

WE'RE FLYING TO GREAT HEIGHTS

READY FOR ADVENTURE?

If you want to see an aerospace powerhouse in action, set your GPS to 49 degrees North and 119 degrees West.

From aircraft maintenance and engineering, to cargo delivery, high-tech flight tracking and aviation communications, this region is on the forefront of all things aerospace.

With industry leadership in avionics, pilot training, fixed-wing and rotary aircraft manufacturing and maintenance, we're only looking up. Add in innovative research and advanced materials and defense technology at the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO), local researchers and engineers are shaping the future of flight craft.



With all this technical expertise, multiple aerospace programs, and an army of skilled workers, the region offers a wealth of on-the-ground resources. This includes the \$25 million KF Aerospace Centre of Excellence, with conference suites, a museum, aircraft hangars, classrooms and 15,000 square feet of dedicated training space for Okanagan College's Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programs.

If you're ready to find Canada's best in aerospace, just follow the coordinates.

\$2.4B

IN ANNUAL REVENUE GENERATED PROVINCIALY (\$1.3B DIRECT GDP)

18%

OF BC'S AEROSPACE COMPANIES ARE LOCATED IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN

9,300+

DIRECT JOBS AND OVER 20,000 INDIRECT

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



As the largest commercial Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) operation in Canada, KF Aerospace has built an enviable reputation since 1970, servicing major airlines, corporate fleets and military aircraft from around the world.

The company employs about 800 people in BC, 200 in their newly expanded Hamilton, ON facility and over 100 at their flight training centre in Portage la Prairie, MB. In addition to aircraft engineering, maintenance and modifications, KF Aerospace also operates regular cargo charter services, leases aircrafts, and operates



a 22-year pilot training contract in partnership with the Royal Canadian Air Force.

The company strongly believes in growing its homegrown talent. Okanagan College offers multiple programs and with one of KF's hangars serving as the College's training facility, students get real-world experience working alongside KF employees.

SKYTRAC

Founded in 1986 on the possibilities of GPS technology being used for non-military purposes, Skytrac has brought to market products in tracking, flight data monitoring, and satellite communications. Their work touches law enforcement, aerial firefighting, emergency medical services, the oil and gas industry, and government sectors.

The company made a global impact by partnering with Embraer to provide Autonomous Distress

Tracking (ADT) software for airplane location tracking. In addition to ADT, Skytrac partnered with the satellite company Iridium Certus to offer some of the fastest satellite connectivity for manned and unmanned aviation in the avionics field.



Now, with over 120 employees, and offices in Kelowna, Ottawa, and Victoria, Skytrac is a success story going from a startup in a basement to a globally-renowned aviation data company.



AEM is an approved Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) supplier to aircraft manufacturers such as Bell, Boeing Rotorcraft, Leonardo, Airbus

Helicopters, Sikorsky and Embraer. Born out of Northern Airborne Technology, AEM has grown into a vertically integrated provider of specialty aviation solutions.

In their 32,000-square-foot Kelowna facility, over 100 employees design, develop and manufacture avionics components such as loudspeaker systems, caution/warning panels, illuminated panels and keyboards, and specialty audio products.

Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are flying upwards at OK-GO.CA

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

KF Aerospace
kfaero.ca

Skytrac Systems
skytrac.ca

Anodyne Electronic Manufacturing
aem-corp.com

Jupiter Avionics
jupiteravionics.com

Alpine Aerotech
alpineaerotech.com

Valhalla Helicopters
valhallahelicopters.com

Tempest Aviation Group
tempest.aero

Beyond Aerospace
beyondaerospace.com

Carson Air
carsonair.com

Kelowna International Airport - YLW
ylw.kelowna.ca

ARE YOU
READY FOR
A CHANGE
OF SCENE?

OKGO

QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA

OUR FRUIT DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM OUR TREES

**SOMETIMES,
IT PAYS TO
BE LATE.**

When Father Charles Pandosy planted the first apple trees at his Catholic mission in 1859, little did he know the agricultural powerhouse his spindly cuttings would grow into—and all because of good timing.

The agriculture sector in the Central Okanagan is known for its moderate temperatures and higher altitudes. For several of our fruit varieties, that translates into longer harvests. When fruit from other parts of the world have completed their season, we are still going strong.



For more than 150 years, our farming operations have been a world leader in feeding people and innovating farming production and varieties. Today, the Central Okanagan is home to many different types of farm operations, including tree fruits (apples, cherries, plums, pears, peaches, and apricots), vegetables (fresh and greenhouse), and cattle ranching, of course.

From one apple tree to a multimillion-dollar industry, our agriculture sector is as timely as ever.



807+

FARMS EMPLOYING
4,942 PEOPLE

410+

FRUIT AND TREE NUT
FARMING BUSINESSES

\$130M

IN WHOLESALE REVENUE
GENERATED AND \$900M
IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



In the late 1890's, Ephraim Day homesteaded property in the heart of Kelowna, and over the five generations since, the family holdings have now expanded to encompass over 136 acres.

This includes the largest pear orchard in the province (and the best pear-growing land in Canada), distributing Bartlett, Bosc, Green and Red D'Anjou pears across North America. The family also sells freshly picked vegetables, fruit and sweet corn in their own farm market.

While keeping the family ties to the land, the Day's have made substantial investments in packing and shipping to create more efficiency in their operations. In 2019, they installed a state-of-the-art packing machine and a high-resolution optical pear-sorting system, the first of its kind in Canada. Using next-generation technology, the next generation of Day's is pushing innovation forward.



Growing cherries can be risky. The fruit is a high-value crop and if the harvest is bad, it's bad in a big way. Luckily, Jealous Fruits knows what they're doing.

Owned by the Geen family, Jealous Fruits has been growing cherries in the Okanagan Valley since 1903 and is seen as one of the best cherry producers in the world. Today, the company is the only vertically-integrated cherry grower in Canada, meaning they have the capacity to grow, process and package their crops in-house.

To compete internationally, Jealous invested heavily in infrastructure, opening a new 140,000 square-foot facility in 2020, with automated sorting and packaging lines that ensure 100% weight accuracy per pallet and removes the need for human contact with the cherries. In 2021, they produced their largest crop to date: nearly 7,000 tonnes, a 250% increase from the previous year.



Since the mid 1950s, the SunRype brand has been a household name in Western Canada, leading the way with Blue Label, their trusted apple juice. Fueled by society's greater emphasis on health and nutrition, the company has been steadily introducing a host of new snack products made from simple, wholesome ingredients including fruit, grains, seeds and coconut.

The company aims to help people live healthier lives and support community initiatives that promote an

active lifestyle across the Central Okanagan.

While they are renowned in Canada and the United States, their core is still in Kelowna. SunRype employs more than 300 employees at their 19-acre production facility near Okanagan Lake, many of whom have been with the company for more than 20 years. It's a testament to the health of their products and their company.



INDUSTRY PLAYERS

SunRype
sunrype.ca

Days Century Growers
dayscenturygrowers.ca

Jealous Fruits
jealousfruits.com

Farming Karma
farmingkarma.ca

BC Cherries Association
bcccherry.com

Bylands Nurseries
bylands.com

AgriForest Bio-Technologies
agriforestbiotech.com

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENE?

OKGO

Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are "climbing the ladder" at OK-GO.CA

QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA

WE'RE CLEANING UP FOR A GREENER TOMORROW

CREATING A CLEANER FUTURE FOR ALL

At the heart of the Okanagan, a green revolution has rapidly taken shape, transforming the region and beyond thanks to innovative cleantech solutions that are establishing a sustainable and vibrant future.

From carbon capture and storage to hydrogen and fuel cell technology, the areas of specialization in the Central Okanagan continue to expand, gaining global recognition in the process. The region's two post-secondary institutions—University of British Columbia Okanagan and Okanagan College—work together to cultivate future leaders in the sector, prepare a skilled workforce, and conduct vital research for new and innovative technology.



The region contributes to Canada's growing environmental and cleantech sector which was valued at over \$73.1 billion in 2021.

As companies throughout the province and in our region continue to scale up and new ventures take flight, there is no doubt that the future of BC cleantech is bright—and green.

\$11B

CONTRIBUTED TO BC'S GDP BY
CLEANTECH SECTOR

TOP 10

BC'S CLEANTECH SECTOR RANKS IN
TOP 10 GLOBALLY

500+

CLEANTECH COMPANIES
IN BC, EMPLOYING
OVER 23,000

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



The future of commercial transportation is looking green thanks to the innovative cleantech solutions developed by Hexagon Purus. Earlier this year, the global company opened a 60,000 sq. ft. micro-factory in the rapidly growing Kelowna International Airport Business Park where more than 1,000 battery-electric systems are expected to be produced annually. Thanks to a recently signed landmark deal with Hino Trucks, valued at around \$2 billion, Hexagon Purus will be producing thousands of battery-electric heavy-



duty trucks, with the initial battery systems being produced at the Kelowna micro-factory, expected to employ more than 150 engineers and assembly technicians by 2024. The Kelowna-based team has been working on cleantech solutions for more than 20 years and won't be slowing down anytime soon.



RainStick Shower was founded to help create a greener future, one shower at a time. The cardboard prototype created just over four years ago has become North America's first circular shower, saving up to 80% of the water and energy typically used. At the 2022 Consumer Electronic Show in Las Vegas, RainStick Shower was awarded Best of Smart Home and Best of Innovation, from the 1,800 international companies that were showcased.

The company was also selected as one of 11 cohort members for Imagine H2O, one of the world's top accelerators for water startups.



More recently, in October 2023, RainStick Shower was featured on TIME's List of The Best Inventions. With new partnerships, distributors, and global interest, along with a more cost-conscious version on the way, you may see RainStick Shower in a home near you sooner than you think.



Since its launch in 2016, Vitalis has used its expertise in CO2 handling to develop original equipment, supporting and furthering the cleantech industry within the Central Okanagan, BC, and beyond.

From its original extraction machine, the company has developed heating and cooling solutions for industrial applications, including its cool-shift chiller for breweries. With few CO2 suppliers in Western Canada, the cool-shift chillers provide breweries with independence; the CO2 capture system in the chiller allows CO2 to be cleaned, recycled, and provided back to the brewery for its needs. The success of its clients is at the heart of the business—Vitalis seeks to create products that reduce a business' environmental footprint while positively contributing to its profitability.

Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are cleaning up at [OK-GO.CA](https://www.ok-go.ca)

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

Hexagon Purus
hexagonpurus.com

Rainstick
rainstickshower.com

Vitalis
vitaliset.com

GreenStep Solutions Inc
greenstep.ca

Pela
pelacase.ca, lomi.com

Arterran Renewables
arterran.com

Brenda Renewables
brendarenewables.ca

Egnite Sustainability Inc
egnitesustainability.ca

INCA Renewables
incarenewtech.com

Red Leaf Pulp
redleafpulp.com

The Rogerie
therogerie.com

SkyFire Energy
skyfireenergy.com

Extropic Energy Inc
extropic.ca

**ARE YOU
READY FOR
A CHANGE
OF SCENE?**

OKGO

QUESTIONS?
[OK-GO.CA](https://www.ok-go.ca)

GAMING THE SYSTEM FOR SUCCESS

TECH THAT'S PUNCHING ABOVE ITS WEIGHT.

Today, there are more people employed in the BC tech sector than in mining, oil, gas and forestry combined. It's no secret that technology has dramatically changed the local landscape, particularly in Kelowna, which is part of Canada's Digital Tech Supercluster.

The Okanagan region is an important part of the Cascadia Innovation Corridor, linking innovators in British Columbia with others in Washington State and as far down as Silicon Valley. The diversity of the area's digital tech boom is exciting. Animation studios, game developers, Canada's premier medical



record platform, AI-powered online content filtering systems, aviation satellite data tracking systems... and the list goes on.

One success story is Lane Merrifield, currently a Dragon on CBC's Dragon's Den, and the co-founder of the massively popular online game, Club Penguin. After selling the business to Disney, he started FreshGrade, a portfolio and assessment platform used by educators around the globe.

The Okanagan's position as a recreational mecca is also part of its appeal for startups. The lifestyle, the relaxed pace, lower costs of living and good weather make a pretty attractive addition to the compensation package.

\$1.67B
IN ECONOMIC IMPACT

694+
TECHNOLOGY
COMPANIES

\$35M
INNOVATION CENTER
PUTS MULTIPLE HIGH-TECH
BUSINESSES ALL UNDER
ONE ROOF

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



Since 2012, Two Hat Security's AI-driven content moderation platform has been identifying and preventing harmful online behaviour, including cyberbullying, abuse, hate speech, violent threats and child exploitation, all while enforcing rules of conduct in online communities.

Two Hat's success was recognized in 2017 when they were awarded the largest MITACS cluster grant of over three million dollars to work with universities. Most recently, the World Economic Forum selected Two Hat as one of its most promising Technology Pioneers of 2020 for its



groundbreaking platform, offering the opportunity to engage with other industry leaders and work with public and private experts.

In October 2021, Microsoft acquired Two Hat, allowing the Kelowna-based company to work towards building an even greater online community experience.



Digital healthcare has increased, with patients connecting directly to their healthcare providers through video and messaging platforms. One such platform is Medeo Virtual Care from Kelowna-based QHR.

The innovative healthcare technology company produces a suite of industry-leading products designed to streamline medical practices. Their flagship product is AccuroEMR, Canada's

largest single-platform electronic medical record software. Other Products include FreedomRx, an e-prescription management tool for pharmacists and Pharmacy EMR, which helps pharmacy staff manage their professional services and is now used in over 1,200 Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacies in Canada. QHR currently has 523 employees across Canada, with 368 of those in its Kelowna head office.



Bananatag, which recently merged with a German company to become Staffbase, was founded to help companies with their internal communications.

The company offers low-code, customized email templates that allow colleagues to collaborate in real time. Staffbase also provides in-depth metrics and integration capabilities with Gmail,

Slack, Microsoft Outlook and Teams, and other communication tools.

In just 11 years, Kelowna's Bananatag grew to 150 employees and opened an office in Vancouver. In merging with Staffbase, they created the world's largest internal communication tech company with 1,000 customers worldwide, including Adidas, Audi, and Spark Power.



Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are programming the Okanagan at OK-GO.CA

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

QHR Technologies
qhrtechnologies.com

Yeti Farm
yetiarmcreative.com

HyperHippo
hyperhippo.com

Two Hat
twohat.com

Staffbase
bananatag.com

WTFast
wtfast.com

Trellis
trellis.org

Ested
ested.com

GetintheLoop
getintheloop.ca

ARE YOU
READY FOR
A CHANGE
OF SCENE?



QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA

WHERE MAKERS MAKE THEIR MARK

WHAT MAKES KELOWNA'S MANUFACTURING SECTOR SO ADVANCED?

For starters, our diverse manufacturing sector harnesses the depth and breadth of more than 600 firms in the Central Okanagan who specialize in wood products, composite materials, engineering, agri-food, health and more.

The sheer diversity of manufacturers makes it easy for existing and new businesses to find high-quality local partners to help with specific challenges. Canada's digital technology sector is also on hand to support the industry, helping discover



new ways to make production faster, more sustainable, and in some cases, more intelligent, as AI for self-regulating systems is explored.

But what we manufacture best in the Central Okanagan is partnerships. With cross-sector collaborations and a high-degree of cooperation, it's easy to find the right people and companies to achieve your goals.

With world-class research and innovation in everything from aerospace to waterslides, local companies are developing the technologies and materials of the future, which in turn is attracting forward-thinking entrepreneurs and businesses.



\$16.3B

CONTRIBUTED TO BC'S
GDP BY MANUFACTURING
INDUSTRY

178K+

MANUFACTURING
JOBS IN BC

BC RANKS #3 IN CANADA
IN MANUFACTURING
EMPLOYMENT

648+

MANUFACTURING FIRMS,
EMPLOYING 6000+
PEOPLE IN THE CENTRAL
OKANAGAN

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



Named the third fastest growing company in Canada by *The Globe and Mail* (2020), Vitalis manufactures the most sophisticated industrial supercritical CO₂ extraction systems in the world. Say what? Okay, a brief explanation.

Widely used in the botanical, food, and pharmaceutical industries, CO₂ extraction is a process that uses pressurized carbon dioxide to pull phytochemicals, waxes and oils from plants. For example, it removes the caffeine from coffee beans. In the world of cannabis, it allows companies to create product

lines derived from a broad spectrum oil.

Today, producers come to Vitalis from all over the world and all types of industries—cannabis, hemp, pharmaceutical, F&B, and essential oils—to turn their organic materials into pure extracts. As an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), Vitalis' systems are manufactured and tested at their Kelowna facility, giving them control over the quality and reliability of the products that make them so well-known.



Beautiful wooden acoustic panels amplify the sound of hard work, innovation and creativity, and when done well, it's a level of craftsmanship filled with precision and care. It's something Vladimir and Natasha Bolshakov know all about.

As first generation immigrants from Ukraine, they took what was once a children's furniture shop and crafted Kelowna-based Geometrik into North America's premier acoustic wood paneling company.

An engineer by trade, Vladimir started receiving orders for wooden acoustical panels because of the quality of the sound absorption as well as its exquisite beauty. The shift in business also brought exponential growth—they've twice moved to larger manufacturing facilities to keep up with demand. Impressively, their work is on display along Canada's West Coast and the United States, including Gonzaga University, San Francisco General Hospital, and the UBC Sauder School of Business.



With over 3,600% sales growth of its compostable phone cases, the company wanted to consolidate operations in one place. They chose Kelowna.

After seeing plastic debris in the water around Hawaii, Saskatoon environmental consultant Jeremy Lang felt compelled to do something about it. So, in 2011 he helped invent Flaxstic, a tough but compostable material made from flax straw. Then he started making phone cases.

Now, Pela has diversified its line. With smart watch straps, Airpod cases, sunglasses and lenses that are landfill biodegradable. Add a personal care brand and more products to come, Pela is a brand that makes products with a graceful end of life. It's the best kind of ending: no more plastic waste.



Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are making things better at OK-GO.CA

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

Pela
pelacase.com

Waterplay
waterplay.com

Northside Industries
northsideind.ca

Vitalis
vitaliset.com

SunRype Products
sunrype.ca

Geometrik
geometrik.com

ASDAC B.C. Machining
asdac.net

Nature's Formulae
naturesformulae.com

HexagonPurus
hexagonpurus.com

WeMa Manufacturing
westmfg.net

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENE?



QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA



OKANAGAN COLLEGE



With campuses and centres located throughout the Okanagan and Shuswap/Revelstoke, Okanagan College is a community of learning made stronger by its connections to industry and local businesses. OC's commitment to students and their success is evidenced by smaller class sizes, instructors with real-life experience, and hands-on learning opportunities.

OC's largest campus is located in the heart of Kelowna, walking distance from the city's downtown core and thriving business district. The Kelowna campus is also home to a modern health sciences facility, Centre for Learning, and Trades training complex, and the future home to a new Centre for Food, Wine and Tourism—which will begin construction in 2024.

With over 60,000 alumni, Okanagan College and its students—both current and graduated—have ties to industry, governments and organizations throughout the region and beyond. OC partners with local employers to create and deliver programming that's relevant to the workplace, and responsive to student needs.



OC SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The Okanagan College School of Business provides a career-oriented and innovative approach to education so that learners of various ages, experience levels, and cultures succeed. Specialized business programs have a strong focus on integrating theory and subject-matter knowledge with practical applications through business competitions, community-based course projects and work experiences.



TRADES & APPRENTICESHIPS

Okanagan College offers the newest equipment and technologies in state-of-the-art training facilities located in Kelowna, Vernon, Salmon Arm, and Penticton. Students master skills taught by industry-leading instructors while gaining hands-on experience. Aerospace, Carpentry, Electrical, Mechanical Building, Welding and Collision Repair are some of the many program areas offered to students, as OC works with local professionals to deliver in-class and workplace-based learning opportunities.



OKANAGAN CHEF SCHOOL & FOOD, WINE AND TOURISM

OC's programs in Culinary and Pastry Arts, Tourism and Hospitality and Viticulture and Wine Studies reflect the Okanagan Valley's natural environment and focus on a quality learning experience that connects their students with the people and places that make the Okanagan one of the leading food and wine destinations in North America. In Penticton, OC supports the beverage industry through the BC Beverage and Technology Access Centre and wine sensory lab.

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



The **Sustainable Building Technology Diploma** provides students with the foundation needed to prepare, inspire, and mobilize the next generation of building technologists. This program covers the principles, concepts, and practices of project design to completion through whole systems thinking and multidisciplinary approaches which collectively enables students to deliver sustainably built environments that enhance human well-being.

Careers in **health care and social development** provide a meaningful way to meet the needs of families and communities. The Okanagan region's population and demographics provide diverse learning opportunities in a range of fields.

Practical-oriented programs prepare students for careers in health and social development settings, including hospital and community nursing, long-term care, home care, social services, non-profit societies, children's daycare and more.



The College's **Applied Research agenda** is driven by OC students and staff dedicated to solving problems and acquiring solutions for business, industry and community partners. Applied research provides students with learning experiences relevant to the workplace, and contributes to OC's innovative, collaborative community environment.

INSTITUTIONAL STATS



Largest college in B.C. outside of the Lower Mainland



17,000 students annually



Industry partnerships and collaborations, including aerospace, health care, trades, and technology



Internationally recognized OC School of Business



Leader in applied research and innovation



One of B.C.'s largest trades training institutions, with programs and sponsorship opportunities focused on women in trades.

HELPFUL LINKS



okanagan.bc.ca

OC Careers Hub and employer partnerships:
okanagan.bc.ca/careers-hub

OC Continuing Studies and Corporate Training:
okanagan.bc.ca/continuing-studies

okanagan.bc.ca/corporate-training

OC Student Recruitment:
okanagan.bc.ca/careers-hub/hire-an-oc-student

OC Alumni Association:
okanagan.bc.ca/alumni

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENE?



QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA'S OKANAGAN CAMPUS



Located in the picturesque Okanagan Valley, the University of British Columbia's Okanagan Campus attracted \$45 million in research funding in 2022/23 and currently has more than 1,000 active research projects in partnership with industry and non-profits. Since it was established in 2005, UBC Okanagan (UBCO) has seen its enrolment grow from 3,500 to 12,000 students a year, now representing more than 100 countries from around the globe.

A close-knit campus of one of the top-ranked global universities, UBCO offers 66 undergraduate and 55 graduate programs, including engineering, medicine (MD), nursing, media studies, data science, sustainability, and more. Thanks to co-op programs, undergraduate research, and other experiential learning opportunities, students can work with community partners as they develop the skills they need for career success in a broad range of fields. For example, the **creation of four murals on local buildings**, as part of the Bachelor of Fine Arts program, led to student employment for additional community art projects within the region.



ADVANCING AI

Terrasense Analytics, collaborated with UBC's STAR initiative, linking industry and academia. Working with Dr. Zheng Liu, an AI expert, they secured a \$10 million federal contract. Since then the company has grown from two employees working with UBC STAR to nearly 30 employees. Their success highlights the synergy between tech innovation, research, and academic partnerships.



RECYCLING PLASTICS

UBC Okanagan's Plastics Recycling Research Cluster, led by Dr. Mohammad Arjmand, aims to **repurpose the 380 million tonnes of global plastic waste** produced annually. Leveraging UBCO's expertise and equipment, they enhance plastic properties, creating sturdier or electrically conductive plastics. Collaborating with Advanced BioCarbon 3D, they craft composite plastics for affordable 3D-printed homes.

IMPROVING BATTERIES

Simultaneously, Dr. Jian Liu and his team are developing **safer, more powerful batteries** for electric vehicles and solar panels, fostering a Western Canadian supply chain using local resources like lithium, graphite, and tellurium. Their innovative projects include their collaboration with **Trail-BC-based Fenix Advanced Materials**, converting recycled tellurium into cathode material for high-performance lithium-tellurium batteries.

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN

A key employer of **2,000 faculty and staff within the region**, UBCO works closely and collaboratively with Okanagan College—together, they are attracting hardworking students, strengthening the calibre of graduates, and bolstering the region's workforce by delivering world-class post-secondary education opportunities.



HELPFUL LINKS



ok.ubc.ca

UBCO Alumni
alumni.ubc.ca

Continuing and Professional Education
cpe.ok.ubc.ca

Prospective Students
ok.ubc.ca/prospective-students

INSTITUTIONAL STATS



The most established and influential global rankings consistently place **UBC in the top five per cent of universities in the world.** (2023)



\$45 million in research funding in 2022/23, with more than 1,000 active research projects.

\$1.92B



Estimated **\$1.92 billion economic impact in BC.** (2016)

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Attract and hire skilled, driven students:

UBCO Co-op Programs
coop.ok.ubc.ca

Undergraduate Research
students.ok.ubc.ca/career-experience/undergraduate-research

Capstone Projects
education.ok.ubc.ca/capstone-projects
engineering.ok.ubc.ca/capstone
management.ok.ubc.ca/community/capstone

Community Service Learning
students.ok.ubc.ca/cslprogram

Student & Alumni Job Board
students.ok.ubc.ca/career-experience/job-board

Careers & Opportunities
hr.ok.ubc.ca/careers

Partner Stories
coop.ok.ubc.ca/category/partner-stories
coop.ok.ubc.ca/community-partners

Mentorship Opportunities
alumni.ubc.ca/volunteer-and-donate/mentorship

Employer Information Sessions & Career Fairs
students.ok.ubc.ca/career-experience/events-and-workshops/career-connections

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENE?

OKGO

QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA

OUR TERROIR IS FILLED WITH HISTORY AND INNOVATION

VITICULTURE IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN IS MOVING TOWARDS A NEW SEASON.

While firmly established as Western Canada's top winery destination and providing close to \$3 billion in its annual provincial economic impact, many of our vineyards are changing their processes to ensure long-term sustainability for the Valley.

With an ever-changing panorama, the Valley stretches over 250kms, across sub-regions, each with



distinct soil and climate conditions suited to growing a range of varietals from sun-ripened reds to lively-fresh and often-crisp whites.

Being mindful of the effects of climate change, both established and new wineries are moving toward organic farming and winemaking. Limiting the use of pesticides and capitalizing on the natural ecosystem on each farm, our wineries are closing the loop to preserve and protect the region.

Along with production, wine tourism is becoming increasingly popular, with many wineries offering

exceptional dining opportunities in their on-site restaurants, generating over \$476 million in tourism-related economic impact, regionally.

The results of this work? The wines just keep getting better and better.



\$3.7B

**IN ANNUAL ECONOMIC
IMPACT FOR BC'S WINE
INDUSTRY, EMPLOYING
14,000+ PEOPLE**

222+

**LICENSED WINERIES,
AND OVER 1,061
VINEYARDS IN THE
OKANAGAN VALLEY**

\$9.7M

**OF BC'S WINE EXPORTS
TO 17 INTERNATIONAL
MARKETS IN 2016**

SUCCESS IN THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN



When CedarCreek started the process of becoming organic, 4% of the Okanagan's wineries were organic. Now, it's close to 18%. CedarCreek is also partnering with Regeneration Canada, a national movement with a focus on regenerative land management, to see how they can further care for the ecosystem in which they farm.

The change to organic is in sync with their holistic philosophy of cultivating the natural ecosystem of



the 50-plus acres on which CedarCreek resides. The winery doesn't use anything that wouldn't be found outside the natural area and relies on animals and plants to naturally combat disease and pests.

Combining all of that with their extensive composting program, they're leaving nothing to waste.



Indigenous World Winery is the brainchild of Robert and Bernice Louie, descendants of the Syilx first peoples who have lived in the Okanagan for generations. Back in 2011, the couple secured 2.5 acres to start a vineyard and joined forces with winemaker Jason Parkes to make wines that could compete at a world level.

Located across Okanagan Lake in West Kelowna, making it an ideal spot for meetings and events,

the winery is sited on land belonging to Westbank First Nation.

Since then, the gold and silver medals have kept on coming, with their 2014 Simo receiving Double Gold at the 2019 All Canadian Wine Championships, beating out 1,378 other entries. In addition, their wines have earned gold at many international competitions in the United States and across Europe.



BC's oldest and Canada's most internationally-awarded distillery, Okanagan Spirits is a fourth-generation family business. It was also the first farm-to-flask distillery in Western Canada since the days of prohibition.

The distillery handcrafts terroir-driven spirits entirely from 100% local grains and fruits that present the true flavours and aromas of the Okanagan Valley. Across their products, Okanagan Spirits is truly farm-to-flask.

The distillery is also committed to reducing their impact on the environment. After mashing, all edible materials go back to feed local livestock. The distillery even uses distilling by-products to power all of their vehicles to cut down on emissions.

Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are raising the bar (and a glass or two) at OK-GO.CA

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

Mark Anthony Group
markanthonywineandspirits.ca

Quails Gate Vineyard Estate Winery
quailsgate.com

Indigenous World Winery
indigenousworldwinery.com

Jason Parkes Customs
jpcfanclub.com

Frind Estate Winery
frindwinery.com

Wine Growers British Columbia
winebc.com/industry

Andrew Peller Limited
andrewpeller.com

50th Parallel Estate Winery
50thparallel.com

Off the Grid Winery
offthegridorganicwinery.com

Gray Monk Estate Winery
graymonk.com

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENE?

OKGO

QUESTIONS?
OK-GO.CA