B.C. Labour Market Development Programs



Fiscal Year 2023/24

Public Report

Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

These programs are funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge and pay our respect to the Indigenous keepers of the traditional and unceded lands upon which we live and work:

The lək^{w}əŋən-speaking peoples, today known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations

Malahat, Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke, W̱SÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum) peoples

The K'ómoks First Nation, including Sathloot, Sasitla, Ieeksen, Puntledge, Cha'chae, and Tat'poos Peoples

Snuneymuxw, Snaw-naw-as, Quw'utsun, and Tla'amin First Nations

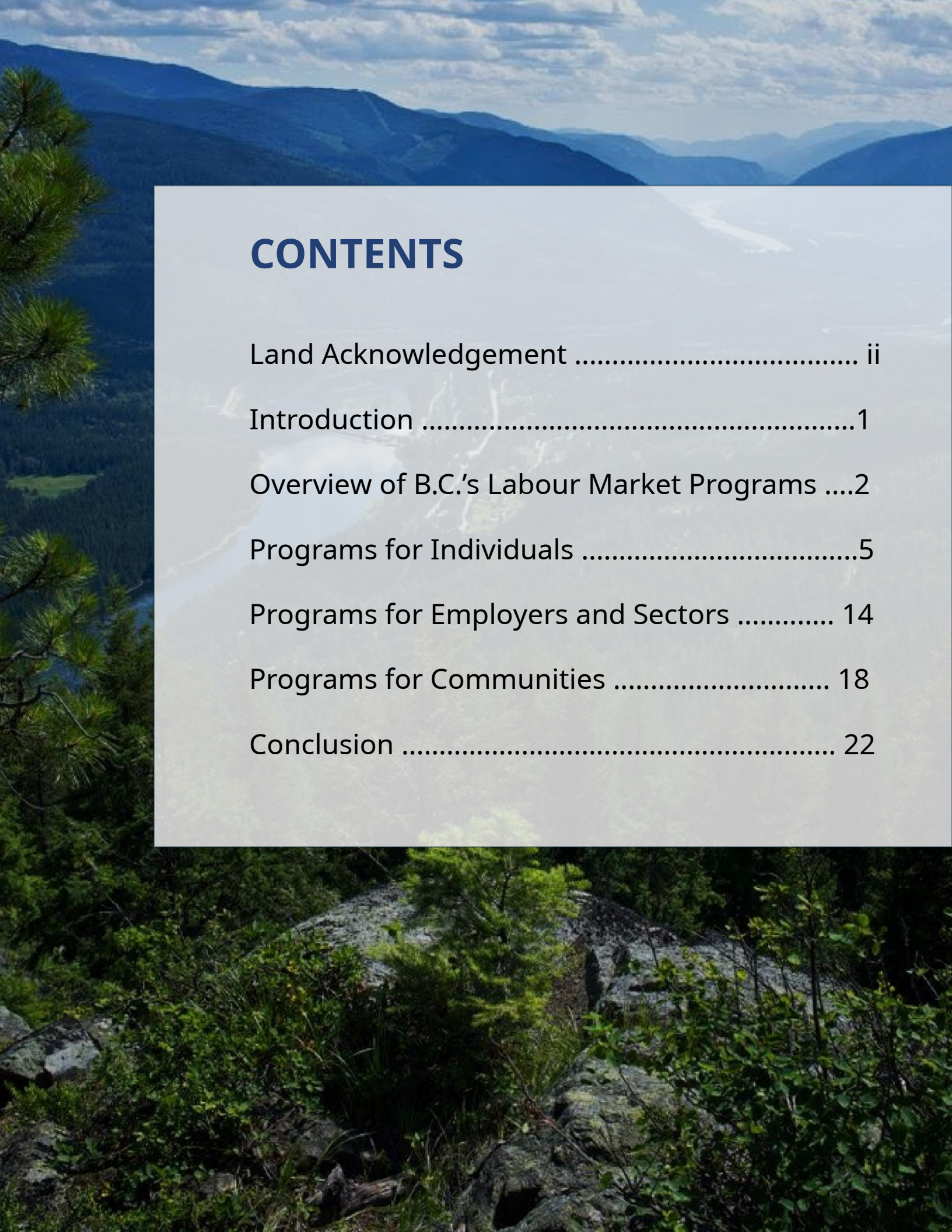
The x^{w}məθk^{w}əyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), səlilwətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh), QayQayt First Nation, Kwantlen, qícəy (Katzie), Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen First Nation, k^{w}ik^{w}əƛəm (Kwikwetlem), and Stó:lō Nation

The T'exelcemc and Tsq'escenemc

The Nlaka'pamux People, Syilx Peoples, Secwepemc Nation, Simpcw territory St'at'imc Nation territory that includes Nxwisten, Ts'kw'aylacw, Sekw'el'was, Lil'wat, Chalath, T'it'q'et, Xaxl'ip, N'quatqua, Xa'xtsa, Skatin, and Samahquam

The Ktunaxa, the Kinbasket (Secwepemc), Syilx, and Sinixt Peoples

The Lheidli T'enneh, Haida, Tsimshian, Nisga'a, Haisla, Gitxsan, Wet'suwet'en, Tahltan Peoples, and on Treaty 8 territory, lands of the Sicannie, Slavey, Dene and Dane-Zaa, Cree, Saulteaux, and Métis



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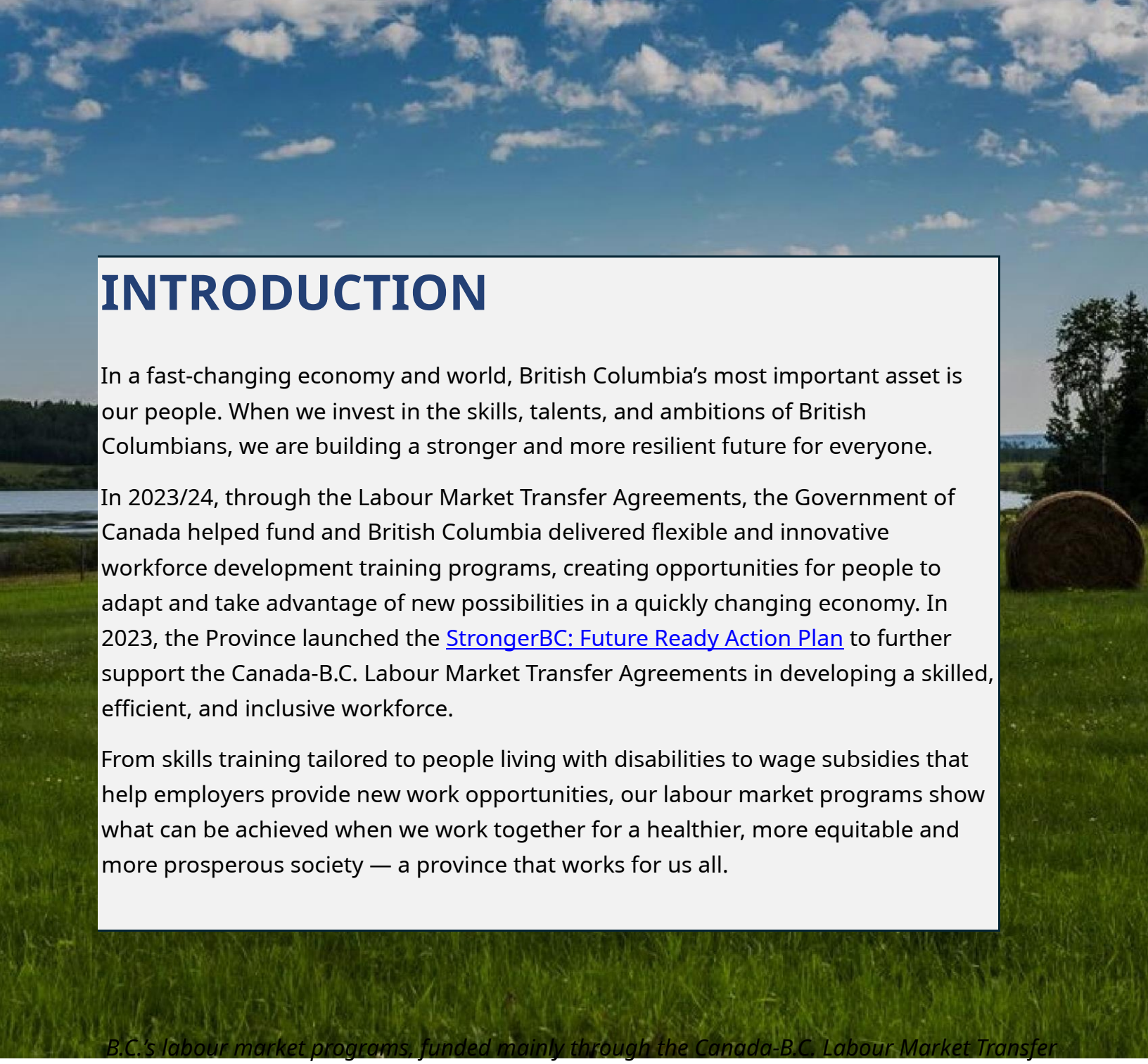
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INTRODUCTION

In a fast-changing economy and world, British Columbia's most important asset is our people. When we invest in the skills, talents, and ambitions of British Columbians, we are building a stronger and more resilient future for everyone.

In 2023/24, through the Labour Market Transfer Agreements, the Government of Canada helped fund and British Columbia delivered flexible and innovative workforce development training programs, creating opportunities for people to adapt and take advantage of new possibilities in a quickly changing economy. In 2023, the Province launched the StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan to further support the Canada-B.C. Labour Market Transfer Agreements in developing a skilled, efficient, and inclusive workforce.

From skills training tailored to people living with disabilities to wage subsidies that help employers provide new work opportunities, our labour market programs show what can be achieved when we work together for a healthier, more equitable and more prosperous society — a province that works for us all.

B.C.'s labour market programs, funded mainly through the Canada-B.C. Labour Market Transfer Agreements, are delivered primarily through the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSFS) and the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR).

Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA

OVERVIEW OF B.C.'S LABOUR MARKET PROGRAMS

B.C. is stronger together.

That's why the Province delivers a variety of labour market programming designed to connect job seekers to sustainable employment, businesses to workers, and communities to a better future.



Programs for People

- Diverse WorkBC employment services and supports that people can access in person at 102 centres and online
- Innovative skills training services & project funding designed to reach people who have historically been left behind
- Skills training services for people looking to get into in-demand sectors, like trades and health care



Programs for Employers and Sectors

- Services for sectors, community partners, and employers who are testing new technologies, strategies, and other innovative solutions to attracting, hiring, and retaining skilled workers
- Support for businesses who need to increase their workers' skills through training
- Funding for sectors, organizations, and employers who are seeking to better understand their local labour market



Communities

- Grants & project funding for communities to access skills training that meets their local labour market needs
- Funding for First Nations and Métis organizations to deliver self-determined, community-based skills training and postsecondary education
- Support services for communities impacted by changes in the forest sector

2

Programs that work for B.C.'s people, businesses, and communities

In 2023/24, the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia supported labour market programming through the **Canada-B.C. Labour Market Transfer Agreements** (LMTAs) and the **provincial StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan**. The Labour Market Transfer Agreement includes two agreements: the Workforce Development Agreement (WDA), and the Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA).

This funding supports a wide range of important services, including 102 WorkBC Centres in communities across the province. B.C.'s labour market development programs are informed by the annual Labour Market Outlook.

Between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024...

150,000 employment services through labour received diverse and responsive **British Columbians** market development programs.

Programs serve diverse people with **different goals and needs**.

For most programs, at least **60-80%** of people who accessed supports **found jobs or got further education** and training for sustainable employment.

accessed supports identified with one or more groups underrepresented in the labour market; of people accessing LMTA-funded programming:

- **10%** identified as **Indigenous**
- **27%** identified as an **Immigrant**
- **18%** identified as a **Visible Minority**
- **43%** identified as **Female**
- **26%** identified as a **Person Living with Disabilities**

14,955

Many people who

Medium Businesses: 18%

Large Businesses: 2%

B.C. Businesses & Organizations

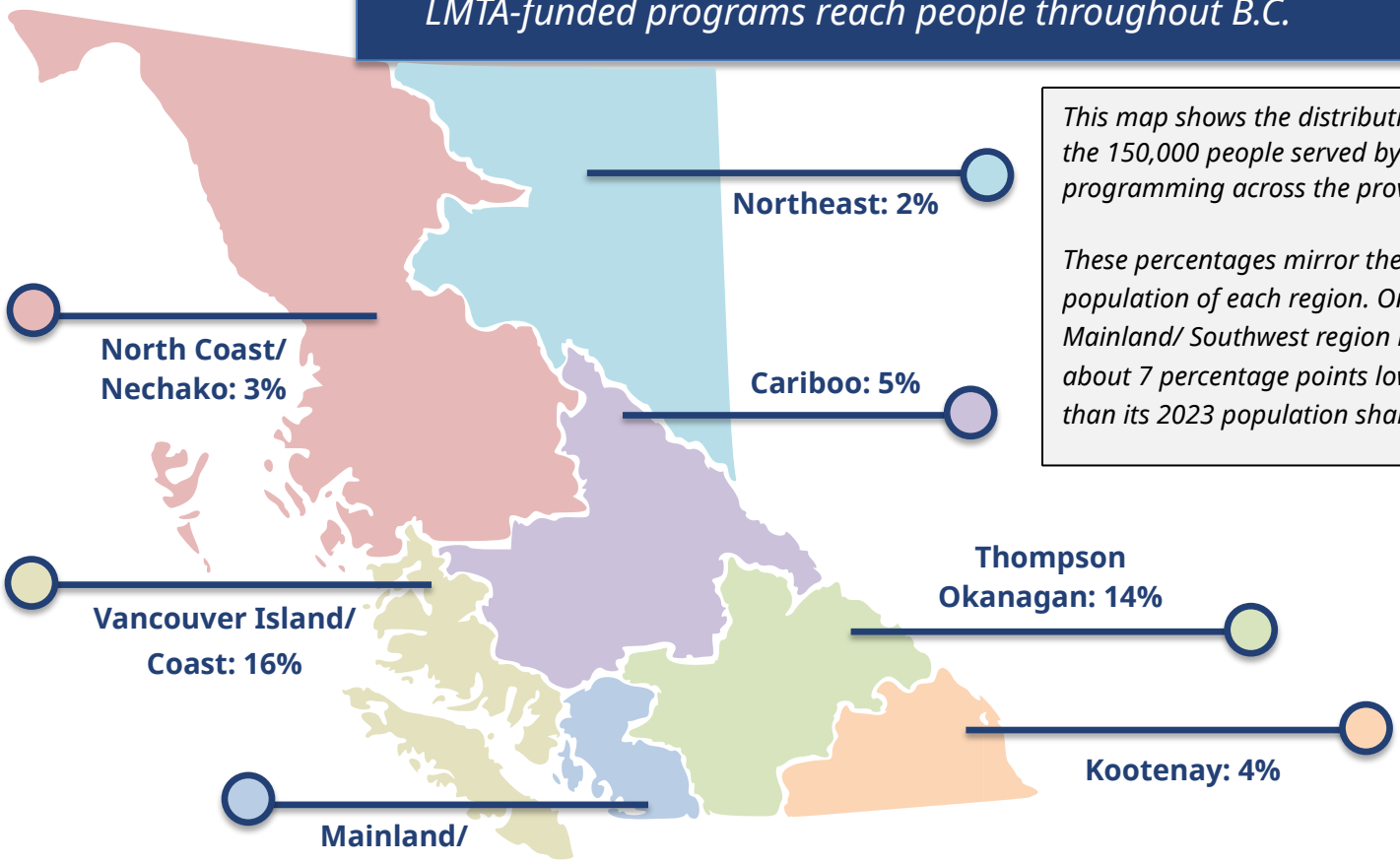
About **80%** of across **ALL sectors** were supported to employers adapt to shifts in the labour market. supported by labour **Programs supported many employers in:** market programs were **small**

- Construction • Manufacturing **businesses.**
- Educational services • Professional, scientific, and
- Health care and social technical services **Small Businesses: 80%** assistance • Transportation and warehousing



Participants by B.C. Economic Development Region

LMTA-funded programs reach people throughout B.C.



This map shows the distribution of the 150,000 people served by programming across the province.

These percentages mirror the population of each region. Only the Mainland/ Southwest region is about 7 percentage points lower than its 2023 population share.





Southwest: 56%

Data is not available for about 1% of participants.

To complement B.C.'s existing labour market programs and increase investment in key areas, the **StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan** launched several Provincial initiatives to support post-secondary education and skills training.

In 2023/24, the **StrongerBC Future Ready Action Plan**:

- Made post-secondary education more affordable and accessible with the **StrongerBC future skills grant** that covers up to $3,500 for eligible tuition and training
- Supported **Rapid Response Training** through the development of micro-credentials, helping British Columbians quickly get the skills needed in a changing economy
- Created opportunities through the **B.C. Care Economy Workforce strategy**





PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE

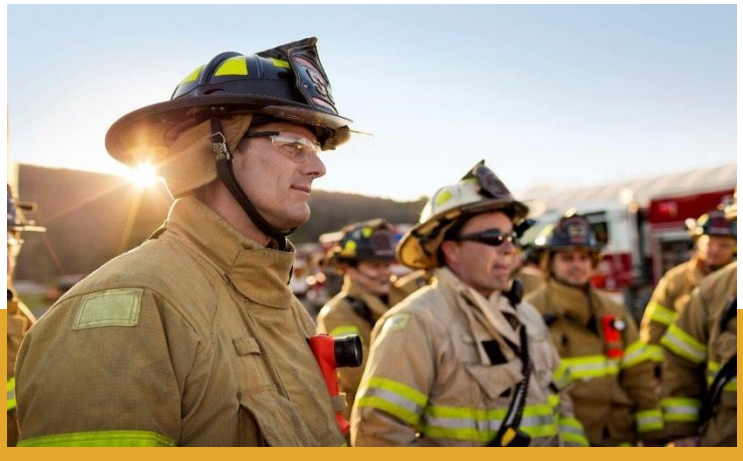
Programs are available for British Columbians seeking skills training and support tailored to their specific needs and goals.

Programs include:

- WorkBC Programs
- Skills Training for Employment
- Mental Health and Substance Use Employment Services
- Foundry Centres for Youth
- Community Living BC
- SkilledTradesBC Pre-Apprenticeship Programs
- BladeRunners
- Community-based Employment Services









WorkBC Employment Services



FREE services include:

- One-on-one help from job experts
- Job search support: resume writing, interviews, and access to local job opportunities
- Funding for skills training
- Paid work experience
- Self-employment support

WorkBC Employment Services Impact 2023/24

WorkBC is for everyone!

WorkBC Employment Services supports all British Columbians with a wide range of flexible employment services and supports to secure good jobs.

British Columbians can get in-person assistance at **102 WorkBC Centres across the province** or access services virtually.

Supports for Employers

- Find talent – WorkBC centres help employers access local, skilled job seekers to meet their hiring needs.
- Wage subsidies – creating job opportunities and helping employers to hire and grow their business.

Noelani's Journey to Job Security with WorkBC

Noelani was working on-call and part-time, but she wanted more stable hours and job security. As a young person, she didn't have much work experience. She contacted WorkBC for help.

Noelani's WorkBC employment consultant met with a local employer in the hospitality industry to arrange a wage subsidy.

"Usually when you start a job, you don't get the hours immediately. It was nice to get the secure hours at the start because of the wage subsidy," she says. *"WorkBC helped me go smoothly into the process of starting a job."*

94,000

,000

people served

34 *people supported*

through their first ye

of employment

75,600

people received 1:1

72%

of participants

case managed

satisfied or very support

WorkBC satisfied with

services

This program receives both Federal and Provincial funding.

WorkBC Apprentice Services

Over the next decade, 83,000 job openings are expected in the skilled trades and apprentices will play a crucial role in addressing the skills gap.

WorkBC Apprentice Services supports Employment Insurance (EI) eligible **apprentices who are registered with SkilledTradesBC** to access program-related financial support to achieve journeyperson status.



WorkBC Apprentice Services Impact 2023/24

15,800
apprentices supported

11,700
apprentices advanced to the next level of their careers

WorkBC.ca

The WorkBC.ca website is a free resource provided by the B.C. Government to share **information** and help people living in British Columbia successfully navigate the B.C. labour market. In addition to online information, the WorkBC.ca website offers:

- B.C.'s comprehensive job board to explore postings and find a job
- Job application tips, success stories, and highlights of emerging trends
- An interactive map of WorkBC Employment Services Centres
- Resources like Career Trek videos, quizzes, and a Career Transition Tool to help you map your career
- Phone, email and live chat for resource supports

As a part of WorkBC services, the Find Your Fit tour visits communities throughout B.C. to help students in grades 5 to 10 discover a range of B.C.'s high-opportunity occupations through fun and interactive activities.

WorkBC Assistive Technology Services

WorkBC Assistive Technology Services supports people who face a work-related barrier due to a disability or a functional limitation, providing **equipment and devices to help people thrive in the workplace**.

Specialized assessments are conducted to determine each person's **employment-related assistive technology needs**, such as:

- Assistive devices, equipment and technology
- Ergonomic and restorative supports
- Workplace access and modification
- Communication and hearing devices related to work, and American Sign Language interpreting and captioning

The Right Tools Open Opportunities

Rob is blind and has been seeking employment as a writer. Searching for jobs online was challenging as he didn't have the right software to use his screen reader.

At WorkBC's Assistive Technology Services, disability experts helped Rob get a new computer, screen reader software, headset, and training on how to use them.

With his new equipment and training, Rob is actively searching for work online and submitting writing to publishers.

"The help I received in the training was essential, vital. I wish I had known about it earlier. It's opened up totally new opportunities in writing for me. I am very happy with the service — extraordinarily grateful for the support I received and the training." — Rob

WorkBC

Assistive Technology Services Impact 2023/24

1,000
specialized assessments conducted

1,800
people provided adaptive tech to help pursue work



This program receives Provincial funding.

Skills Training for Employment

Skills Training for Employment programs **provide skills training and wraparound supports to thousands of people facing barriers to unemployment.** These programs, delivered alongside over 1,500 employer partners and over 1,550 community partners throughout B.C., emphasize inclusion, accessibility, and attachment to the labour market.

Skills Training for Employment Impact 2023/24

8,250
British Columbians find immigrants post-se ndary degree

93%*
ob or pursue of participants

1/3
e of participants have a sup rted

1/2
further education

**Of those who completed training and reported outcomes. Skills Training for Employment program services may extend over more than one year. Outcomes are not reported until a participant has completed their program.*

Jenny's Success Story
Individuals Facing Multiple Barriers



"Before joining the program, I was feeling lost and stuck. I had been jobless for a year and couldn't figure out what career I wanted. Going through the program completely changed my career direction. I discovered Human Resources, a field I'd never considered before, and applied to the HR Management program at BCIT. I was accepted, and now I'm in my first year, doing really well. The program gave me the clarity I needed to find a path that truly aligns with who I am."

Mental Health and Substance Use Employment Support Programs

The Mental Health and Substance Use employment support programs help people with severe mental health and/or substance use disorders. These programs help people build preemployment, job, and social skills that build personal and financial independence.

Programs have three categories of service:

- **Pre-Employment Supports** assist clients to improve basic work habits, skills, and behaviours
- **Supported Education** helps clients prepare for, enter and complete education and training programs
- **Supported Employment** helps clients obtain and maintain employment opportunities through ongoing individualized supports

Mental Health and Substance Use Employment Support Programs Impact 2023/24

8,793
clients served

1,257
interventions completed

Moving from Where I Am to Where I Want to Be



"The program helped me dip my toes back into a structured schedule while working with a group of people toward a common goal of healthy, sustainable employment.

"Because of the program's skills training, access to counselling, occupational therapy, and job development staff — I'm training to be a Healthcare Unit Clerk while continuing to build up my mental health muscles and emotional elasticity. This whole process has helped me recover confidence about who I am and discover new possibilities for what I can do." –An Employment Support Participant

Community Living BC

Employment services administered by Community Living BC provide **support to eligible adults who have a developmental disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, or Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder**.

Programs help clients to enter the workforce alongside employees without disabilities for

competitive wages. British Columbians can reach out to a local Community Living BC office to see if they are eligible for services.



- Customized job preparation, planning, and skills development
- Customized job search and job coaching
- Building community relationships and job connections

Impact 2023/24

2,833
people served

41%
increase in clients accessing job support

Community Living BC Success Story: Cris

Cris has a passion for helping others, so when Pacific Academy reached out to Inclusion Langley's Employment Service (funded through Community Living BC) wanting to hire someone to assist the teachers, his vocational counsellor knew he would be a great fit!

Here we are, five years since Cris was hired at Pacific Academy as a teacher's assistant. Cris's efforts have led to noticeable improvements in the school's cleanliness and his smile and friendly demeanour always brighten students' days. Cris also assists teachers who need tasks done.

More recently, Cris has been working with a student who needs a little extra support. His manager has found that being in this supportive role is something Cris does very well, and it is something he really enjoys.

Community Living BC funds employment services to help people find, get, and keep meaningful employment, including:

Community Living BC

SkilledTradesBC Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills transfers funding to SkilledTradesBC to support **trades training for people that are underrepresented** in the trades.

SkilledTradesBC Pre-Apprenticeship programs provide support to equity-deserving groups in the trades to help them pursue apprenticeship and work towards employment. Equity in Trades Training and Indigenous Peoples in Trades Training programs include:

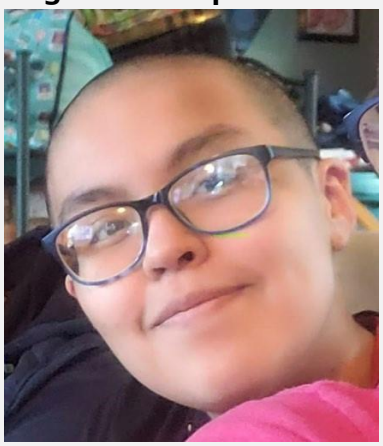
- Pre-apprenticeship training
- Employment support
- Equity-based supports for women, Indigenous peoples, and other underrepresented groups

SkilledTradesBC Pre-Apprenticeship

Programs Impact 2023/24

Ashley's Success Story

Equity & Indigenous Peoples in Trades Training



Before starting the Kitselas Community-led Apprenticeship Development (KCAD) program, Ashley had never worked despite graduating from school. Struggling with anxiety and unsure of her future, Ashley joined the KCAD program with the goal of exploring different career options.

During her time in the KCAD program, Ashley learned that taking opportunities, even when feeling unprepared, can lead to unexpected success. A lucky chance to work as a painting apprentice allowed her to start immediately, even though she had planned just to observe.

After completing the program, Ashley secured employment and is continuing her painting training. For her, success means having job options, financial stability, and the reassurance that she can continue to grow and improve.

"I learned to embrace new opportunities, even when I felt unsure. Now, I have the skills and confidence to pursue a career and feel secure knowing I have options for the future." — Ashley

38%

of participants

identified as women

36%

of participants

identified as Indigenous

BladeRunners

BladeRunners supports young adults who face barriers to unemployment to attach to the labour market. It has a unique, outcomes-driven approach and is delivered in partnership with Indigenous organizations and other service providers.

BladeRunners provides services to help **at-risk individuals ages 15-30 find and keep full time employment**, including:

- Life skills
- Job placement monitoring
- Job readiness training
- Wraparound supports



BladeRunners Impact 2023/24

1,884
people served

53%
of participants identified as Indigenous

60%
employment rate

16%
of participants pursue further education/training

Finding a Passion for Carpentry

Unsure about her career path, Monica fell in love with carpentry thanks to the BladeRunners program delivered by Coast Salish Employment & Training Society.

"I loved the smell of a fresh cut 2x4," Monica shares. *"I was excited about getting a real job on a real construction site. ... I love love love it!"*

Monica now helps builds homes in Halalt First Nation and is pursuing her Carpentry level 1 at Vancouver Island University.



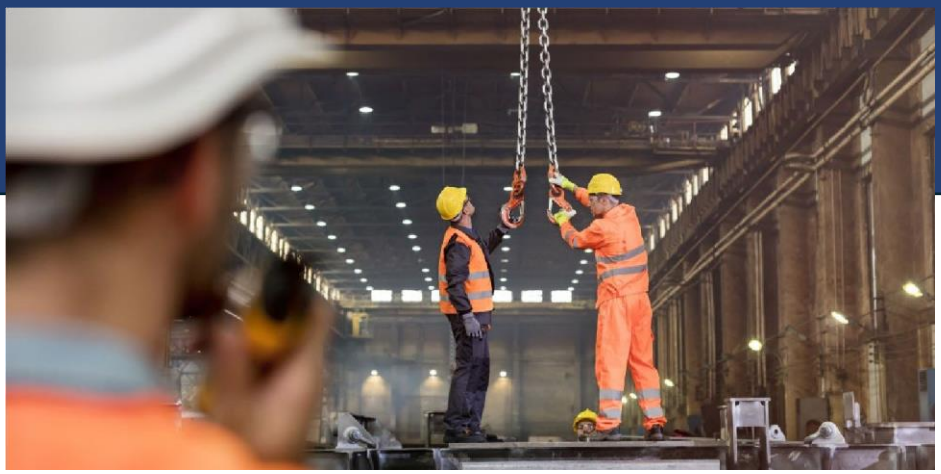


PROGRAMS FOR EMPLOYERS AND SECTORS

Programs for employers and sectors can be accessed by B.C. employers, sector associations, and industries to meet specific business and workforce development needs.

Programs for employers and sectors include:

- Local Labour Market Partnerships
- Sector Labour Market Partnerships
- Research and Innovation Services
- The B.C. Employer Training Grant







Local Labour Market Partnerships

Local Labour Market Partnerships help organizations to **address local job market issues and human resource planning activities** where an imbalance between the supply of workers and the demand for jobs exist.

Labour Market Partnerships projects address a wide range of labour market issues, including:

- Displaced workers and economic changes
- Challenges in key local sectors like housing, sustainability, natural gas, forestry, agriculture, technology, and tourism

Local Labour Market Partnerships Impact 2023/24

Light The Way
Youth Homelessness Conference

A Way Home Kamloops coordinated a two-day Provincial Youth Homelessness Conference in Vancouver. The event brought together youth, government, and community partners to discuss youth-led solutions for homelessness in British Columbia. The conference highlighted that employment is a key to stable housing.

Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot

Community Futures Development Corporation worked with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada to test how partnering economic development and settlement supports can lead to newcomer retention while helping local employers fill labour shortages.

Sector Labour Market Partnerships

The Sector Labour Market Partnerships (SLMP) program helps industry and employers respond to labour market changes, and **supports collaborative partnerships to research and develop strategic, sustainable solutions to workforce challenges and opportunities** at the sector, region, or population level.

SLMP is open to exploring many workforce development prospects but prioritizes the following key themes: Labour Market Imbalances, Skills Gaps, Economic Transformation, and Indigenous Workforce Priorities and Reconciliation.

Success Story: Excellence in Mining

The B.C. Centre of Training Excellence in Mining (CTEM) completed an SLMP-funded training pilot for underground miners. The project produced a curriculum that was tested and adopted at three mine sites. All trainees have a profile with the national Mining Skills Registry, allowing employers to verify their credentials and hire skilled workers. CTEM is currently promoting the training within the industry, seeking national recognition with the Mining Industry Human Resources Council.

Sector Labour Market Partnerships Impact 2023/24

24

projects throughout B.C.

15

sectors supported, like construction and health care

Research and Innovation

Research and Innovation (R&I) funding helps community organizations to explore and test new ways of delivering programming to help people find, keep, or return to work. Research helps to identify better ways of helping people along a path of community connections and employment readiness.

In 2023/24, B.C. invested in R&I projects to test new programming for people experiencing barriers accessing traditional employment services.

Youth Peer Support Program

Foundry Work and Education program provides integrated and personal wraparound assistance to youth, including health, mentoring, education, skills development and job-placement services.

Foundry Youth Peer Support program reaches more youth by hiring workers from diverse backgrounds, including youth who identify as Indigenous, gender-diverse, neurodiverse, in care or who have aged out of care, racialized, from rural and remote communities, and youth with disabilities.

"Foundry has been an incredible experience for me personally. One of the biggest factors of Foundry's success is that they include youth in every step of project development. Historically, youth have been left out of the creation process of services targeted towards them that has been both a disempowering fact and a missed opportunity." — Alex, a participant





Community-based Employment Services

This program receives both Federal and Provincial funding.

Community-based Employment Services are outreach-based employment services for people facing complex challenges, including unstable housing, substance use, and/or mental health.

The program fosters social inclusion, boosts self-confidence, and supports job readiness and community attachment.

Pilot locations include Victoria, Nanaimo, Prince George, Kelowna, Surrey, and Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

"The road that I was going down, I didn't think I'd make it this far. I have greater days because of this program, and it has made me stronger and forever changed my life."

— Anonymous participant



B.C. Employer Training Grant

The B.C. Employer Training Grant is **a cost-sharing grant that helps employers pay for training for their current or new employees**. Employers receive funding to respond to their changing labour needs, invest in training for a skilled workforce, and support employees to gain needed job skills. Self-employed persons and business owners are also eligible for funding.

The grant helps cover up to 80% of eligible employee training costs, including but not limited to exam fees, textbooks, some travel costs, and tuition.

B.C. Employer Training Grant Impact 2023/24

This program receives both Federal and Provincial funding.

1,736

employers received

funding for skills training

80%

of funded employers

businessesare small

7,036

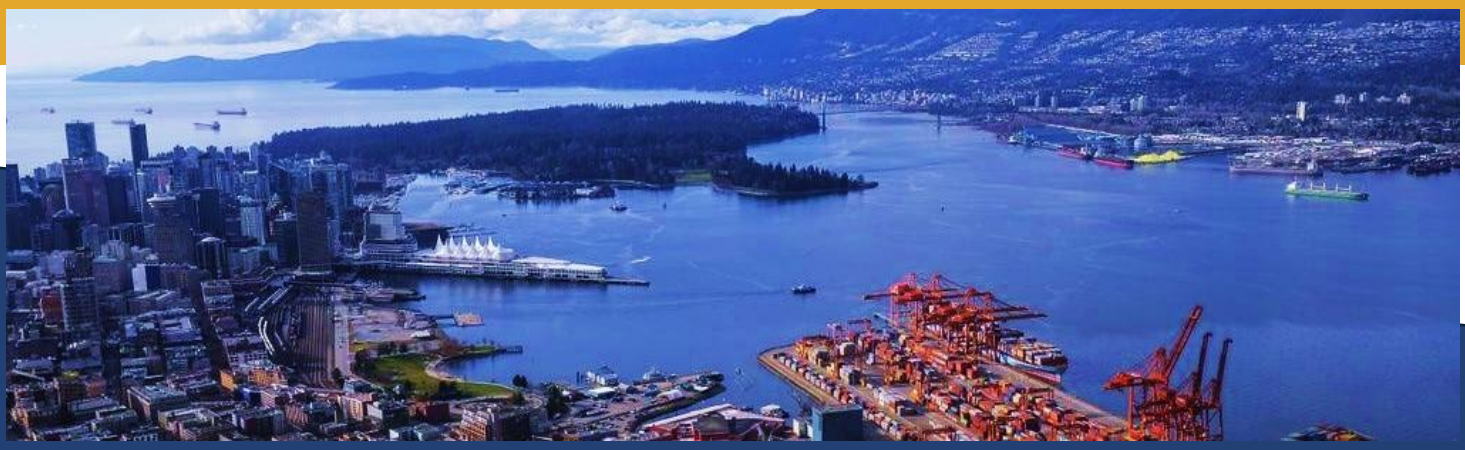
employees received

57%

loyees who training

Investing in Forest Sector Supports As part of the Future Ready Action Plan, the Province has committed funding to helping employers who are impacted by changes in the forest sector, whether they are looking to adapt to emerging opportunities in forestry or in new lines of work.

Lawes Forest Management Ltd. needed to adapt to changes to the forest sector. One of their workers was doing cut block layout work, which was slowing down due to old growth deferral decisions. The company received $3,800 to reskill their employee in silviculture surveying, enabling the company to add a new business line and keep the employee fully employed in a new role.

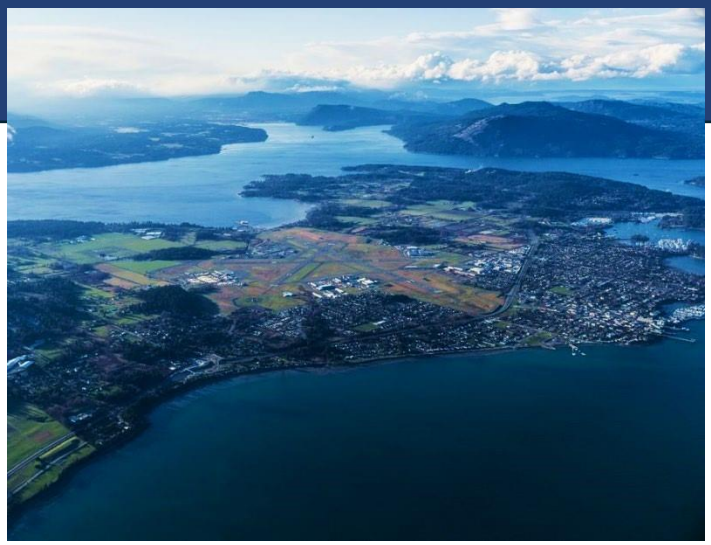


PROGRAMS FOR COMMUNITIES

Programs for communities can be accessed by a variety of B.C. organizations, depending on the program, including municipalities, Indigenous organizations, non-profits that serve the community, and more.

Programs for communities include:

- Indigenous Skills Training and Education
- Community and Employer Partnerships
- Community Workforce Response Grant







This program receives both Federal and Provincial funding.

Indigenous Skills Training and Education

Funding through the Indigenous Skills Training and Education program helps to support First Nations, Métis Nation BC and the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres. These organizations deliver skills training and education programming consistent with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.*

Declaration Act Action Plan Item 4.41:
Work with First Nations, Métis chartered communities and urban Indigenous organizations to provide funding for selfdetermined, community-led programs for Indigenous Peoples to upgrade skills, obtain credentials, secure employment, and develop and support community economies.

Indigenous Skills Training and Education Impact 2023/24

73
skills training and projects training g priorities

6,000
ple participated in planning ed by funded Indigenous



Taking steps to become a Métis doctor

For Haedan, Indigenous Skills Training and Education was crucial to helping him navigate the challenges of the long and difficult medical training process. Though he encountered challenges as a rural Indigenous medical student, the program was essential to him during his medical training.

Haeden said that with the help of the program, *"I will become a Métis doctor. I am motivated to provide medical care back home."*

He expressed that he is committed to serving his community in Fort St. John once he is a doctor.

Community and Employer Partnerships

The goal of the Community and Employer Partnerships fund is to increase training and work experience opportunities for people in communities throughout B.C.

Community and Employer Partnerships projects deliver a wide range of employment and skillstraining services and innovative initiatives to help to make life better for people and their families while strengthening local labour markets and contributing to economic growth. Project steams include:

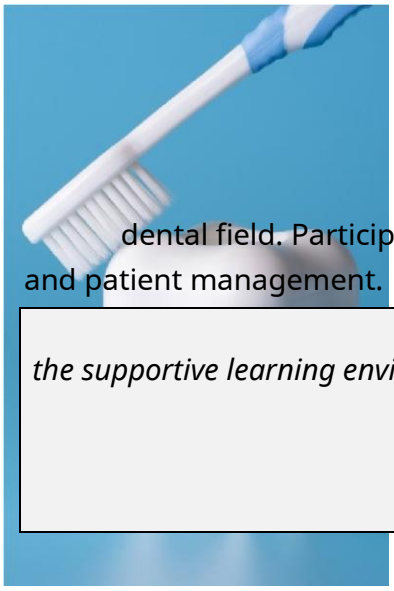
- **Project Based Labour Market Training** provides funding to organizations to support local job employment training.
- **Job Creation Partnerships** provides funding to organizations to support local work experience and skill enhancement opportunities.

Community and Employer Partnerships Impact 2023/24

64
Project Based Labour
arket Training projects (PBLM

63%
of PBLMT participants
secured in-demand jobs

11
Job Creation
Partnerships Projects



Dental Assistant Program Empowers Immigrants

The Dental Assistant program, funded through Community and Employer Partnership, trained 55 newcomers for the in-demand dental field. Participants learned skills like dental procedures, radiography, sterilization, and patient management.

"The part I enjoyed most about the program was hands-on experience, the supportive learning environment, and the relationships with classmates and instructors," says Polly, a program participant who secured employment after completing the training and is now pursuing further education.

Due to a significant reduction in Federal Government funding to the LMTAs of almost $74 million, Community and Employer Partnerships 2025/26 will focus on fewer projects that are strategically selected to ensure maximum impact and alignment with the ministry and national priorities.

This program receives both Federal and Provincial funding.

Community Workforce Response Grant

The Community Workforce Response Grant (CWRG) provides flexible and comprehensive funding for communities with workforce shortages, emerging workforce challenges, including mass layoffs, and supports Indigenous communities with skills training based on their local labour market needs. The program specializes in supporting in-demand skills training that results in sustainable local employment, which in turn builds community resilience.

Funding includes but is not limited to:

- Funding to support grant administration
- Trainee financial supports for child care, transportation, and equipment
- Training fees, tuition, and mandatory costs
- Employment services and support

Community Workforce Response Grant Impact 2023/24

1,145

British Columbians received training through the CWRG

39

communities directly benefitted from CWRG training

70%

of participants are employed 3 months after training

45%

of communities served were rural and remote



Fulfilling a Community's Need for Primary Care Paramedics

Primary Care Paramedics are in short supply, especially in rural communities like Terrace, where they had trouble filling 22 positions.

A local community organization received $250,000 to help 10 local British Columbians, who did not have stable employment, access Primary Care Paramedic training.

The grant ensured people got the skills they needed to secure good, stable employment, and that the community had an urgent need addressed.

Nearly all CWRG participants begin training because they did not have a job or the job they were working was unstable. After training, most find employment, and many in high-demand roles.

This program receives both Federal and Provincial funding.







CONCLUSION

British Columbia has a wide range of forward-looking labour market programs that help people and businesses to build livelihoods in resilient communities.

In times of rapid change and uncertainty, labour market programs are important to ensuring that British Columbians, sectors and communities have a path forward in an evolving economy. Labour market programs help British Columbians to find good jobs, return to school, and work together to strengthen the economy. When people find meaningful, good jobs, their overall health and wellbeing improves.

Notably, 2023/24 was the last year before the Government of Canada reduced funding for provinces and territories to administer labour market programs. This funding reduction will ultimately result in fewer people, communities and employers accessing valuable labour market programming in the future.

Despite these challenges, B.C. remains committed to supporting a resilient economy where everyone is valued, and no one is left behind. From skills development programs that help employers to increase their workforce productivity to foundational programs that help British Columbians facing life challenges, labour market programs will continue working to support British Columbians to find meaningful employment and develop efficient and inclusive labour markets.





