

Single Business Number Benefits to BC Business FACT SHEET

The Single Business Number (SBN) project, a joint initiative of the British Columbia government, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and other Crown agencies, will streamline business registration and other administrative transactions needed when starting and expanding a business in BC. In future, each business in BC will be assigned a Business Number (BN) to identify the business and its accounts.

Improved service to businesses

A business owner can now register online for selected programs in one session, using one unique identifier, which reduces administrative red tape and saves owners time and money.

Easy access to a variety of services

The new initiative allows businesses to carry out several different transactions with a number of agencies simultaneously. Business owners will be able to:

- Obtain a Business Number (BN)
- Register for four major CRA accounts (GST/HST, corporate income tax, payroll deductions and import/export tax)
- Register their proprietorship or partnership
- Initiate a Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) account
- Register with the Ministry of Provincial Revenue for provincial sales tax and hotel room tax accounts
- Obtain a business license from almost half the municipalities across the province.
- Change their address with multiple agencies in one transaction.

Integrated online registration using a common identifier eliminates the need for businesses to provide the same information separately to different levels of government.

Privacy and security of information protected

Both levels of government are committed to respecting privacy, confidentiality and the rights of the business community, regardless of how information is transmitted or received. Stringent security measures will protect the confidentiality of information and privacy of businesses.

Partnership and shared vision

Over the coming months, the British Columbia government will continue to phase in the use of the BN with other provincial departments and agencies. Look for OneStop Business Services in March. To keep up to date on the latest information on the SBN project and how it might benefit you, visit www.cse.gov.bc.ca/SBNP/. For more information on the CRA's programs and services visit www.cra.gc.ca.