

The British Columbia Hydrogen Story

In July 2021, the Government of British Columbia released the BC Hydrogen Strategy. This CleanBC commitment outlines a framework for BC to grow hydrogen production, infrastructure, and utilization to support the achievement of net-zero emissions by 2050.

British Columbia is a global leader in hydrogen innovation, home to more than half of Canada's hydrogen fuel cell companies. A major cluster in Metro Vancouver includes over 30 companies spanning the entire value chain, employing 1,900+ people and generating over CAD \$375 million annually.

The integration of hydrogen into the energy mix supports climate action and fosters economic diversification by creating new opportunities from British Columbia's natural resources. The Hydrogen Strategy aims to leverage our renewable energy and natural gas resources, geological storage capacity, and innovative technologies to make British Columbia a global hub for hydrogen innovation.

Hydrogen BC, the British Columbia affiliate of the Canadian Hydrogen Association, commends the province's continued commitment to fostering the growth of the hydrogen sector, prioritizing immediate expansion of production, the establishment of regional hubs, and the creation of hydrogen regulatory frameworks.

What's needed from the British Columbia Government:

Hydrogen BC looks forward to continuing its collaboration with the Government of BC, and to advance this collaboration we respectfully suggest the following priorities:

Enable Regional Hubs and Corridors

Action: Advance the deployment of BC's hydrogen hubs, and integrate hydrogen corridors that connect key production and end-use regions.

Why it matters: Hydrogen hubs are ecosystems where production, storage, and consumption are concentrated within a single geography, while hydrogen corridors link hubs through infrastructure. Advancing hubs and corridors will strengthen economic resilience and create networks essential for scaling the hydrogen economy, powered by made-in-BC innovations.

Develop Market Confidence

Action: Encourage the adoption of zero-emissions and transitional low-emissions vehicles powered by hydrogen across government fleets and provincial Crown corporations, including public transit.

In addition, revamp the BC Hydrogen Strategy to include a roadmap of technologically agnostic and aspirational targets and a clear articulation of the commitment towards hydrogen.

Why it matters: Public procurement is critical to de-risk early-stage projects and anchor private investment in BC-based manufacturing and fuel supply.

Expand Hydrogen Infrastructure

Action: Provide support for the expansion of fueling station development programs/projects, ensuring they accommodate a broad range of end-uses to help diversify hydrogen market opportunities.

Why it matters: Hydrogen infrastructure is essential for driving demand by enabling widespread adoption and building confidence. Consumers are more likely to invest in hydrogen technologies when reliable infrastructure is in place to support hydrogen use.

Build Public Understanding and Social License

Action: Partner with industry, academic institutions, and community organizations to launch a coordinated awareness-raising and public outreach initiative.

Why it matters: Public confidence and understanding are essential for adoption and permitting. Coordinated outreach is key to building trust and securing social license for hydrogen development in BC.

Streamline Regulation and Project Approvals

Action: Streamlining regulatory and permitting processes for hydrogen projects to ensure timely project development.

In addition, develop provincial codes and standards for hydrogen projects, leveraging mature international and national codes to streamline the approval of hydrogen projects.

Why it matters: Regulatory uncertainty and delays are major investment risks. Streamlined processes will speed deployment and ensure BC retains leadership in clean energy innovation.

Learn More About Our Asks and Hydrogen BC

For further details on our asks and Hydrogen BC as well as the Canadian Hydrogen Association, please scan the QR code to the right. We look forward to your support in advancing these critical initiatives for British Columbia energy.

