

Frequently Asked Questions

Community Profiles and Opportunity Platform on BritishColumbia.ca

Data

<p>How did you decide what categories of information to include in the community profiles?</p>	<p>The categories of information are based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary interviews with investors, site selectors, communities and other stakeholders • Competitive analysis • International Economic Development Council site selection data standards. Some attributes were adapted to the B.C. context, such as how we track waste management
<p>Where did the data come from?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the data has been collected from authoritative sources such as Statistics Canada, wherever possible. This centralized data will be updated regularly and will automatically update each community profile. • It is easier for the Province to collect this data once and automatically make it available for all communities, than for each community to collect and publish that data individually. • Additional community-specific data, primarily marketing information, has been collected directly from communities by BCEDA.
<p>What is your methodology for assigning statistics to my profile page?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics are assigned to communities based on the Census boundaries published by Statistics Canada. • Statistics are usually available at a municipal level, but in some cases are only available at regional district or economic region level.
<p>What if the data on our profile is inaccurate?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you find incorrect data on your profile page that you are not able to edit, please alert Provincial staff by sending an email to international@gov.bc.ca.
<p>How did you calculate distances and proximity?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beta version of the site uses a straight-line (as the crow flies) calculation for distances and proximity. This distance is based on a centre point within a given community (or boundary in the case of regional

	<p>districts).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on early feedback, we are working to change the database to reflect driving distances. This may change the results of the proximity-based data points (e.g. transportation and post-secondary education). This change is planned for early fall 2015.
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The Role of Communities

<p>Can we edit our profiles?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities are able to edit specific attributes within their profile - such as the community description, contacts, community links and resources, and a series of quality of life measures. Because the majority of the data is sourced centrally from authoritative sources and pre-populated and regularly updated for communities, this type of data cannot be edited by community managers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The centralized management of data from authoritative sources simplifies maintenance for communities and provides investors with a consistent set of data to analyze. If you find incorrect data on your profile page that you are not able to edit, please alert Provincial staff by sending an email to international@gov.bc.ca.
<p>Do unincorporated communities have dedicated profile pages?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every community governed by the Local Government Act, as well as First Nations Bands, have a community profiles on the website. In the majority of cases, the data required by investors is not available at the level of unincorporated communities. Unincorporated communities are included as part of the applicable regional district. The regional district profiles provide data for the region as a whole, including its incorporated and unincorporated communities. Economic development representatives for regional districts are encouraged to reference all communities in their profiles by referencing them in the community

	<p>description content submitted for each page and providing direct web links to relevant economic development groups and organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic development representatives for unincorporated communities are encouraged to work with the economic development representatives for their regional district to optimize the profile.
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Opportunity Listings:

<p>Why did you select Venture Connect and Spacelist?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals wishing to market commercial real estate or business for sale opportunities can list for free on both Spacelist and Venture Connect and have those listings automatically appear on www.britishcolumbia.ca where they will have a broader, international reach. • By automatically posting opportunities listings on Venture Connect and Spacelist, the Province seeks to minimize the duplication of effort for individuals and communities that wish to market their commercial real estate and businesses for sale. • Venture Connect and Spacelist were selected as the initial sources of real estate and business for sale opportunities for the site primarily because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These organizations allow individuals and companies to post opportunities at no cost ○ These organizations have coverage across the province ○ These organizations can provide an automated feed of listings to BritishColumbia.ca • Other digital sources for these listings may be incorporated in the future if they can meet the same requirements • Community managers will no longer need to approve opportunity listings for commercial real estate or businesses for sale because they will come in directly through these automated feeds.
<p>What is Spacelist?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spacelist.ca is a Vancouver-based free listing service that helps market sites and buildings for sale or lease around B.C. (and beyond).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By drawing in listings from Spacelist.ca, community profiles across BC will automatically feature listings for sites and buildings available for lease or sale in that area.
What is VentureConnect.ca?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• VentureConnect.ca offers a free platform for British Columbians to market their business for sale.• By drawing in listings from the VentureConnect.ca digital feed, community profiles across B.C. will automatically feature listings for businesses for sale.