Building B.C.'s clean transportation workforce



Transportation is one of British Columbia's largest industries and will play an important role in the province's clean energy economy. As vehicles electrify and charging infrastructure expands, workers across the transportation sector will need new skills.

- Transportation employed 123,200 people in 2024, with an additional 43,800 working in sales and 25,800 in repair and maintenance.
- B.C.'s zero-emission vehicle sector includes nearly 400 companies, employs more than 8,000 workers, and contributes $920 million to the provincial GDP.
- B.C. has built one of Canada's most extensive public charging networks and plans to triple its size by 2035.



The clean transportation sector includes design, manufacturing, sales, repair and maintenance, and commercial and freight transport.

What kinds of jobs are part of B.C.'s clean transportation sector?

- Electrical and mechanical engineers
- Automotive sales and service workers
- Electricians and EV charger installers
- Transit and commercial vehicle operators
- Fleet managers and vehicle procurement specialists
- Transportation planners

Growth opportunity

Transportation electrification is creating opportunities across B.C.'s transportation workforce and broader clean economy.

- In a net-zero scenario, B.C.'s electric vehicle (EV) sector could grow from 5,100 jobs in 2025 to more than 205,000 by 2050.
- Growing EV adoption will increase demand for workers in charging infrastructure, vehicle maintenance, software and logistics.
- B.C.'s critical minerals and advanced manufacturing capabilities provide opportunities to capture more value across the EV supply chain.



Workforce challenge

B.C. will need workers who have the skills to keep pace with rapidly changing transportation technologies.

- Dealerships and repair shops face emerging gaps in EV-specific skills and expertise.
- Training programs must adapt to evolving vehicle technologies.
- Policy uncertainty makes it harder for employers to plan investments and anticipate future workforce needs.

What will unlock growth?

Provide long-term investment certainty

Governments should support long-term workforce planning through clear, stable policy.

Coordinate workforce planning

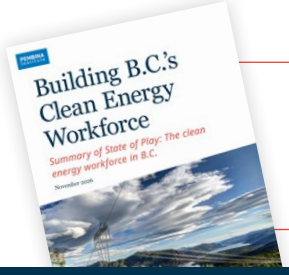
Governments, employers, industry and training providers should convene to ensure training programs are aligned with industry needs and projected labour market demand.

Expand skills development

Employers, industry and training providers should scale up training opportunities that support continuous learning as transportation technologies evolve.

Why does this matter for B.C.?

Transportation electrification can create jobs, attract investment and spur innovation across B.C. With a strong workforce strategy that includes planning, skills development and training, workers, businesses and communities can share in the benefits of this growing sector.



Read Summary of *State of Play: The clean energy workforce in B.C.* for economy-wide workforce recommendations: pembina.org/pub/state-of-play-clean-energy-workforce-bc