

## **British Columbia Provincial Ministry Descriptions**

### **Advanced Education, Skills and Training**

The Ministry provides leadership and direction for post-secondary education and skills training systems in B.C. as well as labour market information and programs. The Ministry runs student financial assistance programs, protects and promotes B.C.'s reputation for quality post-secondary education, and promotes skills development and certification. In addition, the Ministry provides information and resources on sexual violence and misconduct prevention and response on campus, mental health support post-secondary students, and Aboriginal education and training.

### **Agriculture**

The Ministry is responsible for the production, marketing, processing and merchandising of agricultural products and food. The Ministry also carries out advisory, research, promotional, sustainability and adaption programs and collects information and studies statistics relating to agrifood and seafood.

### **Attorney General**

The Attorney General administers justice, delivers public safety services and programs, leads emergency management and provides legal advice to the Government. The Ministry manages data about the justice system and works towards increasing transparency and delivering timely, well-balanced services.

### **Children and Family Development**

The Ministry's primary focus is supporting B.C. children and youth to live in safe, healthy and nurturing families and to be strongly connected to their communities and culture. The Ministry works together with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, Indigenous service partners and approximately 6,000 contracted community social service agencies and foster homes, government and social sector partners to deliver inclusive, culturally respectful, responsive and accessible services.

### **Citizens' Services**

The Ministry provides a wide range of services to British Columbians across the province, both in person and online. Citizens' Services' mandate includes frontline support to help British Columbians access government services, maintaining information technology strategy, policy and standards, and managing the Freedom of Information process for the province. The Ministry also works to expand high-speed internet connectivity in rural, remote, First Nations and Indigenous communities across British Columbia.

### **Education**

The Ministry enables approximately 553,000 public and 81,000 independent school students, and over 2,200 home-schooled children each school year to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to contribute to a healthy society and a prosperous and sustainable economy.

### **Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources**

The Ministry is responsible for British Columbia's electricity, alternative energy, mining and petroleum resource sectors. The Ministry is responsible for the following Crown Corporations: BC Hydro, Columbia Power Corporation, BC Oil and Gas Commission and Columbia Basin Trust.

### **Environment and Climate Change Strategy**

The Ministry is responsible for the effective protection, management and conservation of B.C.'s water, land, air and living resources. Some functions include: leading action on climate change preparedness and adaptation, proactively responding to environmental risks and monitoring and enforcing compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

### **Finance**

The Ministry plays a key role in establishing, implementing and reviewing the government's economic, fiscal, financial management and taxation policies.

### **Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations**

The Ministry is responsible for stewardship of provincial Crown land, cultural and natural resources, and for the protection of B.C.'s archaeological and heritage resources. Operating on a provincial land base of over 94 million hectares, the Ministry ensures the sustainable management of forest, wildlife, water and other land-based resources, and works with Indigenous and rural communities to strengthen and diversify their economies.

### **Health**

The Ministry has overall responsibility for ensuring that quality, appropriate, cost effective and timely health services are available for all British Columbians. The Ministry also works in partnership with the First Nations Health Authority to improve the health status of First Nations in British Columbia.

### **Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation**

The Ministry leads the province in pursuing reconciliation with the First Nations and Indigenous peoples of British Columbia through the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Ministry aims to strengthen relationships with Indigenous communities and leverage Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in order to improve social and economic outcomes for Indigenous peoples and all British Columbians.

### **Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness**

The Ministry manages government services that help support and maintain a strong and diverse economy. The Ministry's mandate is to grow B.C.'s technology sector, champion innovation, nurture small businesses, support economic development throughout the province, and promote B.C. internationally as a preferred place to invest and do business.

### **Labour**

The Ministry of Labour promotes fair, healthy and safe labour and employment relationships in support of a strong, sustainable and inclusive economy. The Ministry has overall responsibility for British Columbia's labour and employment statutes and for their effective administration and enforcement. These statutes include the *Labour Relations Code*, the *Employment Standards Act*, the *Workers Compensation Act* and the *Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act*.

### **Mental Health and Addictions**

The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions was created in 2017 to build a seamless, coordinated network of mental health and addictions services that works for everyone in B.C., as well as to lead the response to the overdose crisis.

### **Municipal Affairs and Housing**

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing takes leadership in supporting local governments, not-for-profit organizations and residents to build vibrant and healthy communities that are well governed, liveable, safe, economically resilient, and socially and environmentally responsible. The ministry works to provide British Columbians with access to more affordable, safe and appropriate housing through policy and programs, technical codes and standards, and services for landlords and tenants.

### **Public Safety and Solicitor General**

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General works together with the Ministry of Attorney General to advance a shared vision of a safe, secure, just and resilient British Columbia. The mission of the Ministry is to administer justice and deliver public safety services and programs. Areas of responsibility include policing and law enforcement; correctional services, road safety and emergency management.

### **Social Development and Poverty Reduction**

The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction focuses on providing British Columbians in need with a system of supports to help them achieve their social and economic potential. The Ministry is responsible for implementing a province-wide poverty reduction strategy, developing a homelessness action plan, providing income and disability assistance to those in need, and working to increase access to employment through programs, services and supports.

### **Tourism, Arts and Culture**

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture integrates the tourism sector with the arts, culture and sport sector to promote British Columbia for residents, visitors and investors. The Ministry's work supports welcoming, inclusive communities that value multiculturalism and broad opportunities for participation in sports, cultural activities, and the arts.

### **Transportation and Infrastructure**

The Ministry plans and improves transportation networks, builds new infrastructure, provides transportation services, and implements transportation policies, to allow for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.