BC TECH

4-POINT PLAN FOR GROWTH

BC Has the potential to become one of the top technology ecosystems globally. BC Tech Association's 4-Point Plan outlines 16 key actions across four pillars that will accelerate the future growth of BC's tech sector, yielding more successful tech companies, create more high-paying jobs, and boosting BC's global competitiveness and economic prosperity.

TOP PRIORITY ASKS:

#1

Invest an incremental $100MM in post-secondary to expand graduates of tech programs

#2

Support the home team and adopt procurement programs to become customers of BC tech companies

#3

Streamline tax credit programs like SR&ED and the angel tax credit to broaden eligibility

#4

Improve the immigration system to attract the best talent from around the world

TALENT: INVEST IN DEVELOPING AND ATTRACTING WORLD-CLASS TALENT

Canada needs to create a more conductive environment to encourage, develop, and attract the best talent. To win the war on talent, we need to streamline immigration and invest in expanding and improving the education system to nurture a homegrown tech talent pool in the province.

1. **Invest an incremental $100MM in post-secondary to expand graduates of tech programs**
2. **Enhance the curriculum and experiential learning in post-secondary**
3. **Invest in K-12 programs to teach technology in the curriculum**
4. **Improve the immigration system for highly skilled and experienced talent**

SCALE UP: ENCOURAGE COMPANIES TO GROW AND ACHIEVE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Successful ecosystems have significantly larger cohorts of medium and large sized companies. To compete globally and scale-up BC's tech ecosystems, we must employ a strategy that encourages the growth of small companies to become medium and large anchor companies by improving and supporting the competitive tax structures.

1. **Streamline the multitude of tax programs to encourage companies to grow and invest in jobs**
2. **Consolidate provincial programs into a single R&D Labour Tax Credit**
3. **Establish a BC Technology Commercialization Tax Credit**
4. **Simplify and extend the federal SR&ED program**

MARKETS: EXPAND ACCESS TO PROCUREMENT AND GLOBAL MARKETS

Small companies typically lack the scale and capability to successfully access markets and customers abroad. Successfully growing BC tech companies requires a deliberate focus by government to foster home team advantage, demonstrate support as customers, and support expanded access to new markets.

1. **Expand the Build in Canada Innovation Program to BC**
2. **Introduce a pilot program for Set-Asides in government procurement**
3. **Improve access to existing government procurement programs**
4. **Invest in market development programs that expand export activity**

CAPITAL: EXPAND ACCESS TO GLOBAL CAPITAL TO GROW COMPANIES

Access to capital is critical in fueling the growth of tech companies. To address the funding challenge at all stages of growth, we need a long-term view that builds on a strong foundation and positions BC to attract global capital in greater numbers.

1. **Invest in building strong programs to attract global capital**
2. **Enhance and expand the Angel Tax Credit program**
3. **Continue to support existing venture capital programs**
4. **Expand debt and lending options**

Read the detailed plan here or contact policy@wearebctech.com

BC TECH association