

## CLR INFO

### Industry News



#### **Major Project Investment Surges in Southwest B.C., but Housing Starts Lag Behind**

Project investment in Southwest B.C. rose 20.6% to \$136.8B in 2024, driven by government infrastructure spending, yet housing starts declined by 14.6% despite urgent demand.

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#### **UBC Engineers Prove Highrises Can Withstand Major Earthquakes in World-First Test**

UBC researchers have developed and successfully tested a new structural system that allows highrises to remain safe and damage-free during major earthquakes.

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# Infrastructure and Transportation



## **B.C.'s Low Snowpack Signals Drought, Raises Hydro Power Concerns**

Heightened drought risks in B.C., threaten hydroelectric output and potentially making the province a net electricity importer again.

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## **B.C. Fast-Track Infrastructure Bill Sparks Backlash From First Nations and Greens**

Premier David Eby's proposed Bill 15 aims to accelerate infrastructure projects in response to economic pressure from U.S. tariffs.

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# Labour and Economy



## **Prime Minister Carney Assembles New Cabinet, With Urgent Economic Focus**

Prime Minister Mark Carney's first cabinet meeting, emphasized nation-building investments, strengthening Canada's economic relationship with the U.S., and creating the "strongest economy in the G7."

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### **B.C. Labour Market Holds Steady with Job Gains in April 2025**

B.C. added 6,000 jobs in April, with notable gains in youth employment, manufacturing (+1,800 jobs), and private-sector employment (+1,600 jobs).

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### **New Commercial Liens Act to Simplify Debt Collection for B.C. Service Providers**

Effective June 30, 2025, B.C.'s new Commercial Liens Act will streamline and modernize lien rules, making it easier for service providers to collect debts.

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## **Health and Safety**



### **B.C. Urges Long Weekend Travellers to Prepare for Wildfire and Drought Risks**

Ahead of the Victoria Day long weekend, the B.C. government advises residents and travellers to plan for wildfire risk and drought conditions.

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## **Diversity and Inclusion**



### **Women Driving Growth in B.C.'s Construction Workforce Amid Labour Shortages**

Driven by labour demand and inclusive programs, women's participation in B.C.'s construction industry is growing, with female apprenticeship enrollment up 25% since 2018.



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## Support and Funding



### Builders of Tomorrow BC Foundation

The **Builders of Tomorrow BC Foundation** offers scholarships and bursaries to B.C. residents aged 17-30 enrolled in construction-related programs. By spreading the word, you can help ensure deserving candidates apply. **Applications are open until May 31. If you want to get involved through donations or sponsorships, please [reach out](#).**

[Share and Get Involved](#)



For a list of current funding resources and supports for employers and apprentices visit the [CLR website](#).

[Explore Resources](#)



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97 Sixth Street New Westminster, BC V3L 5H8 604-524-4911

[www.clra-bc.com](http://www.clra-bc.com) [clinfo@clra-bc.com](mailto:clinfo@clra-bc.com)