

# Investing Opportunities

## British Columbia is now a more attractive place to invest and do business:

- A new government was elected in 2001, and is committed to expanding the mining and mineral exploration sector in British Columbia.
- A 20 per cent “super” flow-through share tax credit for new mineral exploration in British Columbia is now available. This is in addition to the federal 15 per cent share tax credit and the existing 100 per cent deduction of Canadian Exploration Expense.
- The provincial sales tax on production machinery and equipment has been eliminated.
- As of January 1, 2002, British Columbia’s corporate income tax rate is 13.5 per cent, a decrease of 3 per cent.
- The corporate capital tax was reduced by 50 per cent in 2001 and will be eliminated on September 1, 2002.
- Personal income tax rates have been cut by 25 per cent.
- The regulatory burden on business will be reduced by one third within three years.
- MapPlace — on the ministry’s Web site — offers interactive exploration data.
- The British Columbia mining and mineral exploration industry has a highly skilled workforce, including mine and mill employees, engineers, geoscientists, managers and technical experts.
- New land use and access policies assure mineral lands are open to exploration and development.
- Electricity rates in British Columbia are among the lowest in North America. Hydroelectric resources are abundant, reliable and secure.
- Vancouver is a major financial and technical centre for global mineral exploration and mining.
- British Columbia’s strategic location offers tidewater access and close proximity to U.S. and Asian markets.

