



Position Profile (Board and Partner Use)
President & CEO – British Columbia Economic Development Association (BCEDA)

Organization Overview

The British Columbia Economic Development Association (BCEDA), established in 1981, is the leading voice for economic development practitioners across British Columbia. Representing over 80% of local governments, First Nations, and economic development organizations, BCEDA provides services, professional development, advocacy, and connections that support its members' activities, enhance their profile, and advance economic development goals across the province.

BCEDA operates as a lean, high-impact organization, delivering province-wide programming through partnerships, contracted services, and a strong governance model. It is widely recognized as the convening body for economic development professionals across British Columbia.

The President & CEO is responsible for advancing BCEDA's vision and impact, providing strategic leadership, strengthening partnerships, and representing the organization provincially and nationally.

The Opportunity

BCEDA is seeking its next President & CEO to lead the organization into its next phase of growth, impact, and sustainability. A structured transition period will be in place to support knowledge transfer and ensure continuity.

This role operates within a modern, contractor-based organizational model supported by a defined contract budget that includes both President & CEO compensation and contracted services. This structure allows the role to focus on leadership, partnerships, and strategic impact.

This role offers a unique opportunity to:

- Shape economic development programs and practices across British Columbia
- Maintain and strengthen relationships with all orders of government, Indigenous partners, industry, and other economic development organizations
- Lead major initiatives including the provincial economic summit, training programs, and applied economic development tools
- Guide BCEDA through a leadership transition and into its next strategic cycle

Role Overview

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the President & CEO is responsible for:

Leadership & Strategy

- Implement BCEDA's current strategic plan and support development of the next strategic plan
- Provide thought leadership on economic development, resilience, and recovery

Government Relations & Advocacy

- Serve as BCEDA's primary liaison with provincial and federal governments
Represent member interests in policy discussions

Stakeholder Engagement

- Build relationships with local governments, First Nations, and partners
- Strengthen member value and engagement

Operations & Financial Oversight

- Manage contracted service providers and partnerships to ensure effective delivery of programs and services
- Oversee financial management and sustainability, including budgeting, reporting, and contractor alignment

Programs & Events

- Lead planning and delivery of the BC Economic Summit, training initiatives, and other programs

Operating Model

BCEDA operates through a coordinated contractor model rather than a traditional staffing structure.

The President & CEO:

- Leads and aligns contracted service providers to deliver programs and services
- Focuses on strategic leadership, partnerships, and sector influence
- Works within a defined contract budget that supports both leadership and contracted operational service delivery, excluding travel expenses

Key Priorities (First 12–18 Months)

- Ensure a smooth and effective leadership transition from the retiring President & CEO
- Maintain strong government and partner relationships
- Lead planning and delivery of the 2027 BC Economic Summit and key programs
- Advance membership growth and engagement
- Begin development of BCEDA's next strategic plan

Ideal Candidate Profile

Experience

- Senior leadership experience in economic development, government, or a related field
- Experience working in economic development within a provincial or national context

- Strong understanding of British Columbia’s economic development environment
- Experience working with Boards and governance structures
- Experience working with local governments, First Nations, and diverse stakeholders

Core Competencies

- Strong communications and relationship-building skills, including interpersonal, written, and public speaking
- Strategic thinking with the ability to translate vision into action
- Financial and organizational management, including oversight of contracts and partnerships
- Ability to lead and operate effectively within a contractor-based organizational model

Additional Assets

- Certification in Economic Development (or equivalent experience)
- Experience in economic resilience, disaster recovery, or crisis management
- Experience working within membership-based or not-for-profit organizations

Governance & Reporting

- Reports to the Board of Directors
- Works closely with the Executive Committee and other committees as established by the Board
- Operates within a governance-driven, policy-aligned structure

Location

This is a remote position based in British Columbia. The successful candidate must be located within the province. Travel is required as part of the role; however, travel expenses are supported through a separate BCEDA budget and are not included within the contract range.

Timeline

Applications close: June 30, 2026
Shortlisting and interviews: Summer/Fall 2026
Anticipated appointment: Late 2026 with transition support through to January 31, 2027

How to apply

Proposals and supporting documents must be received by June 30, 2026, and should include a resume, cover letter, and a brief proposal outlining the candidate’s approach to executing the President & CEO role, including their leadership approach, priorities, and how they would work with a coordinated contractor model to deliver on BCEDA’s mandate. **Proposals must be emailed to hr@bceda.ca**