

# BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA



## LIFE



## SCIENCES

### A leading research and development hub at the forefront of innovation

British Columbia, Canada, is a leading centre for scientific innovation and is home to world-class life sciences companies. British Columbia offers a highly skilled workforce, a prime location and a high quality of life.

Join more than 300 life sciences companies, including STEMCELL Technologies Inc., Zymeworks and AbCellera, on the cutting edge of scientific excellence in clinical research and testing, medical devices and biopharmaceuticals.

Scientific innovation is taking off in British Columbia. If you want to locate your business in an ideal environment for investment and partnership opportunities in the life sciences sector, this is the right place to be.





## British Columbia's life sciences advantages

British Columbia's prime location, outstanding talent and strong business climate create an excellent environment for life sciences companies.

Internationally-recognized research hospitals and universities partner with approximately 50 public and private research centres, including several centres of excellence, creating a dynamic, collaborative network for researchers. British Columbia has world-class scientists supported by one of the best health care systems in the world and international investors such as Glaxo Smith-Kline and Pfizer.

### A PRIME LOCATION

As Canada's Pacific Gateway, British Columbia is ideally located. British Columbia's business day conveniently overlaps with afternoon working hours in Europe, morning work schedules in Asia and is synchronized for the full day with California and Washington State.

### EXCEPTIONAL TALENT

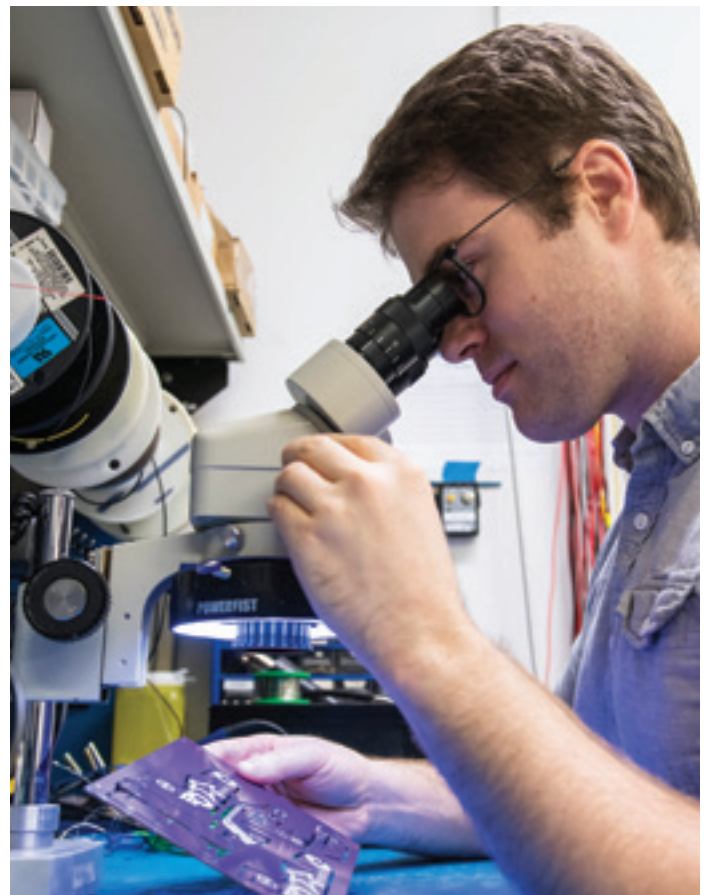
British Columbia's large, flexible and educated workforce of more than 114,000 across the broader tech ecosystem is well represented by young, diverse and energetic talent. And the province has a growing number of life sciences-related graduates.

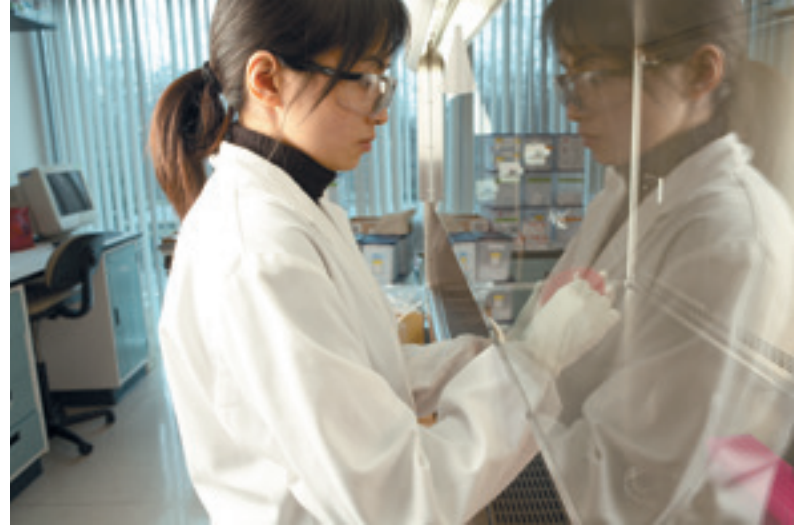
### SUPPORTIVE GOVERNMENT

- ▶ British Columbia's general corporate income tax rate is 12%. When combined with the federal rate, businesses pay an overall rate of 27%.
- ▶ Enjoy the lowest provincial personal income taxes in Canada for single individuals earning up to \$125,000.
- ▶ The \$100-million BC Tech Fund, a venture capital fund-of-funds, invests in emerging technology companies in B.C. and supports the development of a strong venture capital system.
- ▶ Find information on incentives at [BritishColumbia.ca](http://BritishColumbia.ca).

### LIFE SCIENCES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ Approximately 50 research centres, including several centres of excellence
- ▶ Approximately 8,500 estimated employment





## Industry profile

With more than 300 biopharmaceutical and medical device companies, British Columbia's diverse life sciences sector is a leader in the research and development of new therapies and products. Key areas where British Columbia is producing world-leading products and services include HIV-AIDS, oncology and genomics.

### BIOTECHNOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICALS

British Columbia's pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies are global leaders in developing solutions for patients worldwide. For instance, STEMCELL Technologies develops cell culture media, cell separation systems, instruments and other reagents for use in life sciences research across basic and translational research continuums. Zymeworks on the other hand, is focused on the clinical-stage discovery, development and commercialization of next-generation multifunctional biotherapeutics.

### MEDICAL DEVICES

British Columbia's medical devices sector is launching pioneering products that benefit patients while delivering opportunity to investors. Whether it's the handheld diagnostic ultrasound imaging systems of Clarius Mobile Health, or the rapid on-site diagnostic tests of Response Biomedical, British Columbia's medical device companies have a history of successful innovation.

### MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

British Columbia's medical technology sector is developing advanced mobile digital solutions including big data platforms, health applications and other solutions for a more connected health care ecosystem. For example, Ayogo designed a platform to improve health outcomes and improve the patient experience; while PHEMI developed big data technologies which help organizations in health care sectors extract the most value possible from their data. These are only two of many success stories emerging from this thriving sector.

## WORLD-CLASS, INNOVATIVE RESEARCH CENTRES

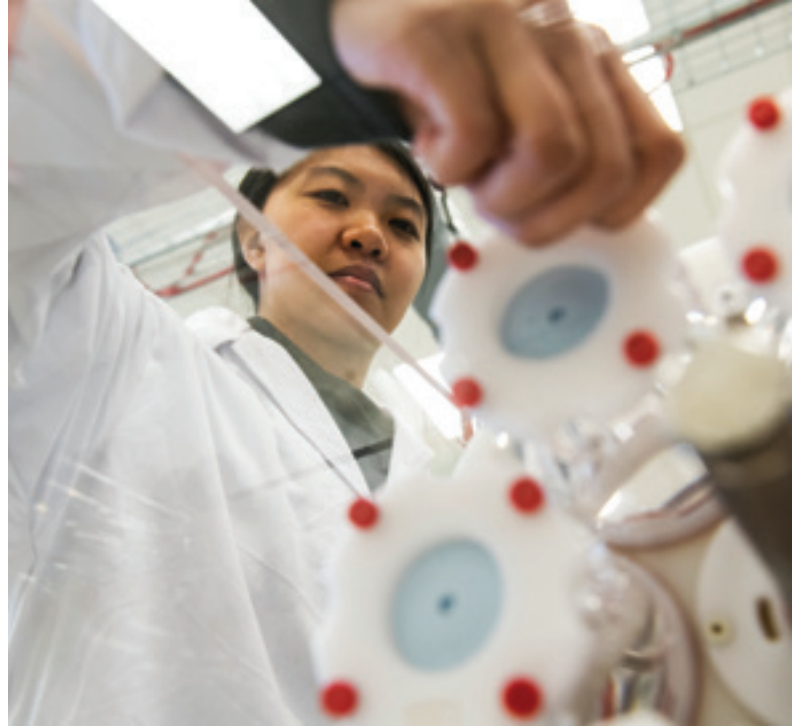
Research Institution	Areas of focus
<b>BC Cancer Agency</b>	Conducts epidemiological and clinical research on cancer prevention, early diagnosis, molecular characteristics of the cancer process and new treatments using drugs and radiotherapy.
<b>British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS</b>	Leads research to ensure that people living with HIV/AIDS receive a continually evolving standard of evidence-based care, distributes antiretroviral therapy to the province of B.C. and monitors HIV-related outcomes.
<b>The Centre for Drug Research and Development</b>	Provides specialized expertise and infrastructure to identify and de-risk promising discoveries generated by health-related research and transform them into commercially viable investment opportunities, leading to therapies for patients.
<b>International Collaboration On Repair Discoveries (ICORD)</b>	Conducts interdisciplinary research on spinal cord injury dedicated to the development and translation of more effective strategies to promote prevention, functional recovery and improved quality of life.
<b>TRIUMF</b>	Carries out research and commercialization to advance science and technology in nuclear medicine and isotopes as the largest producer of rare medical isotopes in Canada.
<b>Centre for Biomedical Research</b>	Performs basic and clinical biomedical research in collaboration with industry.
<b>Michael Smith Laboratories</b>	Leads biotechnology research with applications to health, agriculture, forestry in collaboration with industry.

### Research Funding

<b>Genome British Columbia</b>	Funds research for genomics innovation on Canada's West Coast and facilitates the integration of genomics in the life sciences into society.
<b>Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research</b>	Funded by the Province of B.C., MSFHR helps develop, retain and recruit the talented people whose research improves the health of British Columbians, addresses health system priorities, creates jobs and adds to the knowledge economy.
<b>BC Knowledge Development Fund</b>	Funds research infrastructure and equipment, including for life science. This includes equipment for drug discovery, genomics and medical imaging.

## COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

- ▶ Highly educated and skilled workforce
- ▶ High quality of life
- ▶ Prime location
- ▶ Competitive corporate and personal income taxes
- ▶ Excellent public infrastructure
- ▶ Strong life sciences innovation in pharmaceuticals, medical devices, genomics, research and testing platforms
- ▶ Excellent world-class research organizations

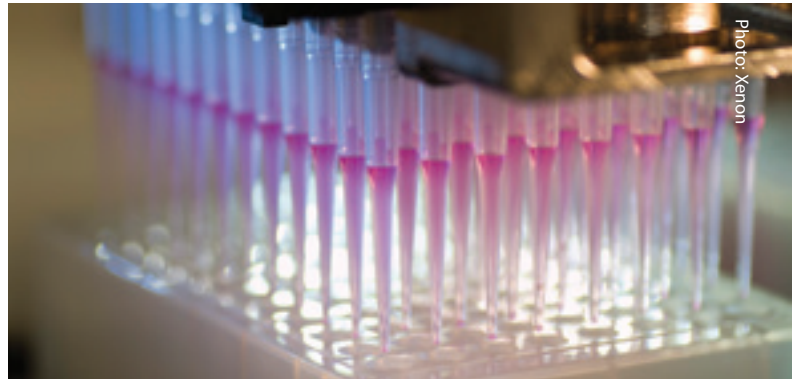


## Enjoy strong government and industry support

British Columbia is committed to providing a competitive environment for the life sciences sector. Industry-led associations work hand-in-hand with government to spur investment, promote collaboration among organizations and grow the knowledge-based economy.

Close links between industry, academia and government offer opportunities for robust public-private partnerships. The life sciences sector also benefits from access to the province's world-class centres of excellence and LifeSciences BC, which represents the sector and works to enhance links among partners.

**LifeSciences BC** facilitates linkages between global industry and local organizations, facilitates investment and global partnership opportunities and promotes British Columbia's world-class science and industry. Visit [www.lifesciencesbc.ca](http://www.lifesciencesbc.ca)



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[BritishColumbia.ca](http://BritishColumbia.ca)