



CLR INFO: Thursday, August 6, 2026

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This week's CLR INFO explores how AI is reshaping construction project delivery, the growing demand for skilled trades, major infrastructure investments across British Columbia, and the economic trends influencing the construction industry.

Industry News



FortisBC advances Tilbury LNG expansion:

FortisBC is planning a multi-billion-dollar expansion of its Tilbury LNG facility in Delta, creating major construction opportunities and supporting more than 1,100 jobs annually during construction.

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Infrastructure and Transportation



Surrey Memorial expands: Surrey Memorial Hospital has opened a new \$85-million facility as part of ongoing investments to expand health-care infrastructure and increase dialysis treatment capacity.

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B.C.'s first all-electric hospital sets new benchmark: The Quw'utsun Valley Hospital is targeting Zero Carbon Building certification and LEED Gold.

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Labour and Economy

**Canada-U.S. trade declines amid tariff**

uncertainty: Canada's trade with the United States has declined by nearly \$2 billion since early 2024, as ongoing tariff uncertainty continues to affect key sectors, including construction materials.

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B.C. expands skilled trades training: The Province is adding more than 500 skilled trades training seats at Vancouver Island University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University to help address labour shortages in construction and other high-demand industries.

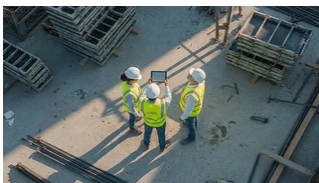
[Read more](#)

**Construction labour shortages expected to grow:**

BuildForce Canada projects the construction industry will need nearly 190,000 new non-residential workers by 2035 as retirements outpace new entrants, highlighting the need for continued recruitment and workforce development.

[Read more](#)

Innovation and Technology



Buildots launches AI Intelligence Lab: Buildots has launched an AI-powered construction research hub that provides free industry benchmarks and project insights to help contractors improve productivity, identify delays earlier and compare performance across projects.

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Health and Safety



Wildfires close major B.C. highways: Highway 1 near Boston Bar and Highway 3 at E.C. Manning Park were closed as wildfire activity intensified across the province, prompting evacuation orders and widespread air quality advisories.

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Events



Register now for CLR's 57th AGM & Conference: Join us September 17-19 in Kelowna for three days of expert speakers, practical training, networking, and social events. Hear keynote speaker Vaughn Palmer and choose from golf, winery tours, canyoning, cycling, and more.

[Read more](#)



NCLRA Conference: Registration is now open for two days of industry updates, networking and labour relations discussions in Québec City, October 15-16.

[Read more](#)

Support and Funding



Looking for grants or training support? Visit the [CLR website](#) for current funding opportunities and resources available to employers and apprentices.

Sincerely,

Your CLR Team

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