



Manufacturing



Did You Know with 600+ manufacturing firms in the Central Okanagan alone, British Columbia's manufacturing sector is the second fastest-growing in Canada and ranks third in manufacturing employment, surpassing Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

With world-class research and innovation in everything from aerospace to waterslides, local companies are developing the technologies and materials of the future, which in turn is attracting forward-thinking entrepreneurs and businesses.

The sheer diversity of manufacturers makes it easy for existing and new businesses to find high-quality local partners to help with specific challenges. This vibrant manufacturing sector employs 5,500+ people and comprises 600+ firms specializing in wood products, engineering, and health not to mention: high-tech composite jet components. Fiberglass film props. Compostable phone cases. Solar generators. Fruit beverages and snacks. Supercritical extraction systems. Oh, and snow plows.

Here in the Okanagan we're doing it all.

Industry Highlights

7%	provincial GDP is from B.C.'s manufacturing sector
11%	Canada's GDP is from B.C.'s manufacturing sector
\$16B	contributed by manufacturing, employs 7.1% of B.C. workers and represents 9% of Canada's manufacturing GDP
5,895	people employed by the Central Okanagan's manufacturing firms
\$51B	in generated revenue (2017) in B.C., making manufacturing one of the largest sectors in Canada



Competitive Advantage

Canada's digital technology sector supports faster, sustainable and more intelligent production through AI exploration

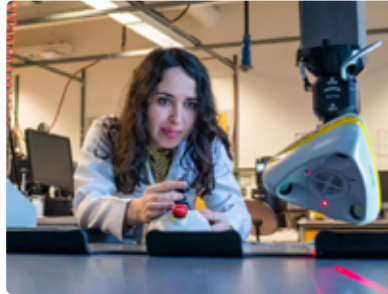
The Digital Technology Supercluster, a historic investment from the Government of Canada, industry and academia is driving innovation and advanced manufacturing

The region's dry climate is ideal for fiberglass/composite and wood products manufacturing

The region's geographic proximity to key transportation routes including Port of Vancouver, YLW, YVR, YYC is beneficial to the industry

Support/Resources

The Manufacturing Safety Alliance of BC has an office located in Kelowna, providing local support to manufacturers with training and advisory services to help them build and improve effective workplace safety programs.



The Composites Research Network (CRN) supports and advances the composites industry through knowledge creation, application, and collaboration between academia and industry.



The Manufacturing Engineering Program at the University of British Columbia Okanagan campus, designed to meet the modern demands of employers in advanced manufacturing, will develop engineers specializing in modern and evolving manufacturing environments.



The Materials and Manufacturing Research Institute (MMRI) fosters collaborative expertise to drive innovative solutions in advanced materials and manufacturing. It aims to integrate emerging technologies and materials through multidisciplinary research clusters, benefiting industries and communities.

A talent pipeline is supported by responsive public post-secondary institutions and directed regional attraction and retention initiatives in manufacturing.



Success Stories

[Manufacturing in the Central Okanagan](#)

[Vitalis](#): Extracting high value

[Geometrik](#): The sound of success

[Pela](#): A strong case for eliminating plastic

