
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic
Development

THREE-YEAR PLAN FOR SMALL BUSINESS RELEASED

VICTORIA – A three-year action plan to guide government’s support for small businesses in B.C. was released today by Iain Black, Minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development.

Details of the action plan were drawn from 44 public consultations, led by the Small Business Roundtable volunteer board and involving the input of more than 900 small business owners and operators from across British Columbia. The roundtable’s 5th Annual Report to Government, released Oct. 4, also informed the plan.

“The strength of B.C.’s small business sector depends on dynamic conversations and collaborations between government and industry,” said Black. “We are listening, and we’re continuing to invest in a tool-kit that makes it easier to open, operate and expand a business in British Columbia.”

The *Action Plan for Small Business 2010-13* focuses on six strategies:

- Simplify the regulatory environment through programs like BizPaL, the Mobile Business Licence, and an initiative to bring more government forms online.
- Invest in human resources and succession planning, through Labour Market Agreement programs.
- Improve productivity and competitiveness, through workshops, trade agreements and competitive tax policies.
- Support innovation and growth, through clean technology funding, small business export supports and improved access to financing.
- Foster a culture of entrepreneurship, through Small Business Month, Junior Achievement and New Ventures BC.
- Communicate with small businesses, through Small Business Roundtable consultations, including those tailored for Aboriginal business.

As part of the Vancouver Board of Trade Luncheon, Black also released the Outcomes Report, highlighting results achieved since the launch of the first Action Plan in 2007.

“The outcomes report is useful in clearly showing how government has achieved, or is in the process of achieving, all 26 initiatives set out in 2007,” said Linda Larson, vice-chair of the Small Business Roundtable. “Of course, there are always avenues for improvements and we will continue to consult with businesses and press government forward in its commitments.”

For a copy of the action plans, visit www.resourcecentre.gov.bc.ca/publications.htm.

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