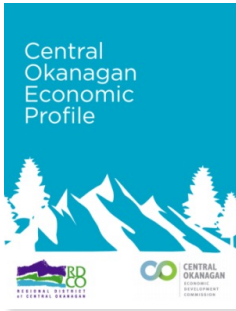
# STATISTICS AND RESOURCES

## Invest Kelowna Data Portal

<https://data.investkelowna.com>

The COEDC provides this data to support access to information about the people, businesses, and communities of the Central Okanagan.

## Regional Economic and Industry Profiles



The Economic Profile and 6 Industry Profiles: Aerospace/Agriculture/Cannabis/Digital Tech/Manufacturing/Viticulture covers the member communities throughout the Okanagan and includes a wide range of demographic information pertinent to the local economy including information on population, infrastructure, housing, education, labour force, industry and resources related to investing and living in the Okanagan. The profiles are a valuable tool for market research with a wide range of users from potential investors, business students, and trade & investment representatives to individuals researching the marketplace prior to starting a business. Access the profiles at <http://www.investkelowna.com/resources>.

## Statistical & Research Websites

### Bankruptcy and Insolvency Records Search

<https://www.ic.gc.ca/app/scr/bisf-osb/ins/login.html?lang=eng>

### BC Government Open Information

[www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca](http://www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca)

### BC Major Projects Inventory

[BC Major Projects Inventory - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://www.gov.bc.ca/major-projects)

### Statistics Canada

[www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

### BC Stats

[www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca)

### DataBC

[www.data.gov.bc.ca](http://www.data.gov.bc.ca)

### BC Economic Atlas

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/economic-development/industry/bc-economic-atlas>

### Housing

[www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca)  
[www.interiorrealtors.ca](http://www.interiorrealtors.ca)

### Rent

[www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca)

<https://www.padmapper.com/apartments/kelowna-bc>

### Labour & Income

[Labour Market Statistics - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://www.gov.bc.ca/labour-market-statistics)

### US Federal Statistics

[www.data.gov](http://www.data.gov)

### Province of BC Small Business Guides and Reports

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/small-business/resources>

### Canadian Wages & Salary

<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/trend-analysis/search-wages>

### Small Business Research & Stats

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/o61.nsf/eng/Home>

### Centre for Special Business Projects (CSBP)

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/subjects-start/society-and-community/rural-canada>

# INDIGENOUS BUSINESS RESOURCES

## National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association

<https://nacca.ca/about/>

The National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association is a network of over 50 Aboriginal Financial Institutions (AFIs) dedicated to stimulating economic growth for all Indigenous people in Canada.

# LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

## What Does a Job Pay?

<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/trend-analysis/search-wages>

Find available jobs, wages (low, median, and high range listed for a specific job), outlooks, and job requirements specific to an occupation and location.

## Federal & Provincial Labour Standards

**Federal** <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/workplace/federal-labour-standards.html>

**Provincial** <http://www.labour.gov.bc.ca/esb>

The main purpose of the Employment Standards Act is to make sure that workers receive at least minimum standards of wages and terms of employment.

## WorkBC

<http://workbccentre-kelowna.ca>

WorkBC is the provincial government's access point to help all British Columbians to successfully navigate BC's labour market. WorkBC helps people find jobs, explore career options and improve their skills. They help employers fill jobs, find the right talent and grow their businesses.

## Chartered Professionals in Human Resources of British Columbia & Yukon

[www.cphrbc.ca](http://www.cphrbc.ca)

The Chartered Professionals in Human Resources of British Columbia & Yukon (CPHR BC & Yukon) is your source for Human Resources information and services. CPHR BC & Yukon is committed to providing leadership in HR excellence and is the foremost professional association for those involved in the business of people. It is also certifying body of the Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR) designation in BC.

## Employment and Social Development Canada

<http://www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/home.shtml>

Learn about funding opportunities (grants and contributions), pensions, disability programs, senior programs, child and family programs, and community programs that are offered by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), the Labour Program and Service Canada.

## Co-op Programs

Employers partnering with Okanagan College and UBC Okanagan Co-op access top talent to fill short-term requirements while meeting future recruitment needs. Whether it is a project sitting on the edge of your desk that you've been meaning to start, or the opportunity to fill a short-term hire, a Co-op student can provide you with the opportunity to lighten your workload and test drive a new employee with little risk. There are numerous benefits associated with hiring a Co-op student:

<b>Flexible:</b>	Hire for 4, 8 or 12 months at time, and year-round.
<b>Cost-effective:</b>	Placements must be paid, comparable to industry norms.
<b>Top Talent:</b>	Students are pre-screened and receive pre-employment training.
<b>Hiring Incentives:</b>	Grants can subsidize the cost of training and integrating students into positions.

Okanagan College [www.okanagan.bc.ca/coop](http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/coop)

University of British  
Columbia Okanagan <https://coop.ok.ubc.ca>

## Training Programs & Subsidies

### Apprenticeship Supports

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/apprentices.html>

### Province of British Columbia – Jobs & Career Training Resources

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/job-career-training>

### Certified International Trade Professional Training

<https://fittfortrade.com>

### Federal Government Grants and Contributions

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding.html>

### Get Youth Working Program

[www.getyouthworking.ca](http://www.getyouthworking.ca)

### Self-Employment Training– Community Futures

<https://www.cfdcco.bc.ca/services/self-employment-program>

### Service Canada

[www.canada.ca](http://www.canada.ca)

### S.T.E.P. (Skilled Trades Employment Program)

[www.stepbc.ca](http://www.stepbc.ca)

### Trades Training BC

[www.tradetrainingbc.ca](http://www.tradetrainingbc.ca)

### Training Tax Credit

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/corporate/credits/training>

### Work Sharing Program for Employers

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing.html>

### WorkBC

<https://workbccentre-kelowna.ca>

### YMCA Career Services (17-29 yrs)

<https://www.ymcaokanagan.ca/CareerServices>





Canada Revenue  
Agency

### Canada Revenue Agency

[www.cra-arc.gc.ca](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca)

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) administers tax laws for the Government of Canada and for most provinces and territories, and administers various social and economic benefit and incentive programs delivered through the tax system. Information for business is available regarding income tax, payroll, pension plans, GST, business number registration, excise taxes, duties and levies, and benefits.



Canadian  
human rights  
commission

Commission  
canadienne des  
droits de la personne

### Canadian Human Rights Commission

[www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca](http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca)

Employers - find information about your obligations under federal human rights law and information about how to improve your workplace.



### Employment Standards and Workplace Safety

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards>

The Employment Standards Branch administers the [Employment Standards Act](#) and [Employment Standards Regulation](#) which set minimum standards for wages and working conditions in most workplaces.



### go2HR – Resources for the Tourism and Hospitality Industry

[www.go2hr.ca](http://www.go2hr.ca)

go2HR provides information to employers on HR issues such as recruitment, retention, training and legal issues, coordinates and conducts industry leading research on key employment related issues and policies affecting the BC tourism labour market, executes a multi-channelled career awareness campaign which is designed to attract people to pursue tourism jobs and careers, and helps businesses gain access to relevant front-line, team leadership and management skills training for their employees.



WorkBC

### Job Creation Partnerships

<https://www.workbc.ca/Employment-Services/Community-and-Employer-Partnerships/Job-Creation-Partnerships.aspx>

Job Creation Partnerships support funding to organizations and provides community benefit while creating jobs to assist unemployed EI eligible clients with opportunities to gain meaningful work experience.



### Office of the Information and Privacy Commission for BC

[www.oipc.bc.ca](http://www.oipc.bc.ca)

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner provides independent oversight and enforcement of BC's access and privacy laws, including:

- The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA), which applies to over 2,900 “public bodies” including ministries, local governments, schools, crown corporations, hospitals, municipal police forces, and more.
- The Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA), which applies to over 380,000 private sector “organizations” including businesses, charities, associations, trade unions and trusts.



Government  
of Canada

### Service Canada – HR for Employers

[www.canada.ca/en/services/business/hire/humanresourcesmanagement.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/hire/humanresourcesmanagement.html)

Government of Canada human resources information for employers from government and non-government sources: Payroll, wages and other resources for recruiting, training and managing employees.



### Okanagan College – Corporate Training Solutions

[www.okanagan.bc.ca/Programs/Areas\\_of\\_Study/cs/contract-training.html](http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Programs/Areas_of_Study/cs/contract-training.html)

From one-day workshops and quick-response training classes to personalized education solutions, Okanagan College delivers your corporate training where and when you need it.



### WorkBC Wage Subsidy Program

<https://workbccentre-kelowna.ca/find-staff/wage-subsidies>

The WorkBC Wage Subsidy Service is available at no cost to employers or job seekers. The Wage Subsidy Program assists employers in offsetting the cost associated with hiring new employees and developing their skills in order to create long-term employment opportunities.



### WorkSafeBC

[www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com)

WorkSafeBC is a provincial agency promoting safe and healthy workplaces. Services include education, prevention, compensation and support for injured workers, and no-fault insurance to protect employers and workers. If you are hiring employees or if your business is incorporated, register with WorkSafeBC before commencement of business.



## Immigration Resources

**Arrival Advisory App** offered by PeaceGeeks, free app available in seven languages providing a directory of information and services valuable to new immigrants and refugees in BC. Available in iTunes store and Google Play.

<https://arrivaladvisor.ca>

**Government of Canada - Apply to travel, study, work, or immigrate to Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/immigration-citizenship.html>

**Immigration Employment Council of BC**

A not-for-profit organization connecting employers to immigration talent.

[www.iecbc.ca](http://www.iecbc.ca)

**KCR Community Resources**

Referrals to relevant services, resources and employment support within the community for immigrant newcomers in the Central Okanagan.

<https://kcr.ca/immigrant-services>

If you decide to work with a consultant or lawyer, visit the Immigration & Citizenship Canada website to help you choose a representative and avoid being a victim of fraud during the immigration process.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigration-citizenship-representative/choose.html>

As of October 1, 2019 foreign worker recruiters must have a [license to operate](#) in BC.

To check if a person is licensed to represent immigrants or to give advice go to:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigration-citizenship-representative/choose/authorized.html>

## Labour Market Research & Resources

**BC Stats**

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/statistics/employment-labour/labour-market-statistics>

Unemployment rates, labour force characteristics, employment by industry, employment by occupation.

**Statistics Canada**

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/subjects/Labour>

Unemployment rates, labour force characteristics, employment by industry, employment by occupation.

**Wage Search, Service Canada**

<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/explorecareers?select=ec-wages>

**WorkBC Labour Market & Industry Research**

<https://www.workbc.ca/Labour-Market-Industry.aspx>

High demand occupations, labour market outlook, skills for the future workforce, top demand trades, industry and sector information, BC and regional profiles.

## Job Search Sites

### Tech Industry

[www.accelerateokanagan.com/community/job-board](http://www.accelerateokanagan.com/community/job-board)

### Okanagan based postings

<https://classifieds.castanet.net/cat/jobs>

### Tourism Industry

[www.go2hr.ca/jobboard](http://www.go2hr.ca/jobboard)

### Civic Info BC

<https://civicinfo.bc.ca/careers>

## Provincial and National Search Sites

[www.bcjobs.ca](http://www.bcjobs.ca)

[www.indeed.ca](http://www.indeed.ca)

[www.monster.ca](http://www.monster.ca)

[www.careerbuilder.ca](http://www.careerbuilder.ca)

[www.jobbank.gc.ca](http://www.jobbank.gc.ca)

[www.simplyhired.ca](http://www.simplyhired.ca)

[www.eluta.ca](http://www.eluta.ca)

[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

[www.workopolis.com](http://www.workopolis.com)

[www.glassdoor.ca](http://www.glassdoor.ca)

[www.localworkbc.ca](http://www.localworkbc.ca)

[www.mobilizejobs.ca](http://www.mobilizejobs.ca)

A national youth employment program. Designed to connect Canadian employers with the semi-skilled labour they need, it provides businesses with youth eager to work and experience new parts of their country. Mobilize places workers on rotational placements each summer and winter, supplying tourism, hospitality, resorts, golf courses, food services and landscaping/agriculture business with employees.

## Recruitment Firms

### Aspire Recruitment Solutions

[www.aspirehiring.ca](http://www.aspirehiring.ca)

### Kelowna Human Resources

[www.kelownahr.com](http://www.kelownahr.com)

### Platinum Personnel

[www.platinumpersonnel.ca](http://www.platinumpersonnel.ca)

### Bowman Employment Services

[www.bowmanemployment.com](http://www.bowmanemployment.com)

### Love HR

[www.LoveHR.ca](http://www.LoveHR.ca)

### Ronin HR

[www.roninhr.com](http://www.roninhr.com)

### Okanagan Staffing Inc.

[www.okanaganstaffing.com](http://www.okanaganstaffing.com)

### Labour Unlimited

[www.labourunlimited.com](http://www.labourunlimited.com)

### KAN Recruitment

[www.kanrecruitment.com](http://www.kanrecruitment.com)

### Go2HR – Tourism Positions

[www.go2hr.ca/jobboard](http://www.go2hr.ca/jobboard)

# BUSINESS SERVICES

## Grant Writing Services

Do Gooders is a social enterprise that assists local not-for-profits with cost-effective, top quality grant writing, fundraising initiatives, digital marketing and back-office support. [www.dogooders.ca](http://www.dogooders.ca)

## Corporate Meeting and Event Space

Contact us for a listing of meeting and event spaces.

## Networking and Business Mentorship

### **BNI Canada**

[www.bnicanada.ca](http://www.bnicanada.ca)

### **Business Okanagan Referral Group (BORG)**

[www.facebook.com/borgreferral](http://www.facebook.com/borgreferral)

### **CONNECT (Women's Networking Group)**

[www.connectkelowna.org](http://www.connectkelowna.org)

### **Downtown Kelowna Association**

[www.downtownkelowna.com](http://www.downtownkelowna.com)

### **eWomenNetwork**

[www.ewomennetwork.com](http://www.ewomennetwork.com)

### **Entrepreneurs Organization Okanagan Chapter**

[www.eonetwork.org](http://www.eonetwork.org)

### **Greater Westside Board of Trade**

[www.gwboardoftrade.com](http://www.gwboardoftrade.com)

### **Invest Kelowna Business Event Listings**

[www.investkelowna.com/events](http://www.investkelowna.com/events)

### **Kelowna Chamber of Commerce**

[www.kelownachamber.org](http://www.kelownachamber.org)

### **Kelowna LeanIn (for Professional Women)**

<http://leanincircles.org/circle/kelowna-leanin>

### **Kelowna Okanagan Business Services Referral Group**

[www.okbe.ca](http://www.okbe.ca)

### **Kelowna Women in Business**

[www.kwib.org](http://www.kwib.org)

### **Lake Country Chamber of Commerce**

[www.lakecountrychamber.com](http://www.lakecountrychamber.com)

### **Meetup.com (find networking groups near you)**

[www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com)

### **Okanagan Developer Group**

<http://okdg.org/about>

### **Peachland Chamber of Commerce**

[www.peachlandchamber.com](http://www.peachlandchamber.com)

### **Tech Trade Canada**

[www.tectrade.ca](http://www.tectrade.ca)

### **Uptown Rutland Business Improvement Area**

[www.uptownrutland.com](http://www.uptownrutland.com)

### **Okanagan Young Professionals (OYP)**

<https://oypcollective.com>

### **Junior Chamber International Kelowna (JCI)**

<https://jciKelowna.com>

### **Urban Development Institute Okanagan**

<https://www.udiokanagan.ca>

## Interpreters/Language Services

### Accurate Translations Ltd

30+ languages  
101 – 1865 Dilworth Dr, # 644  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 9T1  
Phone: (250) 212-8590  
Email: [info@accuratetranslations.ca](mailto:info@accuratetranslations.ca)  
Web: [www.accuratetranslations.ca](http://www.accuratetranslations.ca)

### KCR Community Resources

47+ Languages  
Araeli Huber (250) 763-8008 ext 131  
Web: <https://kcr.ca/immigrant-services/translations>

### Converge Languages Network

Multilingual Translation Services  
Paula Verholen  
(250) 801-8219  
Email: [convergelanguages@gmail.com](mailto:convergelanguages@gmail.com)  
Web: <https://www.converge-translations.com>

### Thorsten Wehrmann

German Language Assistance  
(250) 869-8793  
Email: [Thorsten.wehrmann@associatedpm.ca](mailto:Thorsten.wehrmann@associatedpm.ca)

## Office Space for Short Term Rent | Co-Working Spaces

### ACCELERATE OKANAGAN

#### Accelerate Okanagan OKGNWorks

OKGNworks is a membership-based coworking space designed to support early-stage companies and budding entrepreneurs. 24/7 access to dedicated desk, meeting rooms, and common area with kitchenette is included.

Web: [www.accelerateokanagan.com/space](http://www.accelerateokanagan.com/space)

201 – 460 Doyle Avenue  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 0C2  
(250) 870-9028

### alternawork

#### Alternawork

Located in Downtown Kelowna, alternawork is a cutting edge cowork facility. The 5400 SF office space includes 13 private offices, 14 dedicated workstations, and shared boardroom space. Amenities include underground parking, a full-length outdoor patio, a BBQ, daily stocked kitchen and lounge, common seating areas, use of gym, an additional rooftop BBQ lounge on the 6th floor, and an in-office shower.

Web: [www.alternawork.com](http://www.alternawork.com)

Email: [info@alternawork.com](mailto:info@alternawork.com)

1350 St. Paul Street  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 2E1  
(250) 800-0948



#### Big Bear Innovation Centre, West Kelowna

Options include full office rentals with complete privacy and shared office rentals that allow for a dedicated desk in a secure, shared space. When you book a meeting room, you'll get everything you need to collaborate as productively as possible. From small to large rooms, various time-frame options, coffee, high-speed WiFi, and more.

Web: <https://www.bigbearinnovations.com/>

305 – 1979 Old Okanagan Highway  
Westbank, BC V4T 3A4  
Building 3, 4th floor



### **Blackbean.house Creative Workspace**

BlackBean House offers numerous high-end amenities such as fibre optic internet, a large conference room, a business address, convenient parking, casual meeting spaces, hot-desking, dedicated and shared desks, bar cart for celebrations, ergonomic furniture, wheelchair accessibility, showers on-site and an in house kitchen.

Web: <https://blackbean.house>

207 – 3030 Pandosy Street

Kelowna, BC V1Y 0C4



### **coLab**

coLab is a shared work space in Kelowna, BC that gets freelancers, contractors and small working teams out of home offices into the downtown Kelowna core. Full-time membership includes dedicated workspace, use of lounge and meeting rooms. Individual and Team memberships available.

Web: [www.okcolab.com](http://www.okcolab.com)

Email: [hello@okcolab.com](mailto:hello@okcolab.com)

205 – 1405 St. Paul Street

Kelowna, BC V1Y 2E4

(778) 821-1932



### **Downtown Business Centre**

Furnished offices ranging from 100-1500 square feet, phone services and virtual receptionist, shared boardroom for group meetings.

Web: [www.downtownbusinesscenter.ca](http://www.downtownbusinesscenter.ca)

Email: [office@downtownbusinesscenter.ca](mailto:office@downtownbusinesscenter.ca)

202 – 346 Lawrence Avenue

Kelowna, BC V1Y 6L4

(250) 859-4556



### **The Innovation Centre**

The state-of-the-art building houses everything from solopreneurs to large technology and innovation firms. Publicly-supported space and services are also available for early-stage companies, non-profits, community groups, and social enterprises. The goal of the Innovation Centre is to help build Canada's most innovative, creative, and entrepreneurial technology community.

Web: [www.kelownainnovationcentre.com](http://www.kelownainnovationcentre.com)

460 Doyle Avenue  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 0C2  
(778) 214-8236



### **Professional Image Office Centre**

Full service office centre - executive office rentals, meeting room rentals, telephone answering service, mail and postal services, administrative/ clerical support, marketing/advertising support.

Web: [www.proimageofficecentre.com](http://www.proimageofficecentre.com)

Email: [info@proimageofficecentre.com](mailto:info@proimageofficecentre.com)

347 Leon Avenue, Suite #210  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 8C7  
(250) 861-4266



### **Regus Business Centre**

Full service centre with offices available for use on a flexible basis lasting as little as one hour or as long as 18 months. The offices include furniture, utilities, reception, a common area kitchen, and a business lounge. Individual work pods.

#### **Landmark Location:**

<https://www.regus.com/en-gb/canada/kelowna/landmark-2021>

1631 Dickson Avenue, Suite 1100  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 0B5  
(778) 484-8100

#### **Innovation Centre Location:**

<https://www.regus.com/en-gb/canada/kelowna/the-innovation-centre-4998>

460 Doyle Avenue  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 0C2  
1 (844) 241-5515





### **Spaces Innovation**

Offers meeting rooms, collaborative desks, and laptop charging stations. Spaces boasts super-fast Wi-Fi, five meeting rooms, eight coworking desks, networking events, and is fully serviced. Choose from a co-working membership which offers access during opening hours, a dedicated desk, which will give users their own private desk and 24/7 access, or private office space.

Web: [www.spacesworks.com](http://www.spacesworks.com)

460 Doyle Avenue  
Suites 5A, 5B, 4A, 1BH  
Kelowna V1Y 2A2  
1 (844) 576-0466



### **Staples Studio**

A state-of-the-art membership co-working space for meetings and events to change the way you work. Membership benefits include experts/onsite staff, unlimited internet, podcasting booth, free parking, complimentary coffee/tea, workspace options and special discounts on Staples products and Solution Shop services. Meeting rooms capacity 10 – 25. Day pass to monthly options available.

Web: [www.studio.staples.ca](http://www.studio.staples.ca)

Email: [studio.kelowna@staples.ca](mailto:studio.kelowna@staples.ca)

2339 Hwy 97 North, Unit 430,  
Kelowna, BC V1X 4H9  
(250) 979-7920



# EXPORT RESOURCES

## The Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission Export Assistance

One-on-one expertise is available at no cost to companies in the Central Okanagan to assess export readiness and capitalize on international markets. Email Richard Takai at [export@investkelowna.com](mailto:export@investkelowna.com) or call (250) 801-9020.

## Export Navigator

<https://www.futuresbc.com/export-navigator>

Export Navigator provides one-on-one support with an advisor.

## Trade Related Resources

### BC & Canada

#### Trade & Invest British Columbia

[www.britishcolumbia.ca](http://www.britishcolumbia.ca)

#### Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

[www.cme-mec.ca](http://www.cme-mec.ca)

#### Canadian Trade Commissioner

[www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca](http://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca)

#### Export.ca

[www.export.ca](http://www.export.ca)

#### Export Development Canada

[www.edc.ca](http://www.edc.ca)

#### Government of Canada - Trade Data Online

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/tdo-dcd.nsf/eng/Home>

#### Small Business BC Import/Export Advisory Services

[www.smallbusinessbc.ca/services/trade-registration](http://www.smallbusinessbc.ca/services/trade-registration)

#### Trade Commissioner Service

[www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca](http://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca)

#### TradeStart

[www.tradestart.ca](http://www.tradestart.ca)

Explore tools and resources to help plan and diversify your international business footprint. Learn what steps to follow to become export-ready, how to sell to foreign governments, about export processes and requirements, and discover the benefits of global value chains. Get practical advice from Canadian companies and experts via CanadExport stories, podcasts and webinars.

<https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/index.aspx?lang=eng>

#### Determine your export readiness and develop an export plan:

<https://expornavigator.ca/>

#### Import / Export Guide

Information and resources available to help you navigate the world of international trade.

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/small-business/importexport\\_guide\\_web\\_version\\_updated\\_april\\_2016.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/small-business/importexport_guide_web_version_updated_april_2016.pdf)

# COVID-19 SUPPORTS & PROGRAMS

Visit: <https://www.investkelowna.com/covid19>

## SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

### ACCELERATE OKANAGAN

#### Accelerate Okanagan

[www.accelerateokanagan.com](http://www.accelerateokanagan.com)

Provides mentorship and coaching for startups, growth-stage companies and everything in between.



#### Business Development Bank of Canada

[www.bdc.ca](http://www.bdc.ca)

BDC is a financial institution wholly owned by the Government of Canada. BDC plays a leadership role in delivering financial, investment and consulting services to Canadian small and medium-sized businesses. These services complement those of private sector financial institutions.



Government  
of Canada

#### Business and Industry Canada

[www.canada.ca/en/services/business.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/services/business.html)

A one stop site for business information on topics including statistics and research, Canadian company search, starting a business, financing, permits and regulations, intellectual property, doing business across borders, incorporations, bankruptcy and more.



#### Canadian Federation of Independent Business

[www.cfib-fcei.ca](http://www.cfib-fcei.ca)

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) provides advocacy on behalf of small business to get better taxes, laws and regulations. Provides free tools & resources on regulations and human resources. Every province has knowledgeable counsellors who can provide answers to your business related questions and help troubleshoot a variety of issues affecting your company.



Government  
of Canada

#### Canadian Technology Accelerators

[www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/cta-atc/index.aspx?lang=eng](http://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/cta-atc/index.aspx?lang=eng)

The Canadian Technology Accelerator initiative helps Canadian companies with an existing technology, product or service explore opportunities in foreign markets.



### **Cascadia Venture Acceleration Network**

[www.connectcascadia.ca](http://www.connectcascadia.ca)

A cross-border partnership of accelerators, incubators, universities, industry associations, investors and entrepreneur networks located in British Columbia, Washington and Oregon that work together to provide entrepreneurs and researchers located in this region with the information, tools, and support they need to innovate, commercialize, scale-up, and conduct cross-border business.



### **Centre culturel francophone de l'Okanagan**

[www.leccfo.org](http://www.leccfo.org)

Tel: (250) 860-4074

Recherche d'emploi et aide aux entrepreneurs.

Employment services for French speaking people or people whose preference is to receive services in French. Assistance with general job search, translation services as well as counselling to other services available.



### **Community Futures of the Central Okanagan**

[www.cfdcco.bc.ca](http://www.cfdcco.bc.ca)

CFDCCO offers business development programs, counselling, planning assistance and funding to businesses which cannot access funding from traditional sources.



### **Export Development Canada**

[www.edc.ca](http://www.edc.ca)

EDC is a self-financing Crown corporation that operates at arm's length from the Government. They provide insurance and financial services, bonding products and small business solutions to Canadian exporters and investors and their international buyers. EDC also supports Canadian direct investment abroad and investment into Canada. Much of their business is done in partnership with other financial institutions and through collaboration with the Government of Canada.



### **FrontCounter BC**

[www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca](http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca)

A service that assists with licences, permits, registrations and other authorizations required to utilize the province's natural resources.

Tel: 1-877-855-3222

Email: [frontcounterbc@gov.bc.ca](mailto:frontcounterbc@gov.bc.ca)



### **Futurpreneur Canada**

[www.futurpreneur.ca](http://www.futurpreneur.ca)

The only national, non-profit organization that provides financing, mentoring and support tools to aspiring business owners aged 18-39. Their internationally recognized mentoring program hand matches young entrepreneurs with a business expert from a network of more than 2,800 volunteer mentors. Futurpreneur's programs offer financing, mentoring, and business support for every business stage.



### **Innovate BC**

<https://innovatebc.ca>

Provincial crown agency that connects entrepreneurs to funding, resources, and support. Innovate BC supports all size companies, across all sectors, all over the province.



### **Manufacturing Safety Alliance of BC**

[www.safetyalliancebc.ca](http://www.safetyalliancebc.ca)

Provides safety training and advisory services for manufacturers, food processors, wineries, breweries, and distilleries throughout the Okanagan.



**Government  
of Canada**

### **National Research Council of Canada**

[www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)

NRC provides innovation support, strategic research, scientific and technical services. They offer access to leading technology equipment, research and training programs; provide industry with a lower-risk way to develop innovative ideas, reduce start-up costs, and shorten time to market.

Services provided by the NRC include:

- Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP)
- Technical and advisory services
- Research facilities
- Technology licensing
- Research programs and collaboration opportunities





### **Okanagan Young Professionals Collective**

[www.oypcollective.com](http://www.oypcollective.com)

The OYP Collective creates a dynamic, vibrant and engaged culture and community that attracts and retains talented professionals in their 20's and 30's to the Okanagan Valley by connecting them with each other and the community through a variety of volunteer, social, professional, sports, arts and cultural events and activities.



### **Service BC & Government Agents**

[www.governmentagents.gov.bc.ca](http://www.governmentagents.gov.bc.ca) or 1-800-663-7867

Service BC provides front line support for many of the hundreds of programs and services the provincial government offers to residents, businesses and visitors.

Kelowna Office

305 – 478 Bernard Avenue

Tel: (250) 861-7500



### **Small Business BC**

[www.smallbusinessbc.ca](http://www.smallbusinessbc.ca)

Small Business BC is British Columbia's premiere resource centre for knowledge-based business products and services. They offer business education, expert advice, business registration services and resources and tools designed to help you save time and money.



### **Soroptimist – Western Canada Region**

[www.wcsoroptimist.org](http://www.wcsoroptimist.org)

Soroptimist is an international organization for business and professional women who volunteer in their communities.



### **Trade and Invest British Columbia**

[www.britishcolumbia.ca](http://www.britishcolumbia.ca)

Trade and Invest BC has a dedicated team of trade and investment professionals in British Columbia, as well as a network of international Trade and Investment Representatives based in China, Japan, Korea, India, Europe and the United States. Contact these experts for a single point of contact on business questions, including:

#### **Services for investors**

- Strategic support to analyze and implement investment decisions
- Detailed information about our economic and business conditions
- Assistance in establishing new enterprises
- Tours, introductions and events to help investors make connections and evaluate opportunities

### Services for buyers

- Connecting international buyers of British Columbia products and services with qualified suppliers
- Trade missions and events to bring British Columbia suppliers to international buyers

### Services for exporters

- International market intelligence and trade leads
- Market strategies and advice
- Contacts to an extensive network of international industry, government, and community influencers and partners
- Trade missions, events, seminars and training to introduce exporters to world markets



### University of British Columbia

<https://sba.ubc.ca>

The Small Business Accelerator offers free online access to reliable business information and tools for secondary market research for BC businesses and entrepreneurs. This initiative is led by UBC Library's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre.



### Entrepreneurship@UBCO

<https://entrepreneurship.ok.ubc.ca>

E@UBCO offers UBC Okanagan students, faculty, staff and recent graduates training and mentorship support to explore their startup ideas, build connections within the Okanagan innovation ecosystem, and develop the skill set needed to launch a successful new venture.



SUPPORTING  
WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS  
IN BC

### Women's Enterprise Centre

[www.womensenterprise.ca](http://www.womensenterprise.ca)

WEC is BC's leading resource for women entrepreneurs, offering skills development, business loans, free business guidance, business resources, networking and events.





Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission  
1450 K.L.O. Road  
Kelowna, BC V1W 3Z4

Tel: **1-877-332-2673** or **(250) 469-6280**

Email: [info@investkelowna.com](mailto:info@investkelowna.com)

Web: [www.investkelowna.com](http://www.investkelowna.com)