

## CLR INFO

### Support & Funding

#### **StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan and Workplace Innovation Fund**

This fund supports solutions for labour force challenges in the construction industry. Eligible organizations include businesses, not-for-profits organizations, First Nations, labour organizations and local governments. Applications are currently being accepted.

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### Provincial News

#### **Vancouver Mayor Unveils Plan to Address Housing Crisis, Prioritize Affordable Housing**

Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim has outlined a seven-point plan to address the city's housing crisis. The plan aims to prioritize the construction of new housing. Evictions under "false pretenses" for higher rents are a major issue.

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#### **'Bad Faith Evictions' via BC's Caretaker Provision**

Vancouver tenants' rights lawyer Rob Patterson voiced concerns about "bad faith evictions" in the area, citing the caretaker provision in B.C.'s Residential Tenancy Act.

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## Labour & Economy

### **The Labour Force Survey: Strong Economic Growth Driven by 12,600 New Jobs in Construction**

The survey for reveals economic growth, with the construction industry contributing the most significant increase jobs. Economists caution that the data may not fully reflect the strength of the labour market.

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### **Canada's Building Permits See 3.4% Growth, Driven by Non-Residential Sector, Amid Housing Shortage Concerns**

In August, the total monthly value of building permits in Canada increased by 3.4% to reach \$11.9 billion. This growth was driven by a significant 14.8% rise in the non-residential sector, with permits issued for projects like hospital renovations and new facilities.

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### **The British Columbia Construction Association (BCCA) Releases Annual Report: Highlights 11% Investment Decrease and Labour Shortages in Construction Industry**

The report reveals an 11% decrease in investment in various construction sectors since February 2020, along with an 11% increase in labour costs. Labour shortages remain a significant concern, and the BCCA is focused on attracting and retaining talent.

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## Health & Safety



### **BC Building Trades Council Calls for Flush Toilets on Larger Construction Sites**

The BC Building Trades Council is recommending that construction sites with 25 or more workers have flush toilets. The BC Building Trades Council initiated the "Get Flushed" campaign.

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## **Online Registry for Licensed Asbestos Abatement Contractors Now Available**

Starting January 1, 2024, all asbestos abatement contractors (employers) in British Columbia are required to hold licenses. In compliance with new mandatory training and licensing guidelines for asbestos abatement work, WorkSafeBC launched an online registry of licensed asbestos abatement contractors on their website.

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## **Infrastructure & Transportation**



### **BC Firms Collaborate to Reduce Steel Corrosion in Construction**

Dymergent Inc. and Double Black Construction, along with UBC researcher Brian Koote, are collaborating to find ways to reduce steel corrosion. This could be significant for Canada's construction industry and export potential.

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### **Groundbreaking Carbon Offtake Agreement**

DevvStream will pre-purchase 25,000 carbon credits from BCRB's greenhouse gas reduction program, designed to reduce carbon emissions related to road construction and maintenance.

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## Industry News



### **Digital Building Permit Tool Set to Revolutionize Housing Development in British Columbia**

British Columbia is accelerating housing development by introducing a digital building permit tool in partnership with local governments and First Nations. The project aligns with the province's broader vision of becoming a leader in digital

permitting and construction. Testing begins by March 2024.

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### **Canadian Demolition Company Boosts Efficiency with KTEG KMC 500P Excavator**

Priestly Demolition is using a KTEG KMC 500P demolition excavator to speed up the demolition process. The KMC 500P is the first of its kind in Canada. It's particularly valuable in urban settings where quick in-and-out times are essential.

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## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

### **New Legislation to Improve Credential Recognition for Skilled Immigrant Professionals**

The B.C. government is enhancing credential recognition for internationally trained professionals, allowing them to work in the province more easily. With an anticipated 387,000 newcomers entering the workforce over the next decade, this move aims to fill 38% of job openings.

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Stay safe,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO



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