# VANCOUVER'S INNOVATION ECONOMYCurrent Situation, Planning & Next Steps

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## AGENDA

- <sup>1</sup> Vancouver's Innovation Economy
  - <sup>a</sup> Scope
  - <sup>b</sup> Background
  - <sup>c</sup> Importance as generator of economic benefits
- 2 Planning for Innovation
- <sup>3</sup> Quick Starts





- Evolution of the global economy
- Characteristics of an Innovation District
- Benefits of encouraging innovation
- The emerging innovation economy cluster in Vancouver
- How can the City foster innovation and continued growth?



**01/** Economic Evolution

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"A new growth model and economic vision is emerging... a next economy where we export more and waste less, innovate in what matters, produce and deploy more of what we invent, and build an economy that works for working families"

> - Katz & Wagner The Metropolitan Revolution



#### **EVOLUTION OF ECONOMY & THE TRANSFORMATION OF CITIES**



#### **TECHNOLOGY SHAPING CITIES**





Smart Energy

Smart Transportation

Smart Government

Smart Networks

Smart Infrastructure





# DE SILVA AND LEGGE MAIL\* Cities are the key to Canada's future. Let's unlock it

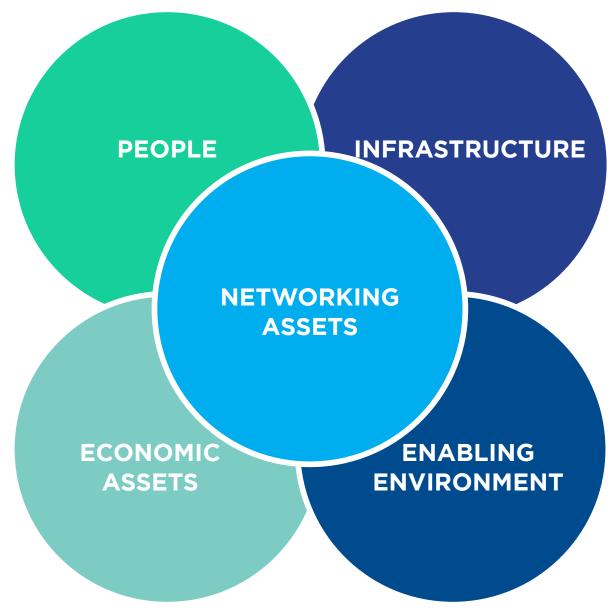
## JAN DE SILVA AND ADAM LEGGE

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#### EXAMPLE FRAMEWORK FOR INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM



City Innovation Ecosystem Framework: World Bank (2016)

Source: http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/11/25379642/boosting-tech-innovation-ecosystems-cities-framework-growth-sustainability-urban-tech-innovation-ecosystems



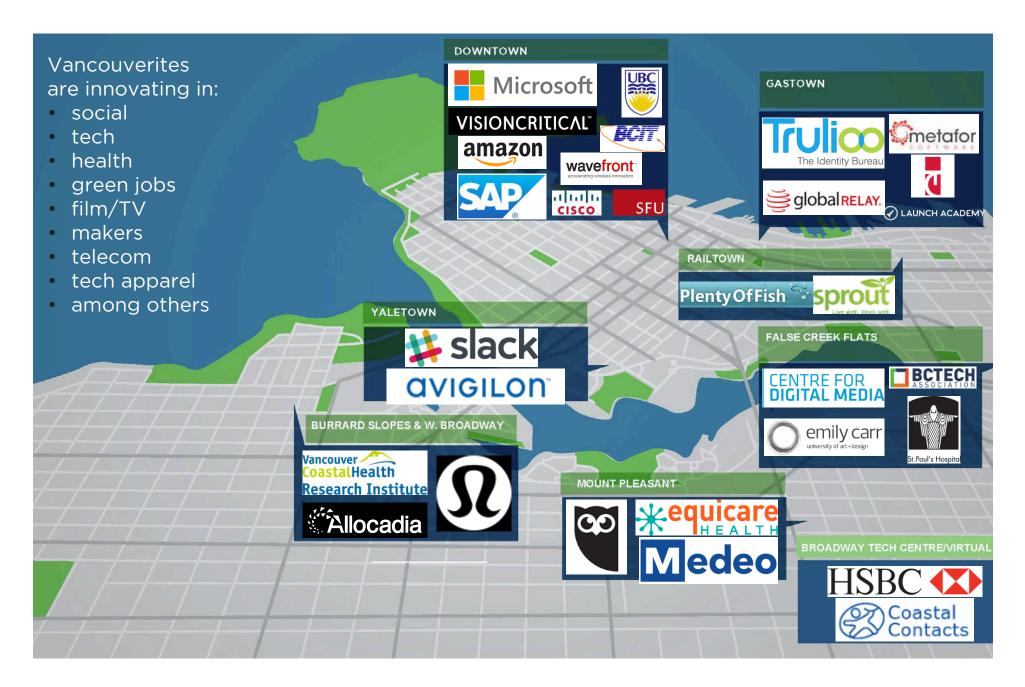
"Geographic area where anchor institutions and companies cluster and connect with small firms, start-ups, business incubators and accelerators".

"Physically compact, **transitaccessible**, and technically **wired**, they offer **mixed-use** housing, office and retail."

> - Katz & Wagner The Metropolitan Revolution



#### EMERGING INNOVATION ECONOMY IN VANCOUVER





#### **BENEFITS OF FOSTERING INNOVATION ECONOMY**

"The creation of brand-new firms could be the most promising source of new trade and productivity growth."

"A new firm with a new product or service tends to see giant leaps in productivity as it goes from being a start-up to the 'hockey stick' growth phase. A firm only makes that transition once, but an economy can reap the benefit over and over if there is a strong trend in new firm creation".

> - Steven S. Poloz Governor, Bank of Canada

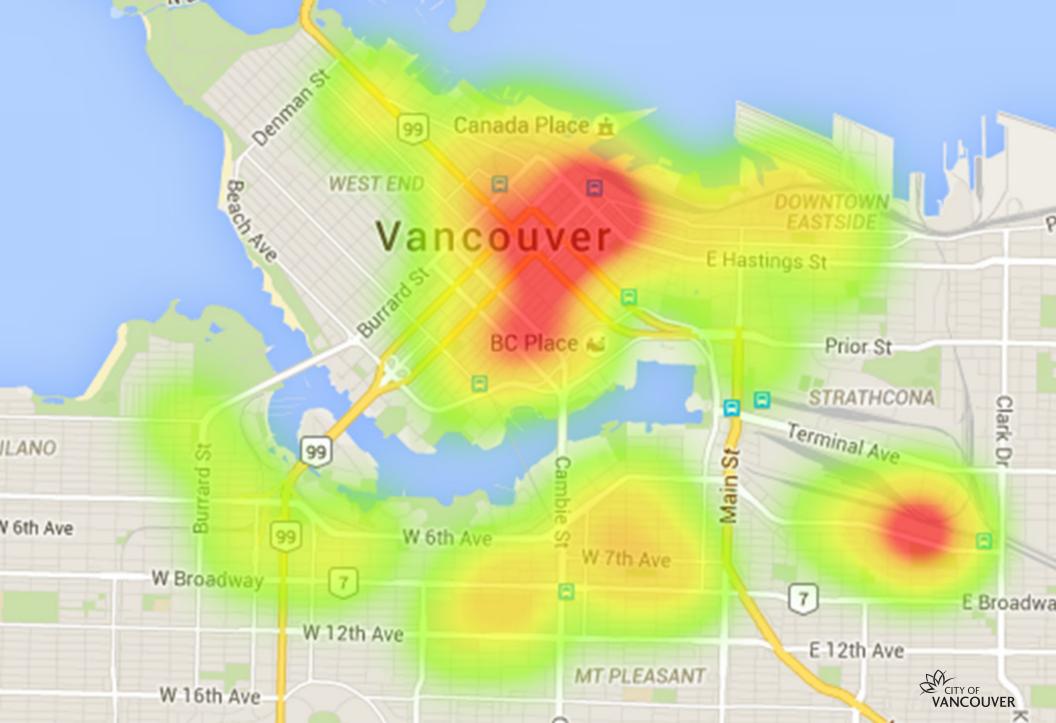


## **02/** Vancouver's Innovation Ecosystem

Jobs & Clusters

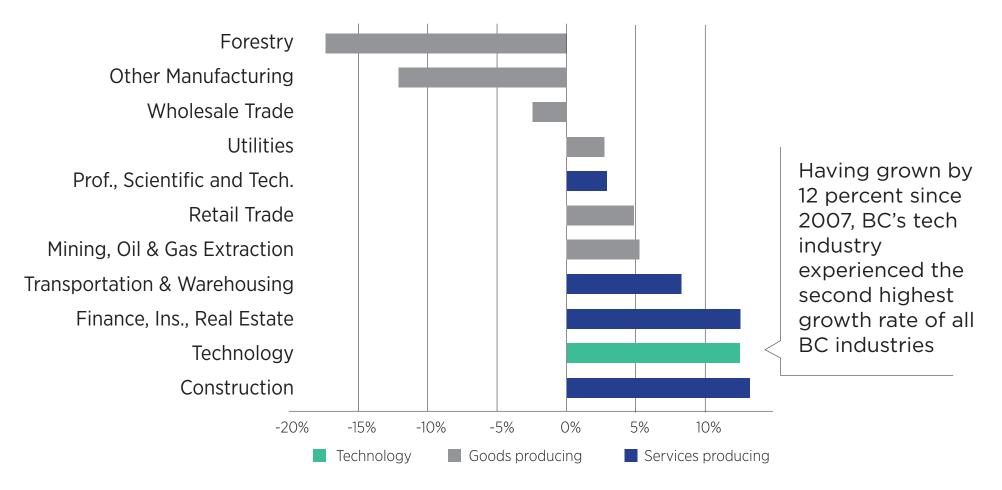


# INNOVATION CLUSTER USING BUSINESS DATA



## BC'S HIGH TECH SECTOR & GDP GROWTH





Source: Profile of the British Columbia High Technology Sector, BC Stats, March 2014



## ICT JOBS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (2015) & PROJECTED (2019)

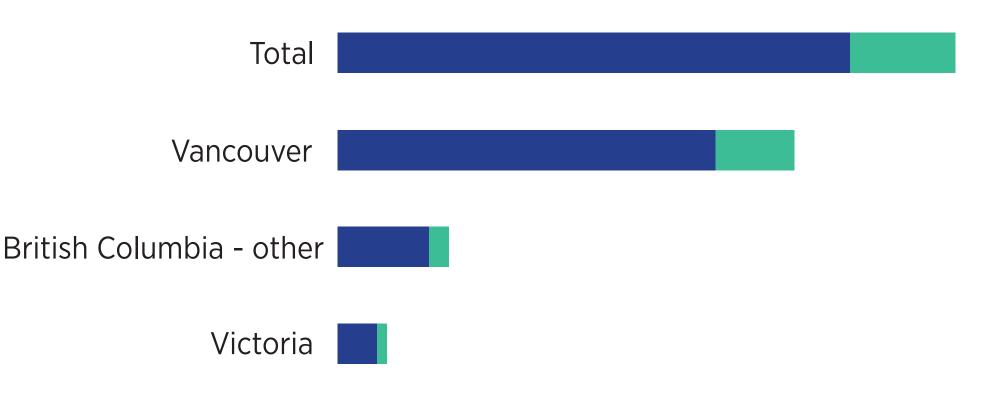


Conseil des technologies de l'information et des communications

Not-for-profit national centre of expertise for the digtial economy



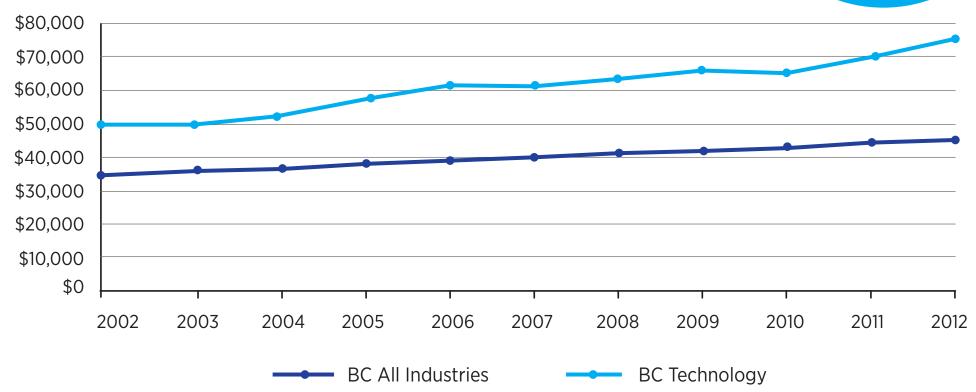
Projected hiring requirements to 2019





### TECH SALARIES

Tech Jobs in BC earn **66% more** than BC average salary



**AVERAGE EARNINGS - BC TECHNOLOGY VERSUS BC** 

Source: KPMG analysis of data from Profile of the British Columbia High Technology Sector, BC Stats, March 2014



#### UNIQUELY VANCOUVER INNOVATION: FROM TECH TO SOCIAL TO GREEN







#### VANCOUVER'S INNOVATORS ARE GLOBAL LEADERS FOR A NEW URBAN STRATEGY

- Stimulating growth & creating jobs
- Leaders in innovation & technology
- Seeking an end to poverty
- Searching for reconciliation
- Mitigating climate change
- Making strong local connections

Generally building a better, healthier, more resilient city that is globally connected



## HOW CAN THE CITY FOSTER INNOVATION?



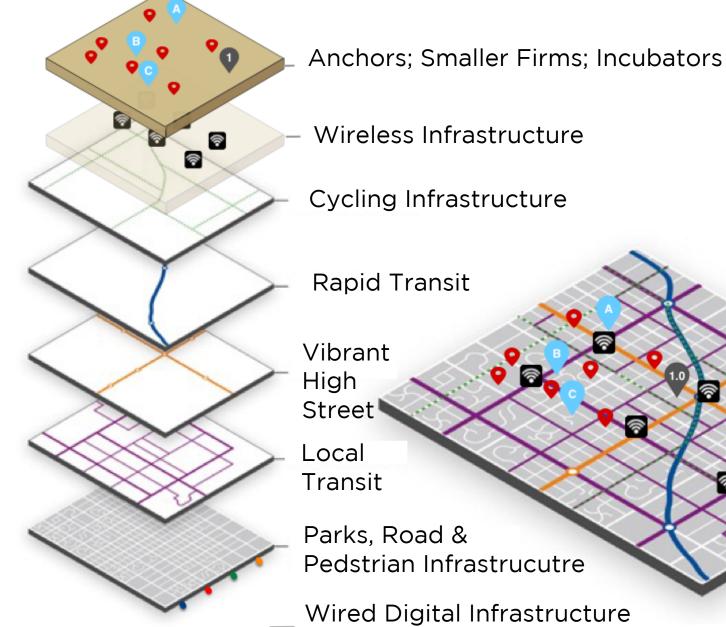
When considering the definition of innovation districts, our primary enabler for the City is land use planning and placemaking.

Policies that enable the innovation clusters to thrive through the management of physical space:

- Transit
- Digital Infrastructure
- Mixed-Use Housing, Office, Industrial, Retail
- Amenities



## INNOVATION DISTRICT: THE PHYSICAL INGREDIENTS



& Underground Utilities



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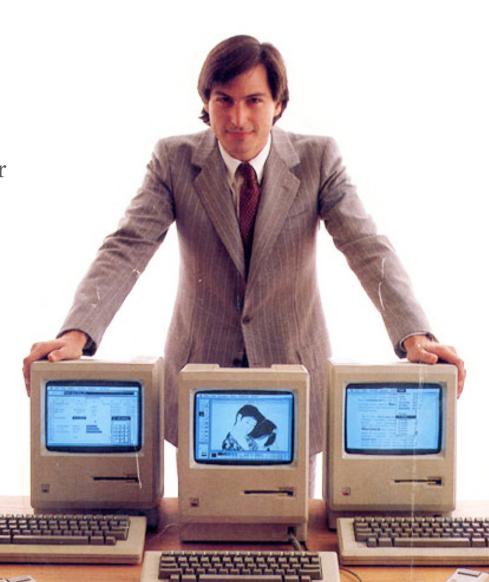


...it uses a hand-held "mouse"- a small pointing device which enables the user to select programs, and move data from one part of the screen to another...

...Apple calls it your "desk top". What you see on your screen looks a lot like what you might find on a desk. Instead of just a blinking cursor you see pictures, called icons, that graphically represent the things you can do with the computer...

Macintosh Shapes Up a Winner by Lawrence J. Magid The Los Angeles Times January 29, 1984





#### INNOVATION ECONOMY: THE NEXT NEW THING?



#### HUMAN INGENUITY AS KEY DRIVER OF ECONOMIC GROWTH



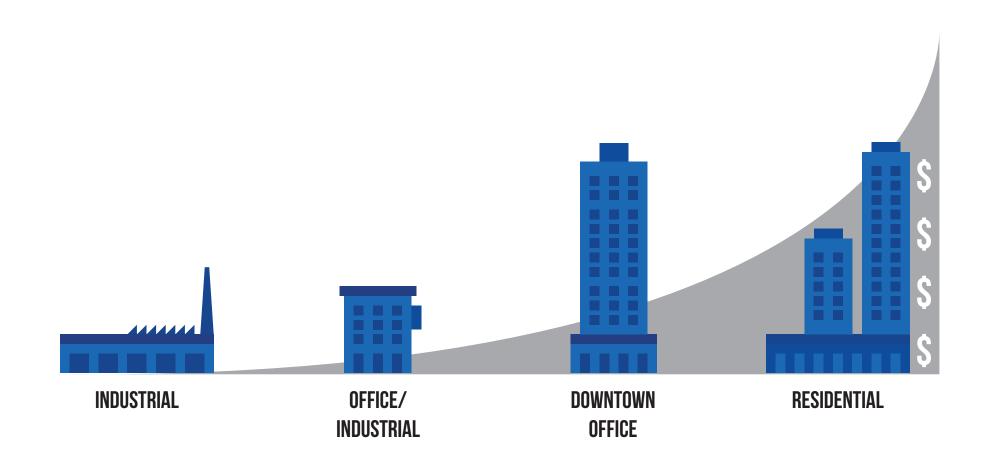
## 1970s: OVERSUPPLY OF JOB LANDS IN THE DOWNTOWN. POPULATION STAGNATES. RAIL ASSETS DIVESTED.



## A NEW VISION FOR VANCOUVER Emerged placing people as the primary focus for downtown

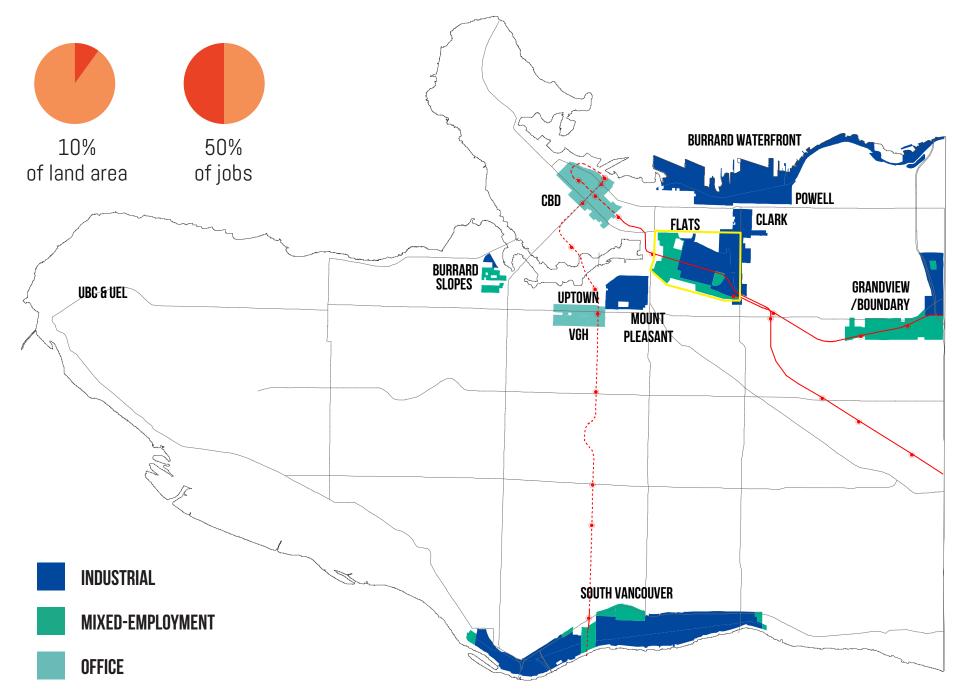


#### 'LIVING FIRST' SUCCESS LEADS TO NEW CHALLENGE



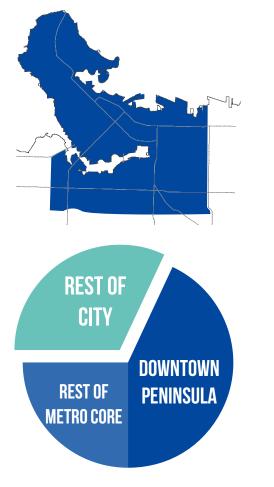


## PRESSURES ON EMPLOYMENT LAND





### METRO CORE JOBS & ECONOMY LAND USE PLAN (2007)



Metro Core is Home to 64% of the city's jobs

#### CONTEXT

- Highest concentration of jobs in BC
- More jobs than the next three largest regional municipalities combined

#### PROCESS

- Four-year multi-stage process
- Involved business interests, academics, industry, and citizens
- In 2007 City Council adopted the Metropolitan Core Jobs and Economy Land Use Plan
- Still implementing plan through zoning and policy changes



#### METRO CORE: VANCOUVER'S INNOVATION DISTRICT







#### **RECENT PLANNING FOR INNOVATION**

## **DOWNTOWN** OFFICE SUPPLY

#### **COMPLETION** 2009

#### **CHALLENGES**

- Insufficient office capacity
- Residential speculation

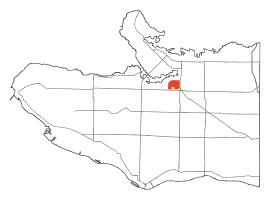
#### **SOLUTIONS**

- Removed residential from the CBD
- New rezoning policy
- Increased base commercial zoning
- Office conversion policy

#### **SINCE 2009**

- 25 projects have been completed, are under construction, or approved, with five under review
- Over 5,500,000 square feet of new office space











#### **RECENT PLANNING FOR INNOVATION**

MOUNT PLEASANT Industrial Area

#### **COMPLETION** 2013

#### **CHALLENGES**

- Intensify without displacing
- Remain within existing overall density and height limits
- Maintain downtown serving industrial uses (noxious and obnoxious)

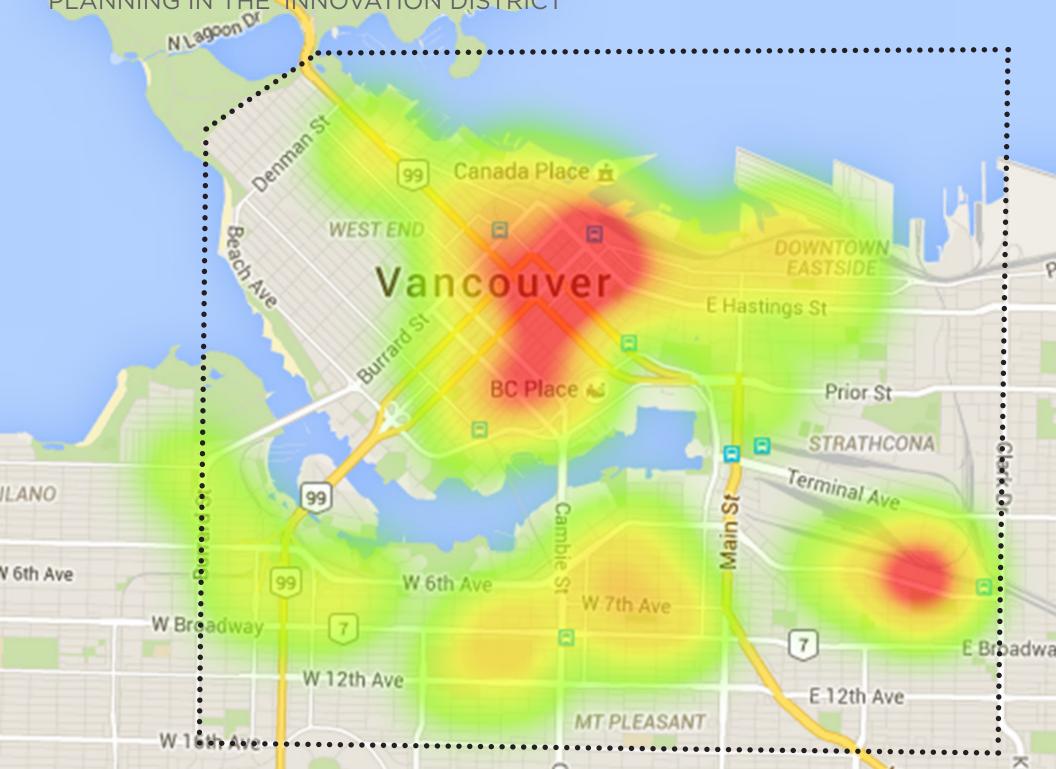
#### **SOLUTIONS**

- Increased permitted densities of selective office and service uses
- Match 1 FSR of industrial with 1 FSR of office up to 3 FSR
- Selective additions to the types of office and service uses permitted

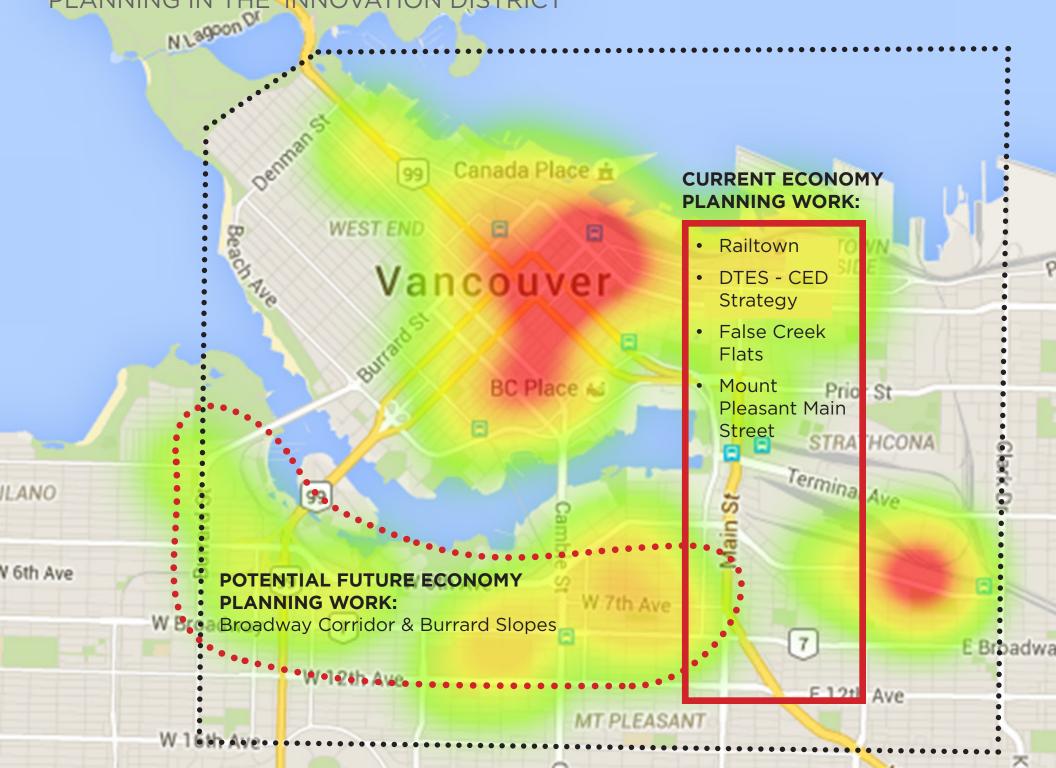
#### **SINCE 2013**

- 11 projects have been completed, are under construction, or approved, with two under review
- Totalling over 300,000 sq.ft.

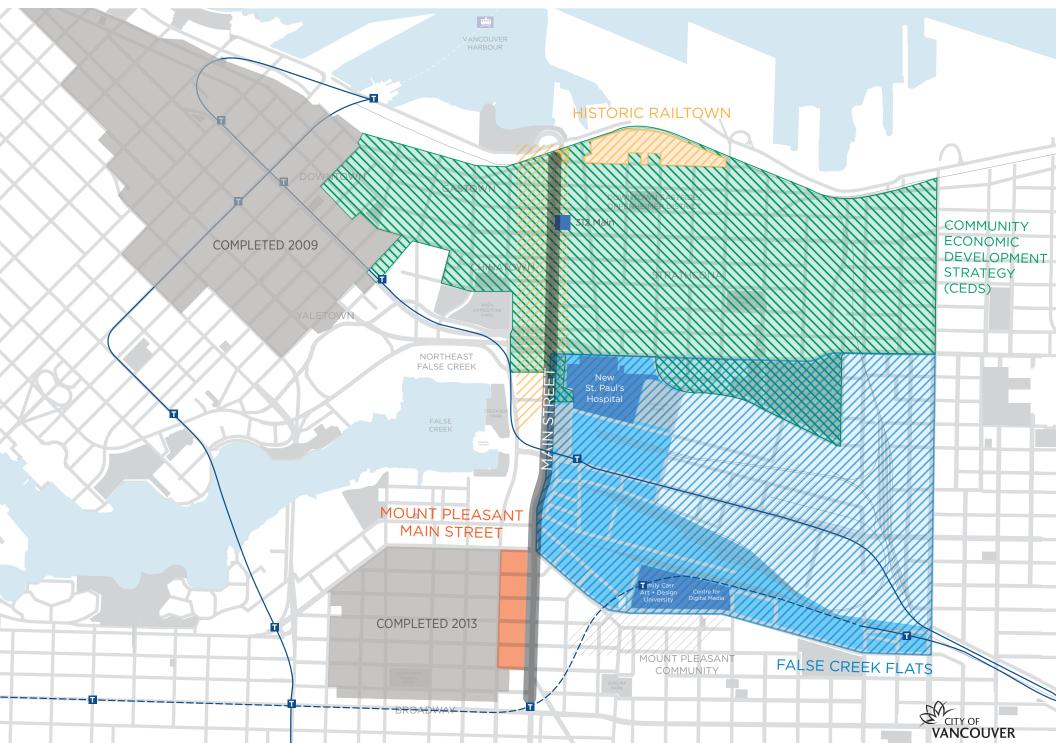
### PLANNING IN THE 'INNOVATION DISTRICT'



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"Innovation districts constitute the ultimate mash up of entrepreneurs and educational institutions, start-ups and schools, mixed-use development and medical innovations, bikesharing and bankable investments—all connected by transit, powered by clean energy, wired for digital technology, and fueled by caffeine".

- The Brookings Institute













#### INNOVATION PLANNING UNDERWAY

# **RAILTOWN** Tech & Industrial Area

**AREA SIZE** 15 ACRES

**ZONING** M-2 HEAVY INDUSTRIAL

## **CHALLENGES**

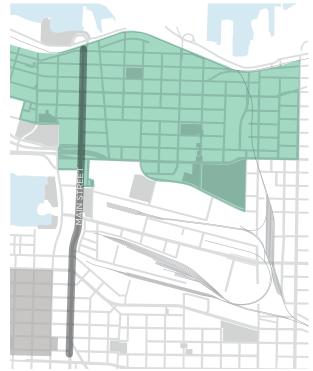
- Accommodate the growing tech cluster
- Retain important industrial space immediately adjacent to the Port
- Older heritage buildings in the area

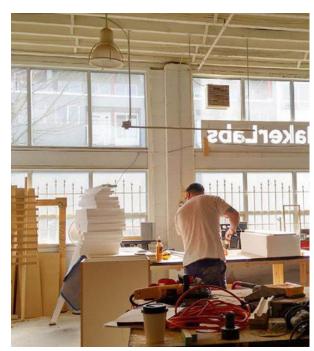
- Council approved local area plan and directed staff to review zoning to accommodate the growing tech without displacing the industrial
- Emerging policy is to consider a mix similar to the Mt. Pleasant Industrial Area with creative manufacturing uses











### **INNOVATION PLANNING UNDERWAY**

# **DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE**

Community Economic Development

## **EMPLOYEES** 19,500

#### **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

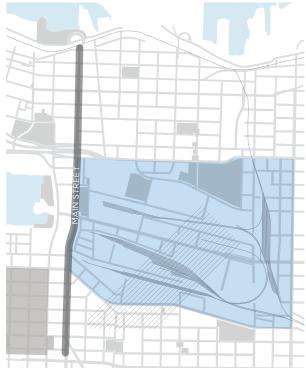
- Resident Poverty (60%) High Unemployment (11.3%) and Low Local Labour Market Participation (13%)
- Displacement of local serving retail and high retail vacancy rate (28%)
- Street disorder impacts of informal economy (vending, binning)

- Infrastructure investments for informal economy (501 Powell, 62 W. Hastings)
- Long-term Community Economic Development Strategy (CED)
- Continue supporting growth of social enterprise and social innovation

# ATST ANEX









## INNOVATION PLANNING UNDERWAY

# **THE FLATS** Framework for Innovation

**AREA SIZE** 470 ACRES

#### No. OF EMPLOYEES 8000

#### **ZONING** I-2 & I-3 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL

## **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

- High & increasing land values
- Pressures on cultural production space
- Lack of connectivity
- Lack of amenity space
- New major anchor institutions
- Well served by transit

- Build off unique characteristics
- Build amenities & connections
- Deliver opportunties not available elsewhere in Vancouver
- Intensify employment opportunities near existing & future transit stations
- Create infrastructure to support becoming the 'greenest place to work in the world'









#### **CURRENT PLANNING**

MOUNT PLEASANT Main Street Corridor

#### ZONING I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL

## **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

- High and increasing land values
- Well served by amenities
- Well served by transit
- Close to housing
- Provides a dynamic mix of industrial, service and office uses
- Overall "vibe" is highly attractive to the new economy

- Maintain the production, distribution and repair role of Mount Pleasant
- Identify opportunities near Main Street to further intensify job space near existing and future transit stations
- Improve relationship of industrial edge with future mixed use on Main Street

WE HAVE LONG PUT PEOPLE FIRST IN PLANNING OUR MIXED-USE NEIGHBOURHOODS. PLANNING FOR INNOVATION MEANS RUTTING PEOPLE FIRST IN OUR EMPLOYMENT ZONES AS WELL.

# **04/** Quick Starts & Next Steps





# WHAT ROLE CAN THE CITY PLAY IN INNOVATION?

- Protect & enhance employment land
- Develop policy frameworks that put people at the center of economic areas while investing in place making
- Build shared infrastructure for healthy resilient environments
- Leverage our assets to support innovative models
- Explore public benefits that support business
- Support connections & build awareness of Vancouver innovators



# **QUICK STARTS**

- 1 Deliver Planning Along Main Street
- 2 Launch Innovation Economy Round Table
- 3 Explore Branding Opportunities
- 4 Enhanced Business License Data





## QUICK START: PLANNING ALONG MAIN STREET

Bring planning forward to Council for:

- Railtown
- DTES Community Economic Development Strategy
- False Creek Flats, and
- Mount Pleasant Main Street

Targeted date: Fall & Winter 2016





## QUICK START: INNOVATION ECONOMY ROUND TABLE

Assemble a key group of public and private sector stakeholders to advise on City's contribution to the growth of the innovation economy:

- Urban planning
- Social policy
- Modernizing Regulations

Targeted date: Fall 2016





#### QUICK START: EXPLORE BRANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Work to define Vancouver's competitive advantage in innovation & celebrate and connect local innovators

Review opportunities to align and refresh City brand / logos with Innovation Economy and other city objectives

Targeted date: Winter 2016





# QUICK START: ENHANCED BUSINESS LICENSE DATA

# Bring amendment forward for refined business license data to:

- Simplify process for businesses
- Better align definitions with current industries
- Improve data on innovation in Vancouver

Targeted date: Winter 2016



# **ENABLERS**

Enablers to be further discussed today:

- Update from VEC
- Filming Activity Update
- Business License Rationalization Report





# THANK YOU

