

# RESEARCH RESOURCES

**BONUS – Defining Purpose** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five\\_whys](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_whys)

## Primary Research

### Don't Forget your Personal Networks!

- Who do you know? (keep a good contact database)
- Who do they know? (Linked In, other social media)

## Secondary Research

### 1. Understanding Government Policy Making Processes

- **Canadian Government Policy Cycle**  
<https://library.carleton.ca/research/subject-guides/canadian-government-policy-cycle-detailed-guide>
- **BC Government Policy Approaches Playbook**  
[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/about-the-bc-government/regulatory-reform/pdfs/policy\\_approaches\\_playbook.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/about-the-bc-government/regulatory-reform/pdfs/policy_approaches_playbook.pdf)
- **Local Government in Canada: Organization & Basic Institutions**  
<https://www.mapleleafweb.com/features/local-government-canada-organization-amp-basic-institutions>
- **Local Government in BC: Governance & Powers**  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/governance-powers>

### 2. Government of Canada Resources

- **Mandate letters by ministry**  
[Mandate Letters | Prime Minister of Canada \(pm.gc.ca\)](https://www.pmc.gc.ca/mandate-letters)

- **Departmental Plans**  
[Departmental Plans - Canada.ca](#)
- **Privy Council Office**  
[Privy Council Office - Canada.ca](#)
- **Statistic Canada**  
[Statistics Canada: Canada's national statistical agency \(statcan.gc.ca\)](#)

### **3. Province of B.C. Resources**

- **B.C. Ministers & their mandate letters**  
[Executive Council & Parliamentary Secretaries of B.C. - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)
- **Annual Reports for B.C. Ministries**  
[ANNUAL REPORTS 2020/2021 \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)  
[ANNUAL REPORTS 2022/2023](#)
- **Crown Corporations Annual Reports**  
[Crown Corporations - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)
- **B.C. Budgets**  
[BC Budgets \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)
  - **Legislative Assembly of BC – Bills and Legislation**  
<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/bills-and-legislation>
- **B.C. Debates (Hansard)**  
[Debates \(Hansard\) \(leg.bc.ca\)](#)
- **B.C. Statistics**  
[Statistics - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

#### **4. Local Government Resources**

- **Local Governments in BC – online portal**  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments>
- **Union of BC Municipalities**  
<https://www.ubcm.ca>

#### **5. Academic Sources**

- **Google Scholar**  
<https://scholar.google.ca/>
- **Library and Archives Canada**  
<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/search/research-resources/Pages/academic-research.aspx>

#### **6. Subject Matter Experts (academic + non-academic)**

- **UBC Experts Guide**  
<https://experts.news.ubc.ca/>
- **SFU Experts Directory**  
<https://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/media/experts.html>
- **Use your networks!** LinkedIn, social media and actual media contacts are your friends

#### **7. Public Polling**

- **Environics Research Group**  
[Environics Research - Evidence based solutions to business problems](#)
- **Environics Institute**  
[Environics Institute](#)

- **Abacus Data**  
[Abacus Data | Polls](#)
- **Angus Reid**  
[Canadian Opinion Research | Angus Reid Institute](#)

## 8. Other Important Resources

- **“Think tanks”** create research on a wide variety of public policy topics. Be aware that these organizations usually have political leanings that are not clearly disclosed, and this may affect how their research is viewed by policy makers. Three examples
  - [BC Centre for Policy Alternatives](#) (NDP leaning)
  - [Smart Prosperity Institute](#) (Liberal leaning)
  - [Canada West Foundation](#) (Conservative leaning)
- **Labour unions** often have excellent research and resource libraries. Not all of them are publicly available so it’s worth asking if you have allies in a union but can’t find a research library online. A good example of publicly accessible one is [CUPE national](#)
- Similar to labour unions, **industry associations and non profit organizations** also often invest in research. Two good examples of that:
  - [Vancouver Foundation - Connect and Engage Survey 2017](#)
  - [BC CleanTech 2019 Status Report](#)
- There is a complex set of issues to navigate in relation to **Indigenous knowledge, data sovereignty and research**.
  - These issues are explored at [UBC’s Indigenous Research Support Initiative](#) and are boiled down well in the [OCAP principles](#). Before embarking on research by or about Indigenous people it is important to understand the key concepts outlined in these documents.
  - The [UBCIC's Digital Collections](#) offer a variety of research and informational materials. There are four research collections in addition to a series of collections created with digitized materials from the UBCIC Archives that document the history of the UBCIC and First Nations in British Columbia.