NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT

Investment in Canada
Poised for Possibility

In response to a rapidly changing global economic environment and the evolving nature of Canada's key trading relationships in North America, the Canadian government has announced ambitious strategies to reshape and transform the Canadian economy.

These policies focus on:



Diversifying
Canada's *international trading relationships* and realigning Canada's infrastructure to support global trade



Facilitating
Canada's growth as an *energy superpower* in both clean and conventional energies



Unlocking
the full potential of Canada's *critical minerals*

Through recent policy decisions and the federal budget released in November 2025, the Government of Canada has prioritized expanding international trade, promoting investment in transformational sectors, and developing major projects that support those industries.

What connects these policies?

A national desire to accelerate approvals for projects of national interest and coordinate nation-building initiatives across energy, transmission, critical minerals, ports, and northern corridors.

$280 billion

in capital investments announced for infrastructure, productivity, competitiveness, emerging technology (AI, quantum, electric vehicles), housing, defence

Priority transformation areas

- Critical minerals
- Energy (including liquified natural gas, LNG) nuclear, wind, carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), electrical transition
- Arctic security and infrastructure in the North to facilitate trade from Arctic ports
- Transportation infrastructure connecting Canadians and goods with the world, including ports, roads, and rail

Providing proponents with greater certainty to invest in Canada

Through the *Building Canada Act* and other provisions in Budget 2025, Canada has targeted achieving regulatory approvals for major projects within two years through a "one project, one-review" model managed by a newly established Major Projects Office.

The proposed streamlined regulatory and expedited project approval processes offer the certainty required to unlock the potential for significant domestic and international investment in Canadian projects.

What does that look like in action?

Critical Minerals Strategy

Benefits from an additional $1.5 billion investment in a Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund and supports the:

- Full value chain including extraction, mid-stream processing, refining, and export
- Security of supply for Canada and G7 partners
- Streamlined federal permitting, coordination, and reduction of duplication for mines, refineries, and enabling infrastructure across provincial and federal jurisdictions

Canada's Clean Electricity Strategy

Aims to create more non-carbon-emitting power and the grids to deliver it through:

- Interties and system build-out of a transformative North Coast transmission line (including the Ksi Lisims LNG project and critical mineral developments)
- Offshore wind launch
- An Arctic Infrastructure Fund (for dual-use ports, airstrips, roads, runways) supporting sovereignty and community energy security while enabling future export gateways
- Nuclear energy, including $2 billion from the Canada Growth Fund earmarked for an investment into the Darlington New Nuclear Project with the goal of making Canada the first G7 country with a commercially operational small modular reactor

Canada-Alberta Memorandum of Understanding

Seeks to make Canada a global energy superpower by building and financing:

- Pipelines to move at least 1 million barrels of bitumen to the West Coast and Asian markets daily
- The world's largest CCUS project
- Thousands of megawatts of AI computing power

Canada's Major Projects Office Accelerates Progress

The newly launched Major Projects Office facilitates the development of projects designated as being in the national interest and that will:

- Strengthen Canada's autonomy, resilience, and security
- Provide economic benefits
- Have a high likelihood of success
- Advance the interests of Indigenous peoples
- Contribute to clean growth and Canada's climate goals

When a project meets those standards and is officially listed, the Office serves as a single point of contact, helping proponents:

Advance
major projects in support of the national interest

Partner
with Indigenous Peoples to hear voices and concerns

Structure
private and public funding via the Canada Infrastructure Bank, Canada Growth Fund and Canada Indigenous Loan Guarantee Corporation

Support
proponents with assessments, permitting, policy challenges, and more

The Office has already named initial nation-building projects:

- LNG Canada Phase 2
- Darlington New Nuclear Project
- Contrecoeur Container Project
- McIlvenna Bay Foran Copper Mine Project
- Red Chris Mine Expansion
- North Coast Transmission Line (NCTL)
- Ksi Lisims LNG
- Canada Nickel's Crawford Project
- Nouveau Monde Graphite's Matawinie Mine
- Northcliff Resources' Sisson Mine
- Iqaluit Nukkiksautiit Hydro Project

Explore

the latest developments in Canada's Nation-Building agenda

- Canada's Strong: Budget 2025
- Major Projects Office
- Transformative Strategies
- Building Canada Act

If you're ready to explore the possibilities, we can help navigate the landscape.

Public and private sector stakeholders in Japan and Canada are working to build stronger, more resilient nations and greater economic security. Now's the time to make progress together.

Connect with Norton Rose Fulbright's team to identify opportunities



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