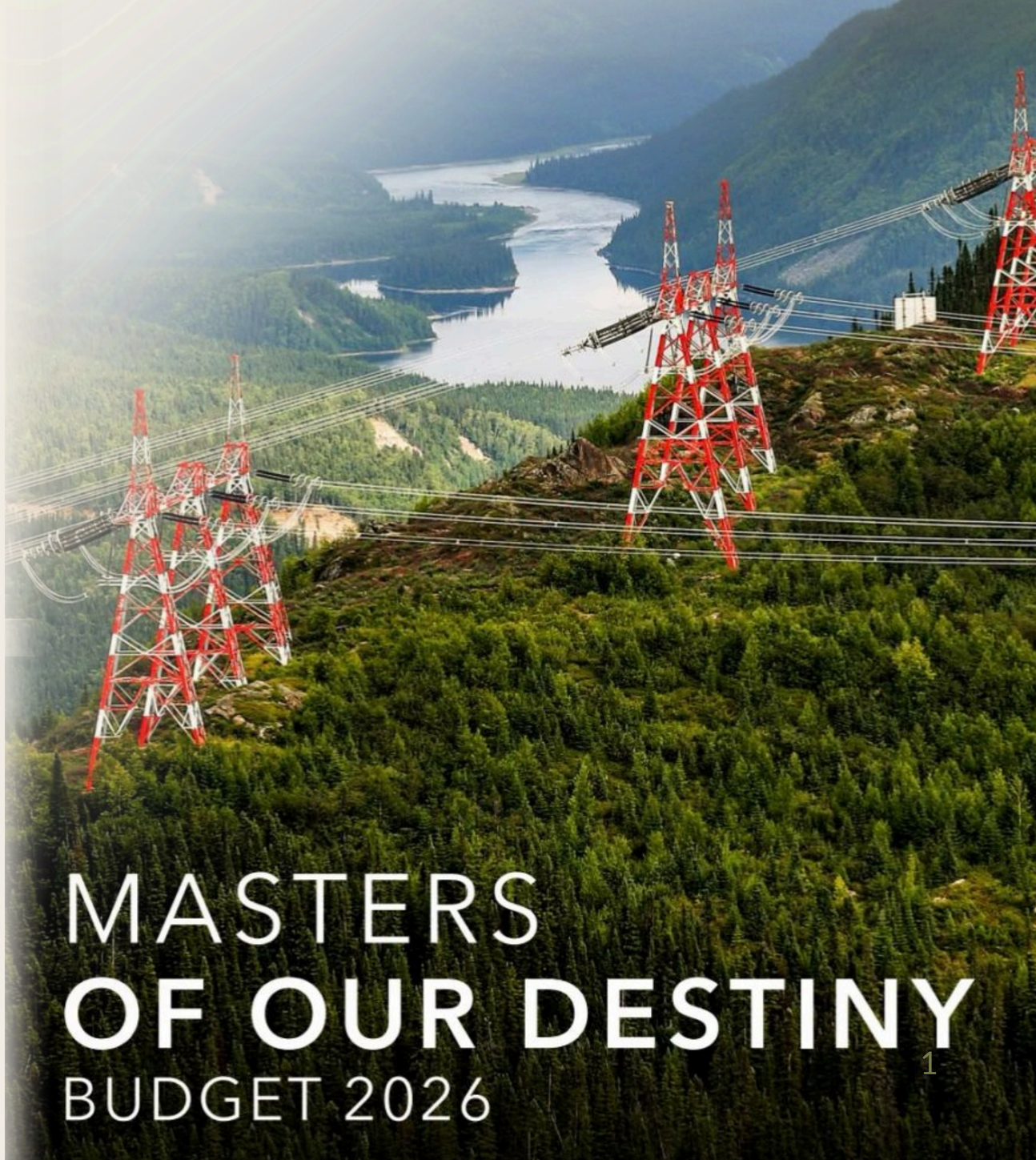
BUDGET 2026

What it means for our communities

A look at Budget 2026 and a conversation about what comes next

Presentation by:

Patrick Weiler, Member of Parliament
West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast- Sea to Sky



Three priorities for Canada

Growth

Unlocking an investment supercycle by attracting investment, advancing major projects, creating well-paying careers, and building a stronger, more independent economy.

People

Making life more affordable by boosting affordability, investing in our future and that of our children, and improving how we care for each other.

Sovereignty & Culture

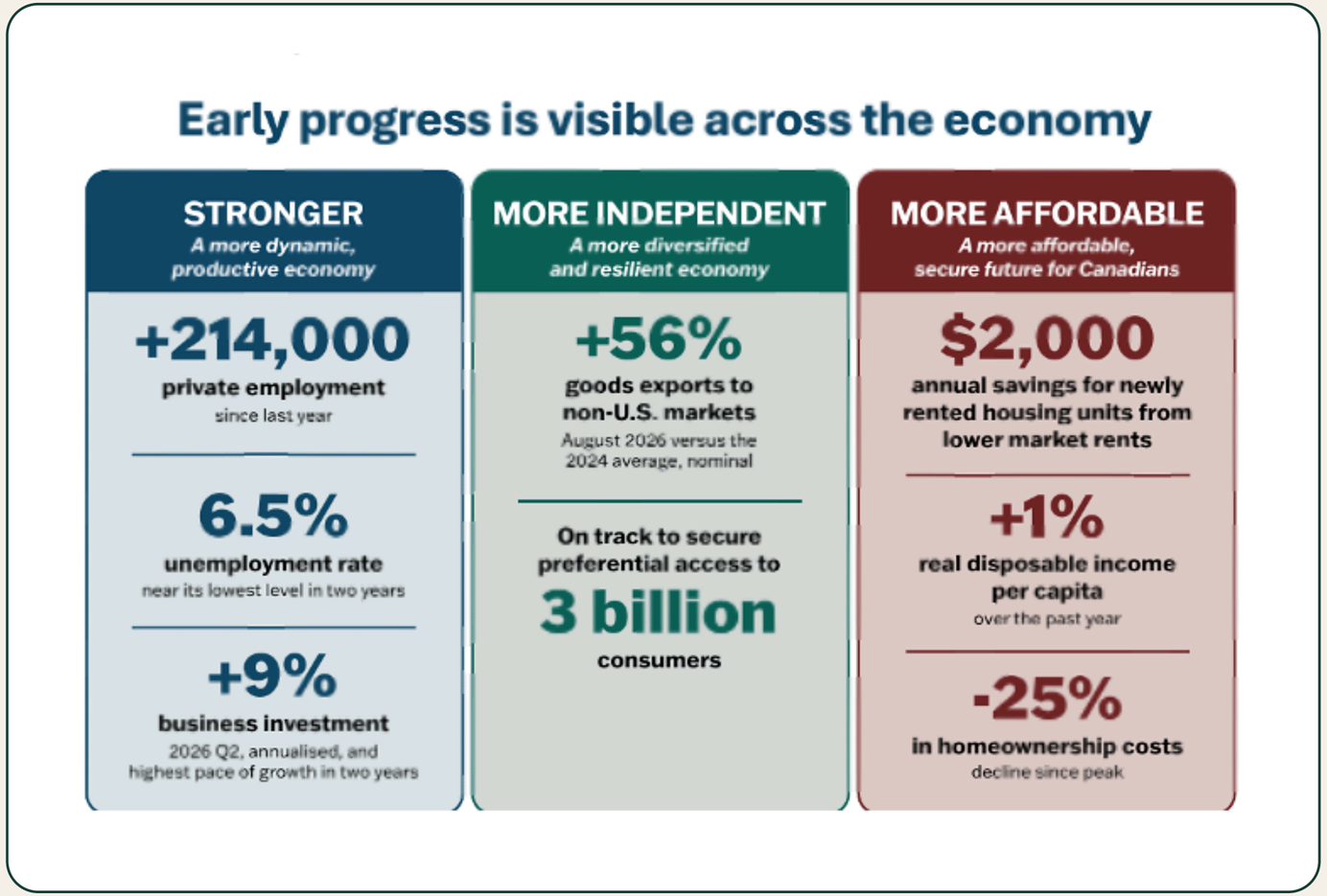
Strengthening our sovereignty so no one can dictate our choices, while supporting Canadian culture and giving Canadians the freedom to live their lives as they choose.

Masters of our destiny

$140B+

in strategies to build Canada strong: electricity, housing, minerals, defence, food and nature

- Building strong at home
- Diversifying our partnerships abroad
- Making life more affordable



Source: Budget 2026, Budget in brief, pp. 6 and 12–13

Invest today, reinvest tomorrow

2/3

of capital assets now qualify for immediate expensing, up from about 15%

- **Investment:** Productivity Mega Deduction.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Canada Growth Incentive, including both the $15-million exemption and the small-business rollover.
- **Innovation:** Expanded SR&ED support for commercialization.

Restaurants and food service

- Ranges
- Refrigerators
- Preparation tables
- Grills
- Food processors
- Mixers
- Dishwashing equipment
- Dining-room furniture
- Point-of-sale hardware

Tourism and hospitality

- Hotel beds and other furniture
- Refrigerators
- Laundry machines
- Fitness equipment
- TVs
- Coach buses
- Sightseeing vessels
- Chairlifts/gondolas
- Snow-making and grooming equipment
- Amusement park rides

Construction

- Jackhammers
- Excavators
- Bulldozers
- Mobile cranes
- Concrete mixers
- Graders
- Loaders
- Backhoes
- Dump trucks

Farming

- Tractors
- Combine harvesters
- Farm trailers
- Plows
- Seeders
- Crop sprayers
- Balers
- Forage harvesters
- Frame, log, or corrugated metal barns used for farming
- Greenhouses
- Silos

Health care and medical equipment

- Medical imaging equipment (X-rays, ultrasound)
- ECG monitors
- Pulmonary-function monitors
- Specialised examination chairs
- Sterilisation equipment
- Laboratory analysers
- Office furniture
- Medical and dental tools

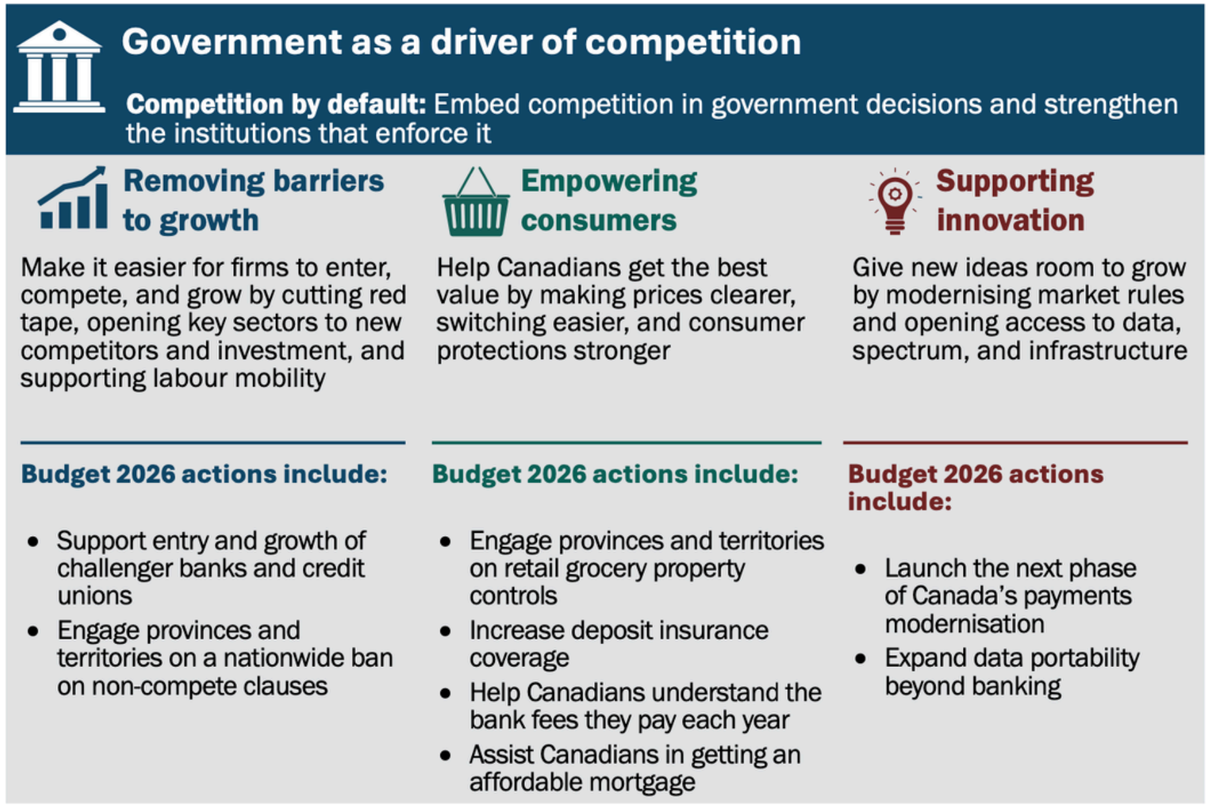
Source: Budget in brief, p. 22; Budget 2026, pp. 111–114

More choice and fairer prices for everyone

$40–50

for a 60 GB mobile plan now widely available, down from about $105 in 2022

- Easier to switch phone, internet and airline providers
- Clearer bank fees and mortgage pricing
- Work to end grocery property controls that limit competition
- More spectrum and satellite services for rural coverage



Source: Budget 2026, pp. 142–145; Budget in brief, p. 25

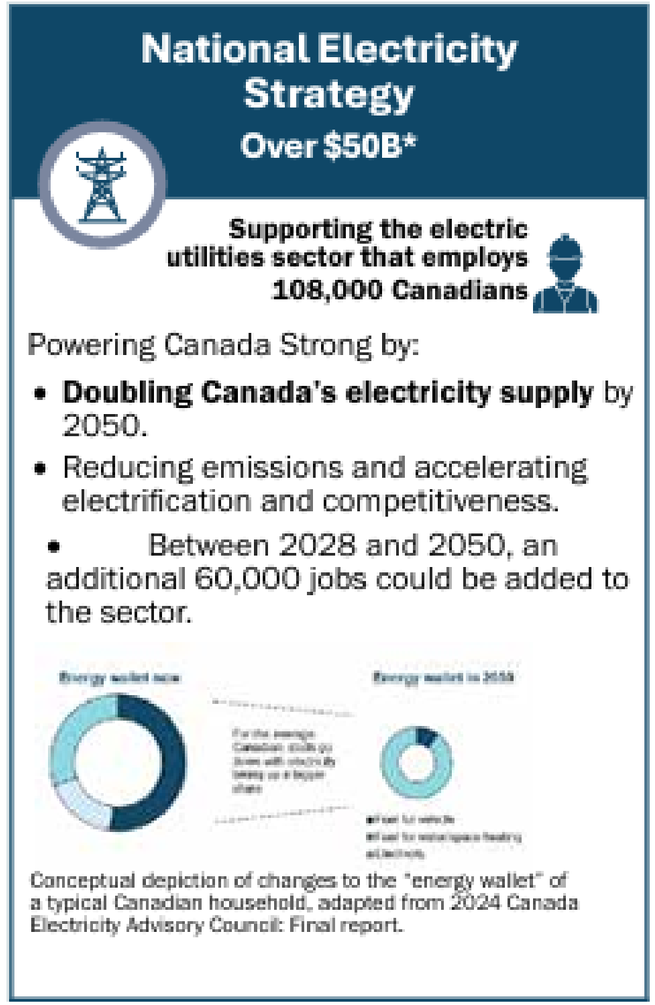
CHAPTER 1 · INVESTMENT SUPERCYCLE

Powering growth and lowering energy bills

$50B+

National Electricity Strategy, aiming to double Canada's electricity supply by 2050

- An additional 55,000 EV charging stations
- National Heat Pump Rebate: up to 820,000 households ($2B)
- Clean tech and clean electricity tax credits extended to 2040



Conceptual depiction of changes to the "energy wallet" of a typical Canadian household, adapted from 2024 Canada Electricity Advisory Council: Final report.

Source: Budget in brief, pp. 26, 34; Budget 2026, pp. 123–138

Strengthening forestry for the long term

$6.5B

in new forest sector support, building on $2.9B announced since August 2025

- $2B to modernise mills and make higher-value products
- $500M for fibre supply and forest stewardship
- $4B Forestry Sector Accelerator for large-scale facilities



Source: Budget in brief, p. 14; Budget 2026, pp. 137–138

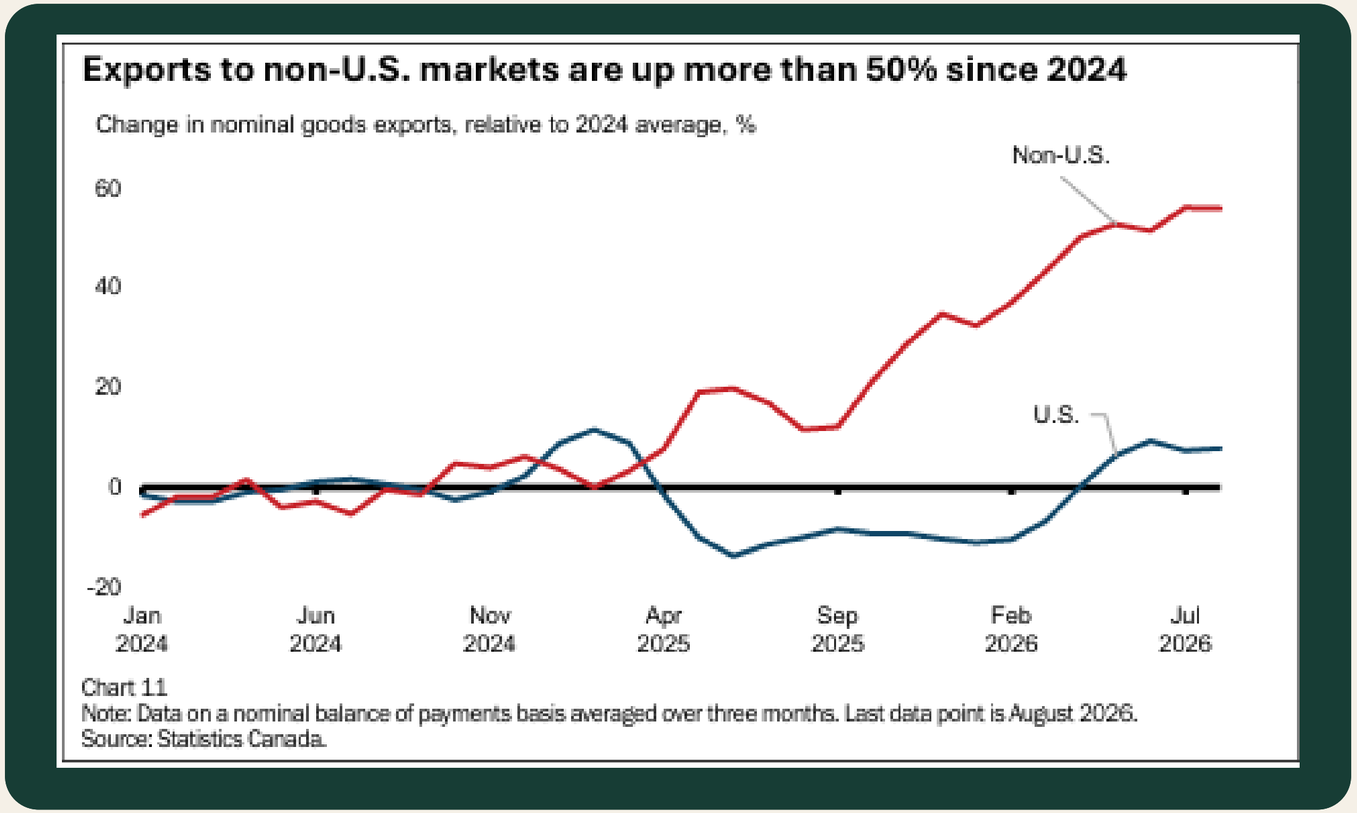
CHAPTER 2 · COMPETITIVE & CONNECTED

Diversifying trade, one Canadian economy

+56%

goods exports to non-U.S. markets (August 2026 vs. the 2024 average)

- Goal: double non-U.S. exports by the end of 2035
- Free trade agreements with every other G7 country
- Internal trade barriers: up to $210B in lost GDP



Source: Budget in brief, pp. 6, 13, 16, 18; Budget 2026, pp. 170–186

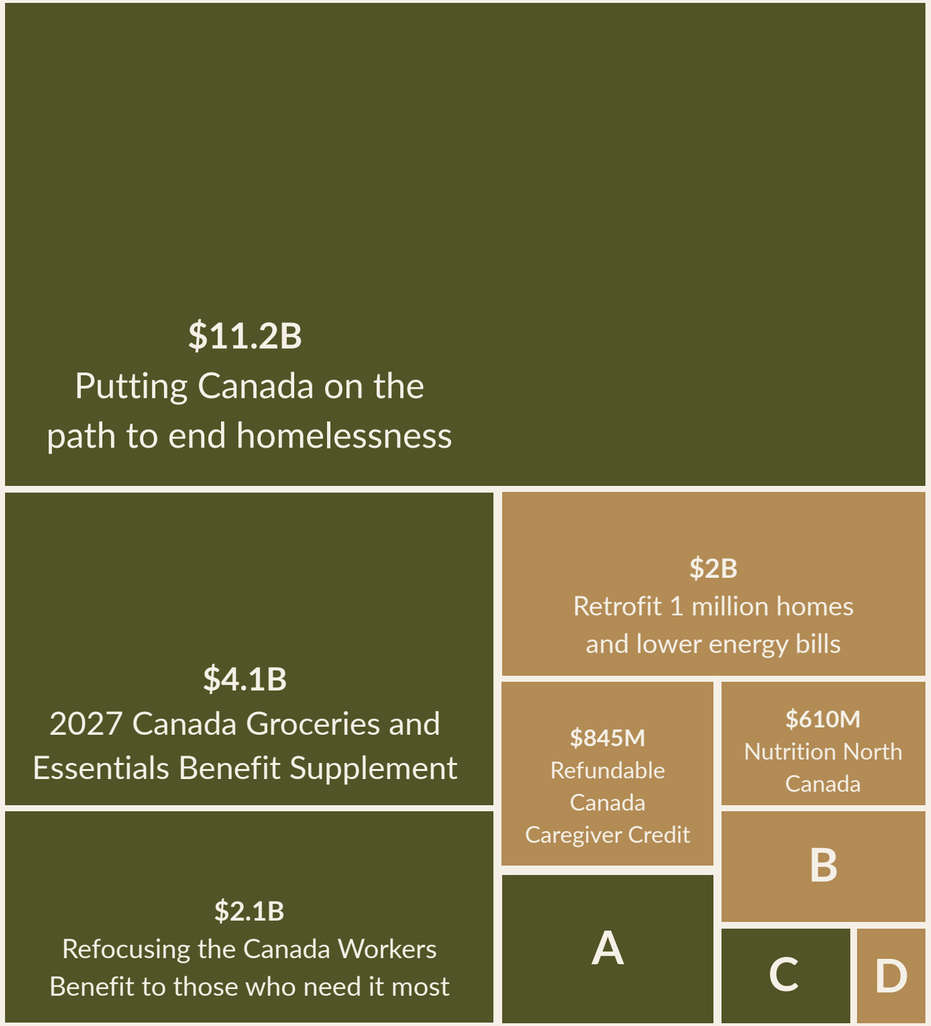
CHAPTER 3 · A MORE AFFORDABLE LIFE

Help with everyday costs

Nearly $22B

in new affordability measures over five years

- Nearly 22 million Canadians benefit from the 2025 **middle-class tax cut**.
- 2027 **Groceries and Essentials Benefit** Supplement
- **GST removed or reduced** for first-time buyers of new homes, saving up to $50,000
- **Fuel excise tax suspended**; 50% relief in February–March 2027
- Refundable Canada Caregiver Credit.



A. $395M higher instalment thresholds.
B. $312M automatic federal benefits
C. $230M changing T1 filing and balancing dates
D. $124M Local Food Infrastructure Fund

Source: Budget in brief, pp. 31–33; Budget 2026, pp. 189–194

Building the homes Canada needs

~$45B

next step in the federal housing strategy (cash basis)

- **End homelessness:** supportive and transitional housing, with health and social supports.
- **Expand non-market housing:** triple starts to 24,000 per year; launch **Build Canada Homes.**
- **Make the market work:** rental construction, first-time buyer relief and housing-enabling infrastructure.

Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3
Putting Canada on a path to end homelessness with 10 years.	Expanding the construction of affordable and non-market housing.	Building a housing market that works for all.

Source: Budget in brief, pp. 14, 35–36; Budget 2026, pp. 195–208

Infrastructure that helps communities grow

Build Communities Strong Fund

$51B over 10 years, plus $3B ongoing annually

- **$17.2B provincial/territorial stream** for housing-enabling, health and post-secondary infrastructure.
- **$6B direct-delivery stream** for major regional projects, retrofits and climate adaptation.
- **$1.5B community stream,** plus $3B ongoing, for transit, recreation, fire halls and broadband.
- **$5B Health Infrastructure Fund** within the provincial/territorial stream.

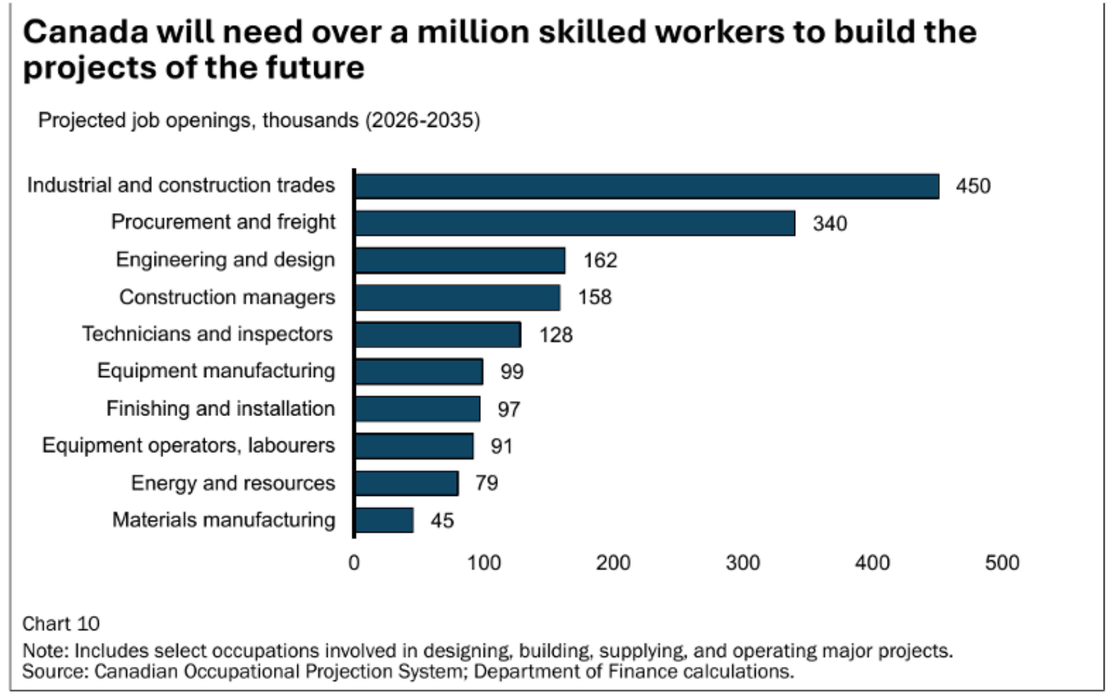


Source: Budget in Brief, p. 14; Budget 2026, pp. 204–206.

Skilled workers to build what's next

100,000

Red Seal workers to be recruited, trained and hired under Team Canada Strong (up to)



- $151.5M to modernize the TFWP
- From March 2027, targeted urban access and continued rural flexibility, subject to provincial/territorial opt-in.
- Eligible employers in participating communities: potential low-wage workforce cap of 15%, up from 10%.
- $82M for migrant worker supports.

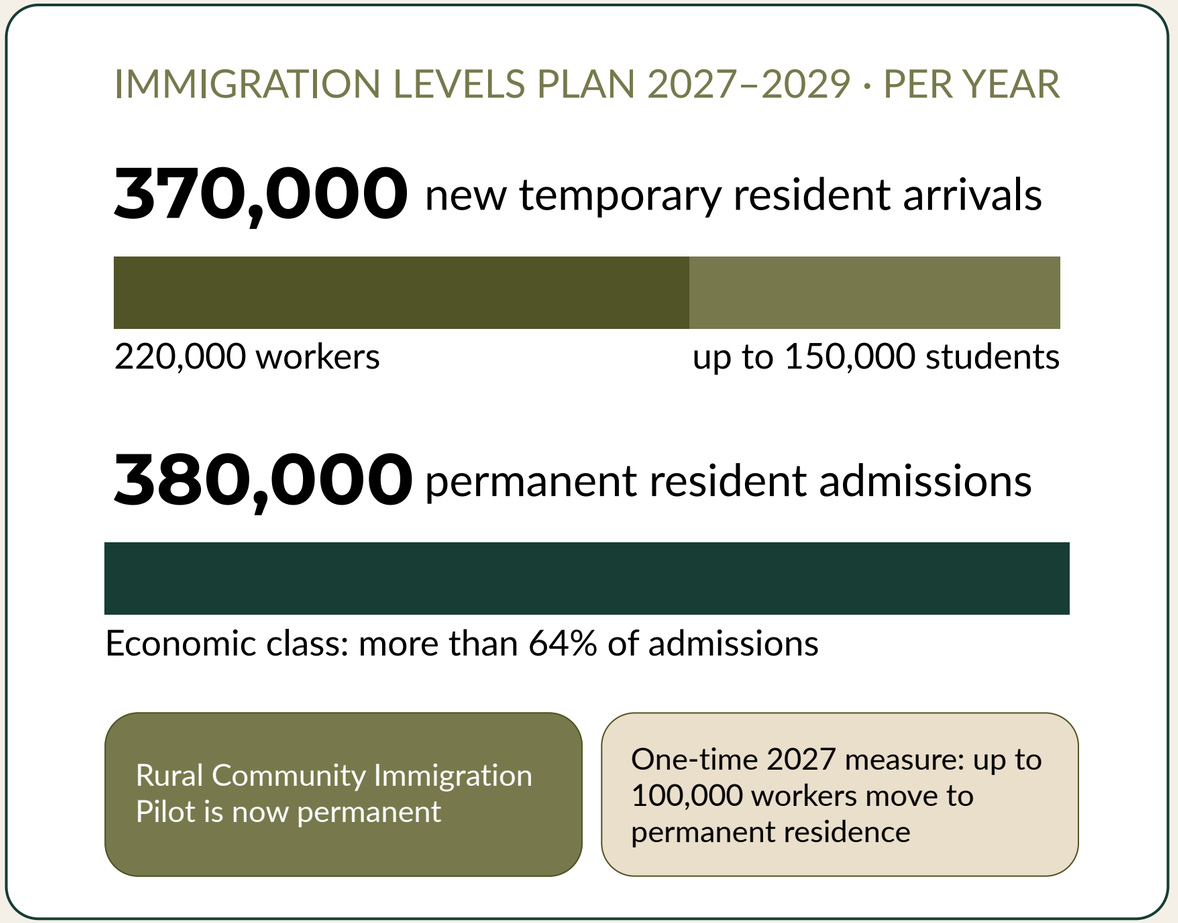
Source: Budget in brief, p. 17; Budget 2026, pp. 212–217

Immigration that fits regional needs

Permanent

the Rural Community Immigration Pilot is now a permanent program

- Levels held steady: 370,000 temporary arrivals and 380,000 permanent residents a year to 2029
- $151.5M to reform the Temporary Foreign Worker Program for regional labour markets
- One-time measure: up to 100,000 workers move to permanent residence, working with provinces
- 95,000 Provincial Nominee Program admissions nationally.



Source: IRCC 2027-2029 Levels Plan, Nov. 5, 2026; Budget 2026, pp. 215–217

A strong, more secure Canadian food system

$3.2B

National Food Security Strategy

- $1B for food infrastructure and terminals; $1B for agri-food project financing.
- **$150M Food Security Fund; $100M Collaborative Food Innovation Fund.**
- **$124M for the Local Food Infrastructure Fund**
- Faster approvals and fewer barriers across the food supply chain.



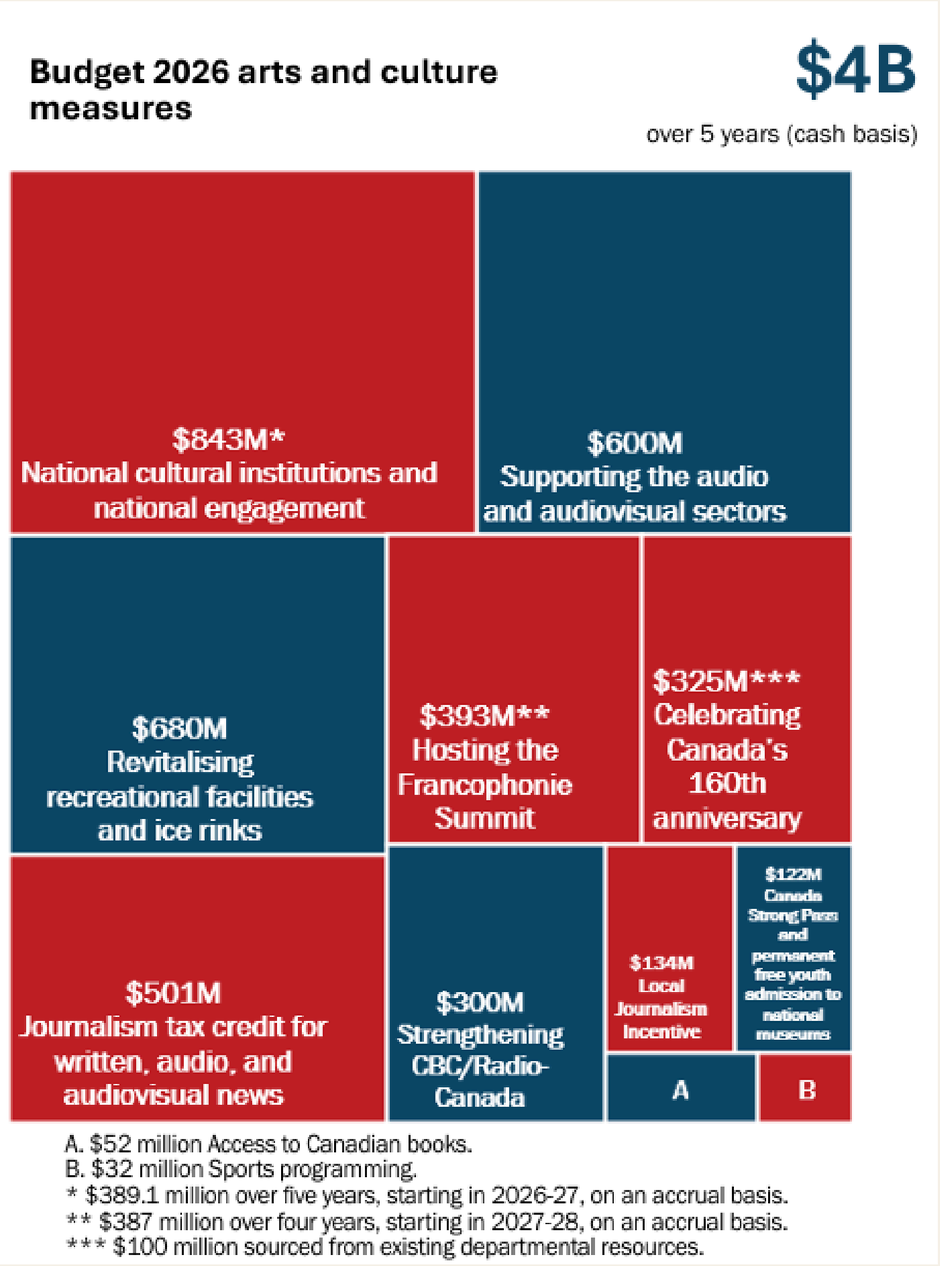
Source: Budget in Brief, p. 14; Budget 2026, pp. 204–206.

Connecting communities, celebrating Canada

+13%

visits to Parks Canada sites after the Canada Strong Pass launched

- Pass renewed for summer 2027, with discounts at Indigenous-led museums and cultural centres
- $1.5B to revitalise recreation facilities and ice rinks



Source: Budget in brief, pp. 37–38; Budget 2026, pp. 225–236

Supporting artists and creators

$45K

of annual artistic earnings to be tax-free, through a proposed Canada Creative Credit

- Applies to net business income from original artistic works
- Details to come in the Spring Economic Update 2027
- Mega Deduction also covers cameras, sound and stage equipment

Arts, culture, and media production

- Cameras and video-recording equipment
- Lighting equipment
- Sound-recording equipment
- Mixing consoles
- Projection equipment
- Stage rigging
- Editing workstations
- Studio furniture

Source: Budget 2026, pp. 38, 227–228; Budget in brief, p. 38

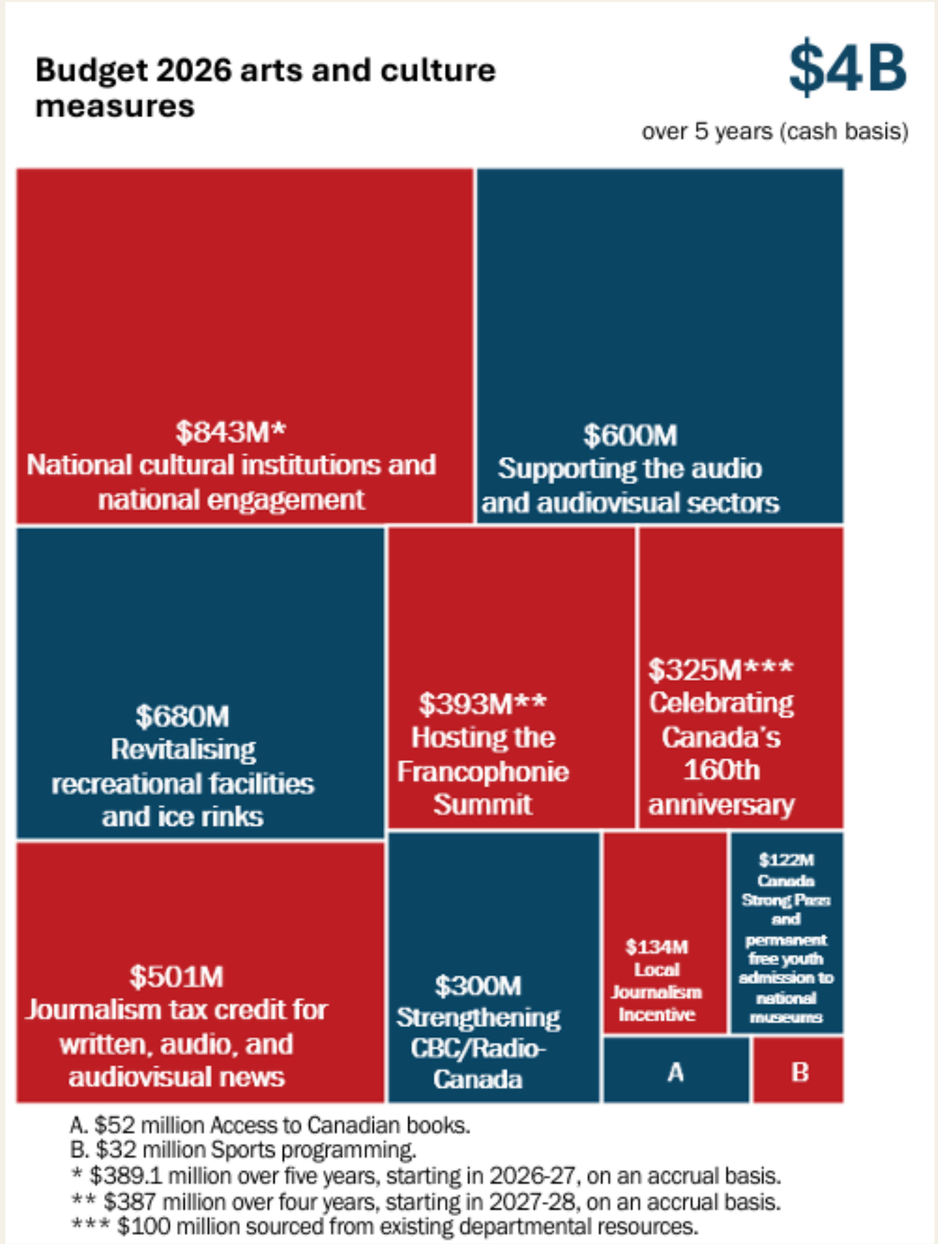
Supporting local journalism and Canadian stories

The goal:

support trusted local reporting, sustain newsroom jobs and help Canadians access reliable news in the formats they use.

- $134M over four years, plus $41M ongoing, for the Local Journalism Initiative.
- $501M over five years, plus $85M ongoing, for the Canadian Journalism Labour Tax Credit.
- Extend the labour tax credit to qualifying private audio and audiovisual news organizations.
- $300M over two years for CBC/Radio-Canada.

Source: Budget in Brief, p. 37; Budget 2026, pp. 229–231.

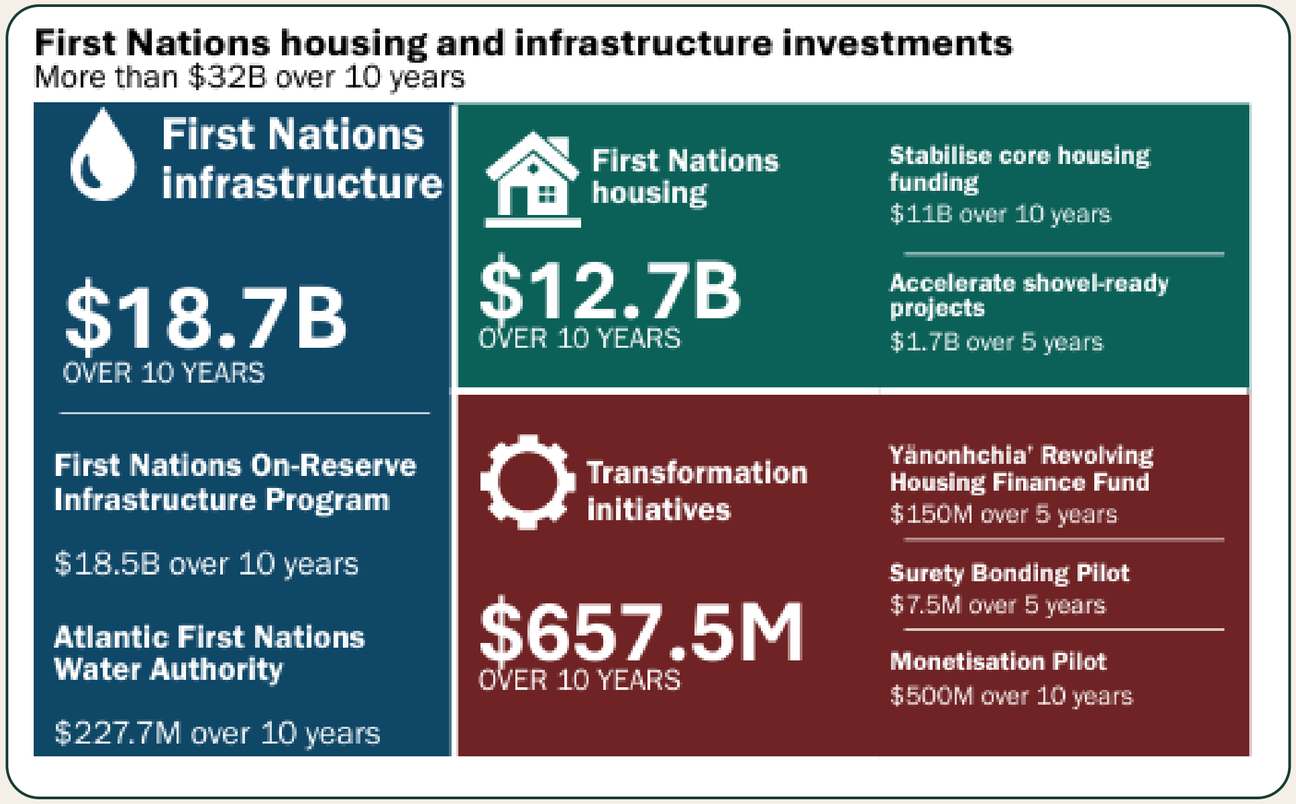


Reconciliation and protecting nature

$32B

over 10 years for First Nations housing and infrastructure

- $10B Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program
- Nature Strategy ($3.7B), including restoring wild Pacific salmon in B.C. and the Yukon
- A national ocean strategy is under development



Source: Budget in brief, pp. 15, 39–41; Budget 2026, pp. 233–244

Safe, prepared and building at home

Up to $50B

Canadian Earthquake Insurance Facility: emergency funding to help insurers pay claims after an extreme earthquake

Southwestern B.C. is named as a high-risk region

$2.5B

in financing to expand waterbomber production for wildfire response

Plus $865.6M for emergency management support

70%

target share of defence acquisitions awarded to Canadian firms

Defence Industrial Strategy: $7.7B

$2.3B

over five years for the **Defence Drone Initiative**, starting in 2027–28.

400 Canadian suppliers in the national marketplace

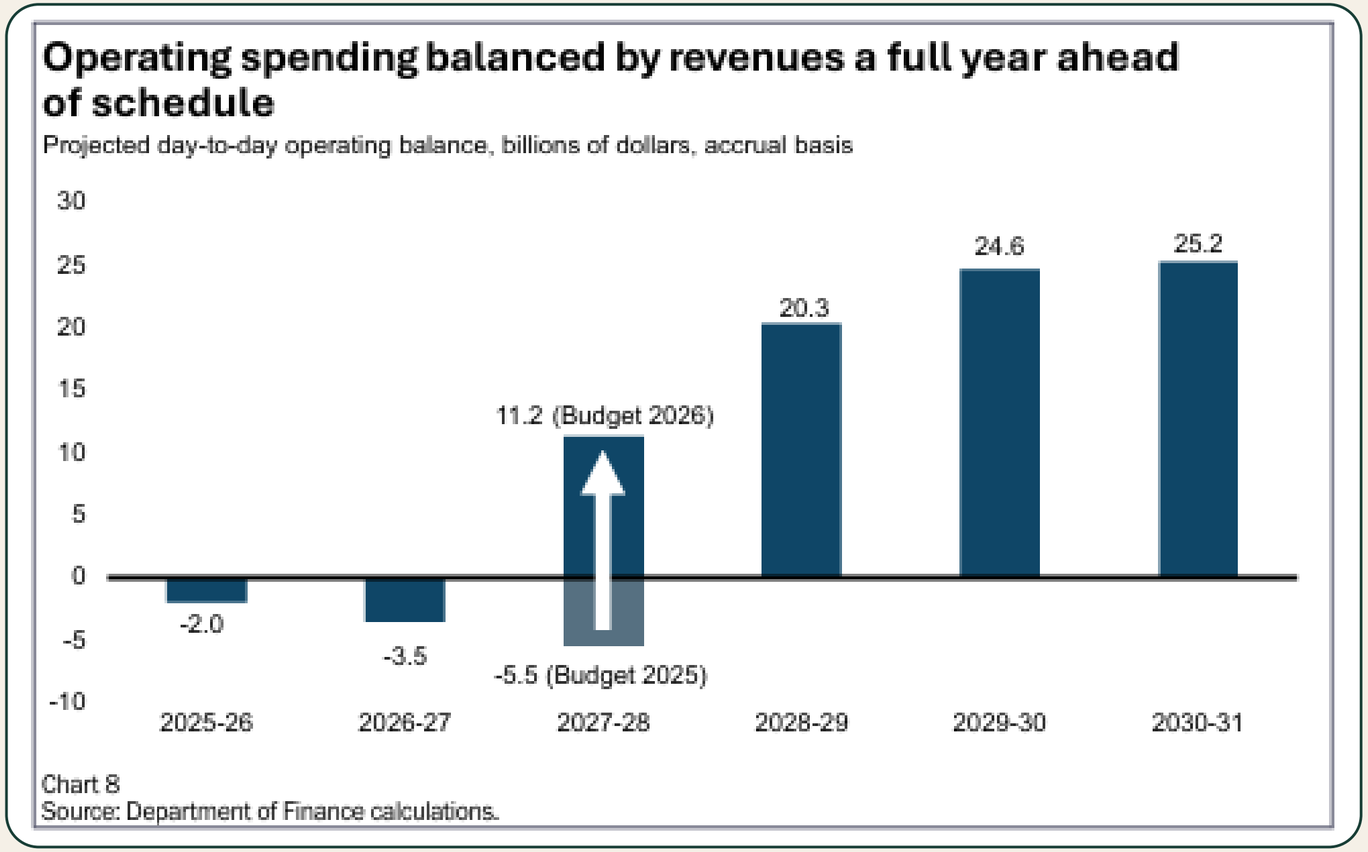
Source: Budget 2026, pp. 280–281; Budget in brief, pp. 15, 21

Less paperwork, faster approvals

2027–28

day-to-day operating spending balanced by revenues, a year ahead of schedule

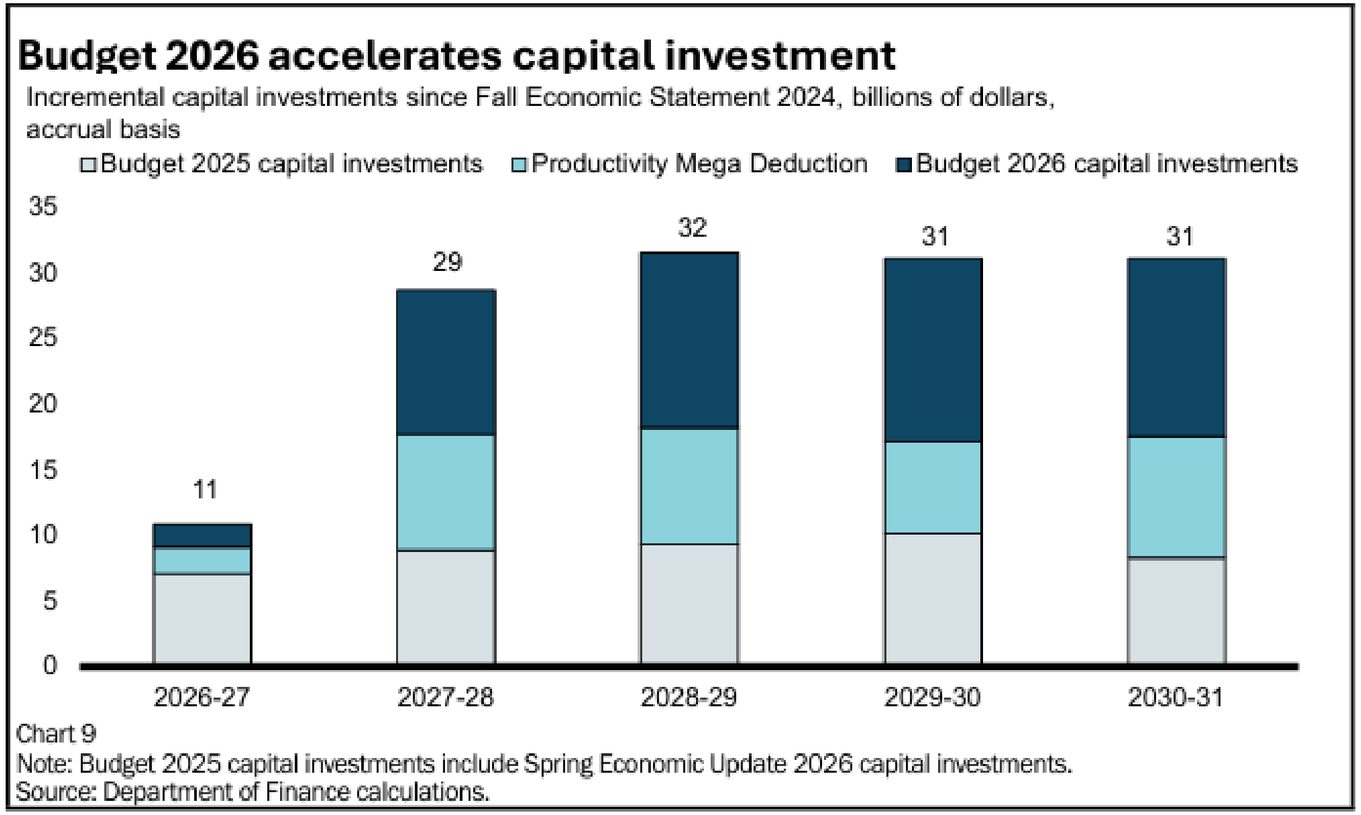
- Most ambitious tax-simplification effort in decades begins
- Faster federal regulatory approvals and less red tape
- More digital and AI tools for quicker government services



Source: Budget in brief, pp. 11, 24; Budget 2026, pp. 288–301

A declining deficit and a shift to investment

- **Deficit-to-GDP:** 1.8% in 2026–27, falling to 1.3% by 2030–31.
- **Overall deficit:** $62.3B in 2026–27; peaks at $62.5B in 2027–28, then declines.
- **Day-to-day operating balance** moves into surplus in 2027–28.
- **Operating surplus:** $11.2B in 2027–28, rising to $25.2B by 2030–31.
- From 2027–28, the remaining deficit is projected to fund capital investment.



Source: Budget 2026, Economic and Fiscal Overview, pp. 19 and 96–97.

CURRENT FEDERAL FUNDING · PACIFICAN

Funding pathways for local businesses & communities

REGIONAL TARIFF RESPONSE INITIATIVE *Accepting applications*	Support for B.C. businesses affected by tariffs: short-term liquidity to maintain operations and jobs, plus projects to improve productivity, adopt technology, diversify markets and strengthen supply chains
REGIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INITIATIVE *Intake open until November 23, 2026*	Repayable support for B.C. businesses commercializing AI or adopting AI solutions. Typical project funding: $500,000–$3 million. Future intakes for non-profits and SMEs are expected for projects starting after April 1, 2027.
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSIFICATION *Accepting applications on an ongoing basis*	For eligible non-profits, Indigenous governments, and municipal/regional governments. Supports community economic planning, diversification and business-development projects.
BUILD COMMUNITIES STRONG FUND — LOCAL IMPACT STREAM *Intake open, apply ASAP*	Eligible applicants include municipalities, regional governments, Indigenous communities/organizations and not-for-profits. Priority for shovel-ready projects beginning in 2027–28.
APARTMENT CONSTRUCTION LOAN PROGRAM *Accepting applications*	The Apartment Construction Loan Program provides low-cost funding to eligible borrowers. The program offers loans ranging from a minimum of $1,000,000 up to 100% of the cost of the residential component of a project.

Pacific Economic Development Canada, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada

Funding pathways for people and local projects

FOOD-LINK FUND: FOOD HUB PROGRAM *Intake open until December 11, 2026*	A $1-billion, 10-year initiative for food hubs and wholesale food terminals, supporting food aggregation, processing, storage and distribution. Applicants begin with an Expression of Interest.
LOCAL FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE FUND — COMMUNITY STREAM ROLL-OUT *Intake open until November 16 & 30, 2026*	Funding for the Community Support Stream is being distributed through Food Banks Canada and Second Harvest to eligible community food organizations. Please note the application closing dates differ for each group.
TEAM CANADA STRONG APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORTS *Rolling out starting November 16, 2026*	Eligible Red Seal journeypersons can apply for a $5,000 completion bonus from November 16, 2026. The Build Canada Apprenticeship Service is expected to provide employers up to $10,000 for hiring first-year apprentices.
CANADA SUMMER JOBS 2027 *Intake open to December 3, 2026*	Wage subsidies for employers hiring youth aged 15–30. Eligible employers include not-for-profits, public-sector organizations and private businesses with 50 or fewer full-time employees.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada

TAKEAWAYS

What this means for our communities

Invest

Immediate expensing and new growth incentives for local businesses

Afford

Benefits, GST relief for first-time buyers and lower energy costs

Build

Homes, infrastructure, major projects and the skilled workers to deliver them

Prepare

Earthquake and wildfire readiness, and a more secure supply chain

Questions and conversation

Budget 2026 · budget.canada.ca

Patrick Weiler, Member of Parliament

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country