

CLR INFO

Industry News



Statistics
Canada

November 2024 Building Construction Investment Drops 0.5% Despite Annual Growth

In November 2024, total investment in building construction in Canada declined by 0.5% to \$21.4 billion, driven by a drop in residential investment (-\$168.1 million) despite gains in non-residential construction (+\$71.5 million). British Columbia saw a slight decrease in commercial construction investment (-\$9.5 million) while nationwide single-family home construction rose 2.9%.

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Port Alberni Faces Housing Crunch as Population Grows

Port Alberni, is experiencing a housing shortage as its population grows, with rent prices outpacing incomes and a need for over 1,200 new housing units within five years. The city plans to address this through updated zoning policies and partnerships with private developers, First Nations, and housing organizations.

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Surrey Sets Record with Over 6,000 New Housing Units in 2024

The City of Surrey surpassed its previous record by delivering 6,297 new housing units in 2024, generating \$2.8 billion in construction activity, driven by development incentive programs and streamlined permitting processes.

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Infrastructure and Transportation



BC Hydro Signs 30-Year Agreements for Three Indigenous-Led Wind Projects

BC Hydro has finalized 30-year Electricity Purchase Agreements for three wind projects—Brewster, Highland Valley, and Mount Mabel—with a combined capacity of 537 MW, enough to power 157,000 homes annually, in partnership with Indigenous communities holding 51% equity ownership.

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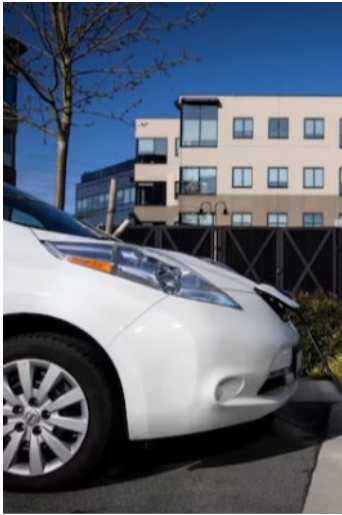
Labour and Economy



B.C. Prepares for Challenging Public Sector Contract Negotiations in 2025

The B.C. government faces significant challenges as it begins negotiations for public sector contracts with 400,000 unionized workers amidst a \$9.4-billion deficit and the looming threat of U.S. tariffs, while unions emphasize affordability and fair wages.

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Uncertainty Looms Over B.C.'s Electric Vehicle Rebate Program

Following the federal pause on EV rebates, questions remain about the future of B.C.'s Go Electric rebate program, as the provincial government has yet to disclose remaining funds amid a spending review and rising demand.

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Canada Prepares to Match U.S. Tariffs Amid Divided Provincial Support

As the U.S. threatens new tariffs, Canadian federal and provincial leaders discuss retaliatory measures, with some premiers supporting dollar-for-dollar tariffs while others caution against broad-based economic retaliation.

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Industry and Labour Groups Form Council to Address U.S. Tariff Threats

Canadian industry and labour leaders have launched the Canada-US Trade Council (CUSTC) to collaborate on strategies for addressing impending U.S. tariffs, bringing together stakeholders from key sectors and labour organizations to share insights and support Canada's trade interests.

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Health and Safety

Bell Let's Talk Highlights Mental Health in



Construction

On Bell Let's Talk Day, attention is drawn to the mental health challenges facing Canada's youth and the construction industry, where efforts are underway to create inclusive, wellness-focused spaces amid a labour shortage. Canadians can support youth mental health by donating \$5, with proceeds benefiting six key organizations.

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Diversity and Inclusion



B.C. Cabinet and First Nations Leaders Gather to Strengthen Partnerships and Advance Reconciliation

The B.C. Cabinet and First Nations leaders gathered for the ninth annual Leaders' Gathering to strengthen government-to-government relationships, advance reconciliation, and collaborate on shared priorities like the UN Declaration, climate action, and community well-being.

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Support and Funding



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

[Explore Resources](#)



