

Vehicle Inspectors

An employment guide for newcomers to British Columbia



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Vehicle Inspectors - NOC 2262

Vehicle Inspectors NOC 2262 may also be called:

- *motor transportation inspector*
- *motor transportation regulations officer*
- *motor vehicle defects investigator*
- *motor vehicle inspector*

1. What Would I Do?

Vehicle Inspectors inspect transportation vehicles such as automobiles and trucks, and weighing and measuring devices such as scales and meters, as well as industrial instruments, processes and equipment for conformity to government and industry standards and regulations. Duties may include:

- carry out motor vehicle and motor vehicle component defect investigations, examinations, tests and defect-related accident investigations
- provide expert advice and testimony on specific motor vehicle performance problems or defects and recommend improvements in vehicle inspection and licensing procedures, and vehicle safety standards

More information:

- **WorkBC Career Profile for Vehicle Inspectors** (in the occupation group, Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers)

<https://www.workbc.ca/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles/2262>

2. Am I Suited For This Job?

Vehicle Inspectors should be:

- *detail-oriented*
- *good with people*
- *mechanically skilled*

they should have:

- *good judgment*
- *good communication skills*
- *good writing skills to report findings & make recommendations*
- *integrity and a sense of responsibility*

Inspection work often takes place outdoors, in all weather conditions. Inspectors may also spend time indoors, either inspecting vehicles or writing reports.

Sources:

- **WorkBC Career Profile for Vehicle Inspectors** (in the occupation group, Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers)
<https://www.workbc.ca/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles/2262>
- **Career Cruising** database (Profiles for 'Transportation Inspector')
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/career-cruising/>

3. What Are The Wages And Benefits?

WorkBC reports that in British Columbia the **median** annual salary for Vehicle Inspectors (in the occupation group, Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers) is approximately \$80,212.

JobBank Canada lists hourly wages for BC where Vehicle Inspectors can expect to make:

Engineering Inspectors - including Vehicle Inspectors Hourly Wages

Wage Estimates

Location	Wage (\$/hr)		
	Low	Median	High
British Columbia	16.68	38.46	67.09
Cariboo Region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kootenay Region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lower Mainland - Southwest Region	16.09	37.98	71.99
Nechako Region	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Coast Region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Northeast Region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thompson--Okanagan Region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vancouver Island and Coast Region	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table from Job Bank Canada Wage Report <http://www.jobbank.gc.ca/home-eng.do?lang=eng>
Transportation inspectors generally receive benefits in addition to a salary. These benefits often include paid vacation and sick days, health insurance, and retirement contributions.

Sources:

- **WorkBC Career Profile for Vehicle Inspectors** (in the occupation group, Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers)
<https://www.workbc.ca/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles/2262>
- **Career Cruising** database (Profiles for 'Transportation Inspector')
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/career-cruising/>

4. What Is The Job Outlook In BC?

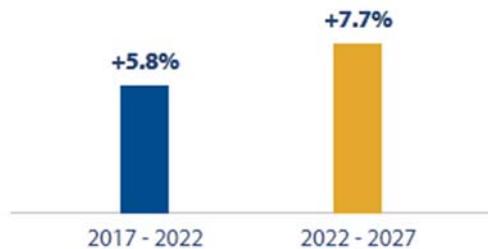
WorkBC provides regional employment outlooks:

- **Lower Mainland / Southwest region:** projecting 1.4% average annual employment growth for 2017 with 210 job openings
- **Vancouver Island / Coast region:** projecting 0.5% average annual employment growth for 2017 with 20 job openings

Engineering Inspectors, including Vehicle Inspectors B.C. Labour Market Outlook (2017-2027)

Provincial outlook

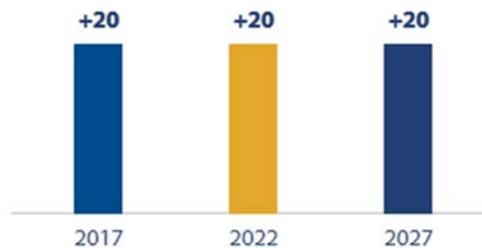
Forecasted average employment growth rate



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Job openings

10 year expected job openings: 240



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Composition of job openings

Replacement of retiring workers:
69.2%
160 openings



New jobs due to economic growth:
30.8%
70 openings

Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Source: <https://www.workbc.ca/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles/2262#earnings-and-outlook>

JobBank Canada reports that the employment outlook will be fair for Engineering inspectors (including vehicle inspectors) (NOC 2262) in British Columbia for the 2017-2019 period. Employment growth is expected to be moderate; a moderate number of people are expected to retire.

Sources:

- **WorkBC Career Profile for Vehicle Inspectors** (in the occupation group, Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers)
<https://www.workbc.ca/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles/2262>
- **JobBank Canada: Job Market Report**
<http://www.jobbank.gc.ca/home-eng.do?lang=eng>

5. How do I become a Vehicle Inspector

Vehicle Inspectors must have:

- trades qualification
- successful completion of an 'Authorized Inspectors' course.

Trades Qualification

Vehicle Inspectors must have a BC/Red Seal equivalent Journeyman Trade Qualification ***in one of the following:***

- Heavy Duty Equipment Technician
- Commercial Transport Vehicle Mechanic
- Commercial Transport Trailer Technician
- Automotive Service Technician
- Motorcycle Mechanic/Technician

PLUS

Endorsements (in addition to above):

- Pressure Fuel – Current Certificate of Qualification issued by the British Columbia Safety Authority
- Air Brake Inspection – Heavy Duty and Commercial Transport and Trailer Technicians are qualified for an Air Brake endorsement automatically. Automotive Technicians are required to pass an Air Brake Repair course.

Source:

Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement – CVSE - General Requirements for Authorized Inspectors

http://www.cvse.ca/vehicle_inspections/authorized_inspectors.htm

http://www.cvse.ca/vehicle_inspections/PDF/MV3001_QandA_Info%20Sheet.pdf

For more information on BC Trades Training programs, see the Industry Training Authority (ITA), <http://www.itabc.ca/discover-apprenticeship-programs/search-programs>

Internationally Trained Vehicle/Motorcycle/Heavy Duty Equipment Technicians

If you have extensive experience working in a trade but have *never been certified in Canada*, you can apply to challenge certification in your trade. Each trade requires a minimum number of hours of related work experience plus evidence that you have worked in the full scope of the trade. After you apply to challenge, the Industry Training Authority (ITA) will review your work history, talk to your employers and determine if you have the necessary experience to challenge the certification.

Sources:

Industry Training Authority of BC (ITA)

- information on the Challenge Process
<http://www.itabc.ca/apply-apprenticeship/challenging-exams>
- information on the Challenge Process in specific trade(s)
<http://www.itabc.ca/discover-apprenticeship-programs/search-programs>
look at the 'Program Profile' for your trade which describes the requirements for apprentices and *challengers to earn certification*

Authorized Inspectors Course

Course includes approximately 20 hours of classroom time and is available throughout BC at approximately fifteen BC colleges and institutes and one university.

List of accredited BC institutions offering the Inspectors course:

http://www.cvse.ca/vehicle_inspections/PDF/authorized_inspectors_course.pdf

Examples of Vehicle Inspectors Courses in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley:

- <http://www.bcit.ca/study/courses/ctmx0110> - BC Institute of Technology (BCIT)

- <https://www.ufv.ca/continuing-education/courses/trades/commercial-vehicles/> - University of Fraser Valley – Commercial Vehicle Inspection
- http://www.ufv.ca/continuing_studies/courses/trades-and-technology/commercial-vehicles/ - University of Fraser Valley

For more information, see:

http://www.cvse.ca/vehicle_inspections/PDF/MV3001_QandA_Info%20Sheet.pdf

Certification

After successful completion of both the ‘authorized inspectors’ course and the final exam, your qualifications will be forwarded to the *Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch (CVSE)*. Once all eligibility requirements have been met, the CVSE will then certify you as an Authorized Inspector.

http://www.cvse.ca/vehicle_inspections/authorized_inspectors.htm

Source:

- **WorkBC Career Profile for Vehicle Inspectors** (in the occupation group, Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers)
<https://www.workbc.ca/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles/2262>

Commercial Safety Vehicle & Enforcement Branch (CVSE) – Peace Officers

For information on requirements and training to become a CVSE Officer, see: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/careers-myhr/job-seekers/featured-careers/cvse>

The CVSE promotes compliance of safety regulations within the commercial transport sector. CVSE Officers work in field offices or commercial transport inspection stations and their duties include:

- stop and inspect vehicles and/or drivers for safety violations.
- issue violation tickets and inspection notices.
- conduct roadside inspections of commercial vehicles.

6. How Do I Find A Job?

Where would I work?

- *government agencies (at the federal or provincial level)*
- *industry employers in the private sector*

Finding Advertised Jobs

Jobs are advertised in a variety of sources including newspapers, magazines and online job sites.

Local Newspapers

You can look at the *Vancouver Sun* & *The Province* at Vancouver Public Library for free. Check the job postings daily, the careers section in the *Vancouver Sun* on Wednesdays and Saturdays and, in *The Province* on Sundays.

Online Job Postings

- **BCAA – BC Automobile Association**
<http://careers.bcaa.com/> (careers in vehicle inspection and roadside assistance)
<http://careers.bcaa.com/jobs>
- **BC Public Service Agency: Job Opportunities**
<https://search.employment.gov.bc.ca/cgi-bin/a/searchjobs.cgi>
Search “Commercial vehicle” for postings in the Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement Branch (CVSE)
- **Indeed.ca**
http://ca.indeed.com/advanced_search
<https://ca.indeed.com/Vehicle-Inspector-jobs-in-British-Columbia>

- **Neuvoo**
<http://neuvoo.ca/en>
- **WorkBC**
<https://www.workbc.ca/JobSeekers/SearchResults.aspx>
- **BC Jobs.ca**
<https://www.bcjobs.ca/>

Finding “Hidden Jobs”

Many job vacancies are not advertised. The resources below will help you *with finding jobs in this “hidden” job market.*

Using Directories to Create a List of Potential Employers

You can use directories to produce lists of employers who are in this industry. Contact them directly to find out if they're hiring.

- **Designated Inspection Facilities (DIF) in BC**
http://www.cvse.ca/vehicle_inspections/PDF/DIFs.pdf
list of facilities across BC that employ certified vehicle inspectors
- **Reference Canada**
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/reference-canada>
 - **Reference Canada**
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/reference-canada>
Click on “Start Search” beside Canadian Businesses, then select the “Advanced Search” button. Select both “Keyword/SIC/NAICS” under Business Type and “City” under Geography. In the top search box enter “vehicle inspection” and click LOOKUP. Select the appropriate headings. Lower down, select the Province, choose the cities, and click the “View Results” button.
Available from the VPL Digital Library | Explore our Digital Library page

NOTE: *You can access this database from a Library computer. If you are using a computer from outside the Library, you will need a Vancouver Public Library card to login to this database. After clicking on the database name, you will be asked to enter your library card number and PIN (usually last four digits of your telephone number).*

Networking, Volunteering and Temporary Agencies

Many positions are filled by people who have been recommended by someone they know. Networking, working as a volunteer or registering with a temporary employment agency are good ways of helping you find jobs and meet people in your industry.

Networking and the Hidden Job Market:

When looking for work, be sure to talk to friends, relatives and neighbours. They may know someone who is hiring! Working as a volunteer, attending events, and joining clubs and associations are good ways to gain "Canadian experience." They are also good ways to meet people to learn about the local job market.

Volunteer opportunities

- **Volunteer BC**
<http://www.volunteerbc.bc.ca/>
- **GoVolunteer.ca**
<http://govolunteer.ca/>
- **Networking for Employment**
Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>
[Search Networking for Employment]
- **Getting Canadian Work Experience**
Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>
[Search Getting Canadian Work Experience]

7. Applying for a Job

In Canada, employers usually expect to receive a resume and a cover letter that identifies the position you are applying for and summarizes your experience. Use the library catalogue, <http://vpl.bibliocommons.com/> to find books on writing resumes and cover letters specific to your industry.

For more information see:

- **Writing Resumes and Cover Letters**

Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>

[Search Writing Resumes and Cover Letters]

8. Where Can This Job Lead?

Progression from vehicle inspector to commercial vehicle inspector to senior commercial vehicle inspector is possible with additional training and experience

Source:

- **Career Cruising** database (Profiles for 'Transportation Inspector')

<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/career-cruising/>

9. Where Can I Find More Information?

- **Welcome BC: Job Profiles for Immigrants: *Vehicle Inspector***

<https://www.welcomebc.ca/Work-or-Study-in-B-C/Your-Career-in-B-C/2262>

- **Province of BC: Vehicle Inspection Program - Commercial and Private Vehicles**

http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse/vehicle_inspections/PDF/vehicle_inspection_program_description.pdf

- **Automobile Protection Association (Canada)**

<https://apa.ca/>

Questions? Please ask the Information Staff at the Central Library or telephone 604-331-3603.

Please note that the information in this guide is also available online through the Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre website at <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca/>.