

Regulatory Reform

The purpose of regulatory reform is to improve the way government interacts with the citizens and businesses of British Columbia.

Regulatory Reform BC works with ministries and agencies across the provincial government to ensure that statutes, regulations, policies, and forms are effective and efficient in achieving objectives, while at the same time protecting public health, safety, and the environment.

2001 REDUCE



2004 IMPROVE



2015 INNOVATE

2001-2004

In June 2001, the Government of British Columbia announced it would reduce the number of regulatory requirements in British Columbia by one third over three years.

As ministries began to tally their requirements, the **Regulatory Reform Policy and Regulatory Criteria Checklist** was established to guide the development or amendment of all regulatory requirements.

By June 2004, Government exceeded its one-third target, reducing regulatory requirements by 36%. Following this achievement, government announced it would maintain a **net zero increase** in regulatory requirements through to 2008.

2005-2012

The **Citizen-Centered Regulatory Reform** initiative was introduced in 2006 and focused on reducing the number of steps taken and amount of time spent by citizens, small business or industry accessing government services or complying with government requirements. This initiative has continued to evolve by using LEAN continuous improvement methodology and tools, as well as information technology to improve the way government delivers services.

From 2006 to 2012, over 200 streamlining projects were completed to reduce red tape and frustrations for citizens and businesses and many more are currently underway.

In 2008, B.C. extended its cap on the number of regulatory requirements to 2012 and introduced the Small Business Lens to ensure small business needs are identified and considered in the regulatory development process.

In November 2011, B.C. became the first province to enshrine in law the requirement to publish annual reports about progress made on regulatory reform.

“The B.C. government has done more over the past decade than any other in this country and we want them to keep up the good work.”

Laura Jones, Executive Vice-President
Canadian Federation of Independent Business

2013-2015

In 2014, as part of the government wide Core Review, Regulatory Reform BC launched a strategic planning initiative to renew its approach to regulatory reform in B.C. to find ways to enhance governance and accountability to regulatory reform across the public service. In January 2015, Government renewed its commitment to a net zero increase through to 2019.

This renewed approach recognizes that regulatory reform is not just about counting regulations; it is about transforming the way government does business, continuing to cut red tape to ensure our economy remains diverse, strong and growing.