



# Crown Land Factsheet

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

*British Columbia is the third largest province in Canada and covers a total area of 94.8 million hectares (366,000 square miles).*

## ABOUT CROWN LAND IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- ▶ 94% of the land in British Columbia is Provincial Crown land (2% of which is covered by fresh water)
- ▶ 1% of the land in British Columbia is Federal Crown land (including Indian Reserves, Defence Lands, Federal Harbours, etc.)
- ▶ 5% of the land in British Columbia is privately owned land
- ▶ The Ministry of Agriculture and Lands issues Crown land tenures and sells Crown land on behalf of the Province of British Columbia

## CROWN LAND TENURES

Different Crown land tenure types are available depending on the desired use and term of the contract. Types of tenures include investigative permits, temporary permits, licences of occupation, statutory rights of way and leases.

## CROWN LAND SALES

The sale of surface rights is available to individuals, businesses and local government. Crown land sales include residential, agricultural, industrial, and commercial land.

## DELEGATED AGENCIES

Responsibility for the disposition of some Crown land programs has been provided to/ or is being shared with other agencies including: Ministry of Energy Mines and Petroleum Resources, Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Tourism Sport and the Arts and Ministry of Forests and Range.





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*British Columbia  
is nearly four times  
the size of Great  
Britain.*

## CROWN LAND TENURE AND CROWN LAND SALES – APPLICATIONS

The Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and delegated agencies, through an application process, may grant the use and occupation of Crown land to citizens and registered organizations for a variety of purposes, such as utilities, extensive and intensive agriculture, commercial, industrial, adventure tourism/commercial recreation, log handling, grazing, wind power, mining, marinas, communication sites, alpine skiing/all season resorts, aggregates, airports, residential, aquaculture and private moorage.

## A BALANCED APPROACH

The Province balances needs of the public, investors and stakeholders to achieve economic prosperity, socially responsible and environmentally sustainable uses of Crown land, while respecting Aboriginal interests and promoting reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia.

*FrontCounter BC is a single window for clients of provincial natural resource ministries and agencies that can advise on the various approvals.*

*For more information, visit us online at [www.gov.bc.ca/al](http://www.gov.bc.ca/al) or [www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca](http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca)*