Calendar of Events

November 27, 2025

Understanding and Accessing Business Support Programs Virtual

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PST

This session provides an overview of key provincial and federal programs designed to support businesses at every stage of development — from startup to expansion and recovery. Participants will gain insight into the eligibility criteria, funding opportunities, and application processes for a range of initiatives that help strengthen business resilience, competitiveness, and innovation.

The presentation will also highlight which programs are available to Indigenous and non-Indigenous businesses, helping participants better guide entrepreneurs and community organizations toward the most appropriate resources.

In addition to program overviews, the session will outline resources for ongoing support, including local and regional organizations that provide one-on-one assistance, advisory services, and training. Participants will leave with practical information on where to direct clients for further assistance, ensuring that businesses in their communities can access the full range of available support.

Speaker: Swin Chai, Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth

December 1, 2025

Powering your bottom line: Incentives for B.C. businesses of all sizes 12:00 PM - 01:00 PM PST

Join BC Hydro and the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade for this free virtual session to learn about opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses to access funding for equipment upgrades that reduce operating costs and improve energy efficiency.

You will hear directly from industry experts, including BC Hydro President and CEO Charlotte Mitha, on how you can receive a no-cost energy assessment for your business through energy advisors. They will show you ways to earn rewards by shifting energy use, provide you with tailored recommendations to improve energy efficiency, and identify valuable incentives available through BC Hydro. You will also learn how to earn rewards through participation in their demand response events.

Register now to find out how you can turn energy savings into business savings.

December 1, 2025

Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) Policy Seminar 4515 Central Blvd

Burnaby, BC

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM PST

Are you a government or non-profit organization that supports economic growth in British Columbia or the Yukon, interested in discovering how federal procurement can unlock new growth opportunities for your community? If so, you are invited to attend a free seminar focusing on the Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) Policy.

What is the ITB Policy?

The ITB Policy is a federal procurement offsets policy which enables Canadian businesses and post-secondary institutions across a broad variety of industries to work with prime contractors. The policy, managed by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), contractually requires firms awarded defence and/or Canadian Coast Guard contracts over \$100 million to undertake business activities in Canada equal to the value of those contracts. This creates significant opportunities for Canadian SMEs and post-secondary institutions with activities in a range of commercial areas to collaborate with prime contractors as suppliers, contributing to jobs, innovation and economic growth. There is no requirement for suppliers to have a direct defence-related product or service.

Seminar Overview

The seminar is designed to give foundational knowledge on how to engage with the ITB Policy and provide information to economic development practitioners who support British Columbian and Yukon organizations. You'll hear directly from government departments, prime contractors, and suppliers who have participated in ITB-related contracts. Each presentation will include a Q&A session.

There will be options to attend virtually, or in-person for those located near Invest Vancouver's Burnaby office. We look forward to having you join us at this seminar!

BCEDA members have been sent a link to register, and may contact info@bceda.ca for details.

December 4, 2025

Tracking Tariffs and Trade: What Canada?U.S. Developments Mean for Northern BC Virtual

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM PST

Trade relations between Canada and the United States continue to evolve amid shifting political landscapes, emerging economic priorities, and new tariff measures. For Northern British Columbia, where key industries depend on cross-border flows of goods, investment, and labour, these changes carry significant implications.

This webinar will unpack recent and upcoming developments in Canada and U.S. trade policy. From sector-specific tariffs on softwood lumber, steel, and aluminum to broader initiatives designed to strengthen domestic supply chains and protect regional competitiveness. Participants will gain insight into how these shifts may influence export markets, local manufacturing, and community economic development in local, regional and Indigenous communities.

Join us for an informed discussion on what Northern BC communities and businesses can expect in the months ahead, how governments are responding to tariff impacts, and what strategies local leaders can use to navigate and capitalize on the evolving Canada and U.S. trade environment.

Speaker: Diamond Isinger. Diamond brings firsthand experience from Canada's highest levels of government, having advised on Canada-U.S. relations and global trade negotiations during her time in the Prime Minister's Office and Global Affairs Canada.

January 20, 2026 - January 22, 2026

23rd Annual BC Natural Resources Forum

09:00 AM - 05:00 PM PST

Save the Date for the 23rd Annual BC Natural Resources Forum (BCNRF) at the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre, January 20–22, 2026. The Forum annually hosts a large contingent of Indigenous, federal, provincial, and local government leaders, as well as continuing strong interest, support and attendance by representatives from resource developers and service and supply sectors that are the foundation of our resource economy.

May 11, 2026 - May 14, 2026

2026 BC Economic Summit - Shaping Tomorrow: Igniting Ideas, Inspiring Action, Driving Cha **Penticton Trade and Convention Centre**

273 Power Street

Penticton, BC V2A 7K9

08:30 AM - 10:00 PM PST

2026 BC Economic Summit - Shaping Tomorrow: Igniting Ideas, Inspiring Action, Driving Change

Date: May 11th to 14th, 2026

Location: Penticton Trade and Convention Centre, Penticton, BC.

The 2026 BC Economic Summit is the premier gathering of economic developers, policymakers, business professionals, and community stakeholders dedicated to driving British Columbia's economic future.

The summit will explore the critical intersections between communities, community organizations, planning, industry, technology, and community development in a rapidly evolving economic landscape. Through keynote presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops, participants will delve into strategies for fostering community resiliency, community-to-community partnerships, supporting local businesses, investment attraction, and harnessing emerging opportunities in different economic sectors.

Attendees will have the opportunity to network with peers, share best practices, and engage in meaningful dialogues that shape British Columbia's economic trajectory. Whether you're a government official, business leader, or community advocate, the 2025 BC Economic Summit offers invaluable insights and connections to help you contribute to a prosperous and inclusive economy.

Join us at the BC Economic Summit and be part of the conversation that will shape BC's future.

Book your stay at the Sheraton Four Points Penticton

Click here for partnership opportunities.

Rates

Registering 3 or more for the BC Economic Summit? Use code GROUP to save 15% BCEDA Member Full Registration ?Before Dec 31, 2025 - \$695.00 + GST After Dec 31, 2025 - \$750.00 + GST

Non-Member Full Registration ?Before Dec 31, 2025 - \$795.00 + GST After Dec 31, 2025 - \$850.00 + GST

Mayor/Chief or Councillor Full Registration ?Before Dec 31, 2025 - \$650.00 + GST After Dec 31, 2025 - \$700.00 + GST

Trade Show Booth

?Before Dec 31, 2025 - \$1875.00 + GST After Dec 31, 2025 - \$2,000.00 + GST

Includes booth, one Summit registration and one complimentary 2026 BCEDA Membership. The display consists of a 6' skirted table, which will be located in the Economic Development Marketplace, where BCEDA members will congregate during the breaks and meals. There is no back drop to hang signage; however, free-standing Page 4/5 signs are permitted. It is not required that you staff the booth, as attendees will be in

sessions for most of the day, although a great time to staff your booth would be during meals and breaks.

Set Up: Mon, May 11th. Take Down: Wed, May 13th.

BCEDA Members - One Day Registration Monday, May 11th \$150.00 + GST Tuesday, May 12th \$350.00 + GST Wednesday, May 13th \$350.00 + GST Thursday, May 14th \$215.00 + GST

Non Members - One Day Registration Monday, May 11th \$175.00 + GST Tuesday, May 12th \$400.00 + GST Wednesday, May 13th \$400.00 + GST Thursday, May 14th \$250.00 + GST

Spouse/Partner Pass (Meals/Social activities only - no sessions) \$275.00 + GST

Economic Development Awards Banquet Only - May 13th \$150.00 + GST

BC Economic Summit Cancellation Policy

Refunds will be made available less a \$50.00 handling fee for a written application received before February 6th, 2026. Absolutely no refunds will be made AFTER February 6th, 2026. However, a substitute delegate is welcome at no additional charge.

October 5, 2026 - October 8, 2026 **32nd Annual Cando National Conference & AGM Victoria Convention Centre**See program for timing details.