



# Building a Stronger Foundation for Damage Prevention

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

**BC COMMON GROUND ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP & PARTNERS**

British Columbia  
**BCCGA**  
Common Ground Alliance

Prepared by the BCCGA  
Leadership Team  
December 2025

# BC COMMON GROUND ALLIANCE (BCCGA) YEAR-END REPORT

## MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

### To Our Valued Members,

As we close out 2025, the BC Common Ground Alliance leadership team is pleased to report on a year of significant organizational renewal and member re-engagement. Operating with an annual budget of \$250,000, our team has worked diligently to ensure every dollar delivers maximum value to our members and advances our damage prevention mission across British Columbia.

Throughout the year, we have focused intently on reconnecting with our membership base, understanding their evolving needs, and demonstrating our commitment to being a responsive and effective industry partner. The consistent support we've received from WorkSafeBC and our member organizations has enabled us to undertake ambitious improvements while maintaining the core services that protect underground infrastructure and keep workers safe across the province.

This past year has been transformational for BCCGA as we systematically rebuilt and strengthened the fundamental pillars of our organization. We restructured our governance model, establishing a new, more nimble board that can respond quickly to industry challenges and opportunities. Our program delivery has been reimagined and enhanced to better serve members' practical needs, while our communications strategy has been revitalized to ensure timely, relevant information reaches stakeholders when they need it most. Behind the scenes, we have undertaken a comprehensive review and update of our policies and procedures, creating a more robust operational framework that positions us for sustainable growth and improved service delivery. These improvements reflect our unwavering commitment to organizational excellence and our determination to be the most effective damage prevention alliance in Canada.

Looking ahead to 2026, we are energized by the momentum we've built and the strengthened foundation we now stand on. The confidence demonstrated by our funders—both WorkSafeBC and our member organizations—affirms that our strategic direction is sound and our value proposition is clear. We have exciting initiatives planned for the coming year that will further enhance member engagement, expand our awareness offerings, and deepen our impact on underground safety and damage prevention outcomes across British Columbia.

Our leadership team extends sincere thanks to our board members, member organizations, funders, and industry partners for their continued support and collaboration. Together, we are building a stronger, more effective BCCGA that will serve British Columbia's underground safety and damage prevention needs for years to come.

Sincerely,

Dave Baspaly



Executive Director

Cheryl Hogg



Chief Operating Officer

British Columbia  
**BCCGA**  
Common Ground Alliance



## MEMBER ENGAGEMENT AND VALUE DELIVERY

In 2025, BCCGA conducted a comprehensive member feedback survey to assess our value delivery, understand member priorities, and guide strategic planning. The survey yielded 16 responses from diverse stakeholders across utility and energy companies, construction firms, regulatory organizations, and industry associations across British Columbia.

### Member Familiarity and Engagement

Survey results demonstrate strong member familiarity with BCCGA's mission, with 69% of respondents rating themselves as "very" or "extremely" familiar with organizational activities. Members showed highest engagement with Contractor Breakfasts (9 participants), committees (9 participants), and Member Meetings (8 participants), reflecting the value placed on technical education and networking opportunities.

### Program Relevance and Impact

Half of all respondents rated BCCGA's programs as "extremely relevant" to their organizational needs, with an additional 43% rating them as "somewhat relevant." Members identified Contractor Breakfasts, legislative advocacy, and April Safe Dig events as the most impactful initiatives. Networking opportunities and the April Safe Dig Awareness Campaign received top ratings from 10 members each, followed by industry advocacy (9 members) and regulatory updates (7 members).

### Communications and Advocacy

Member engagement with BCCGA communications remains strong, with 93% of respondents engaging with organizational communications regularly, and over 50% engaging "always" or "almost always." Three-quarters of members feel BCCGA effectively represents their interests in industry and regulatory discussions, while 63% perceive BCCGA as delivering equal or higher value compared to other industry associations.



# BCCGA ENGAGEMENT



**Over 150**

*Stakeholder engagements  
and presentations*



**Over 20**

*Industry event presentations*



**Over 3,000 unique visitors**

*To our website in the past 30 days*



**Best Practices Statistics**

*Input provided on 7 National Best  
Practice Transaction Requests (Trs)*



**Damage Prevention  
Excellence Awards**

*Award presented in  
2025 to the City of Surrey*



**Awareness and Education**

*4 Ground disturbance breakfast/events  
with 231 participants*

*Presentation at Energy Safety Canada to  
150 participants*

## ORGANIZATIONAL TRANSFORMATION AND RENEWAL

2025 marked a year of significant organizational development as BCCGA systematically strengthened its operational foundation, governance structure, and service delivery model to better serve members and advance damage prevention outcomes across British Columbia.

### Governance Restructuring

BCCGA implemented a new governance model featuring a smaller, more agile board structure designed to enable faster decision-making and more responsive leadership. This restructuring enhances our ability to address emerging industry challenges, capitalize on opportunities, and maintain strong strategic direction while ensuring effective oversight and stakeholder representation.

### Enhanced Program Delivery

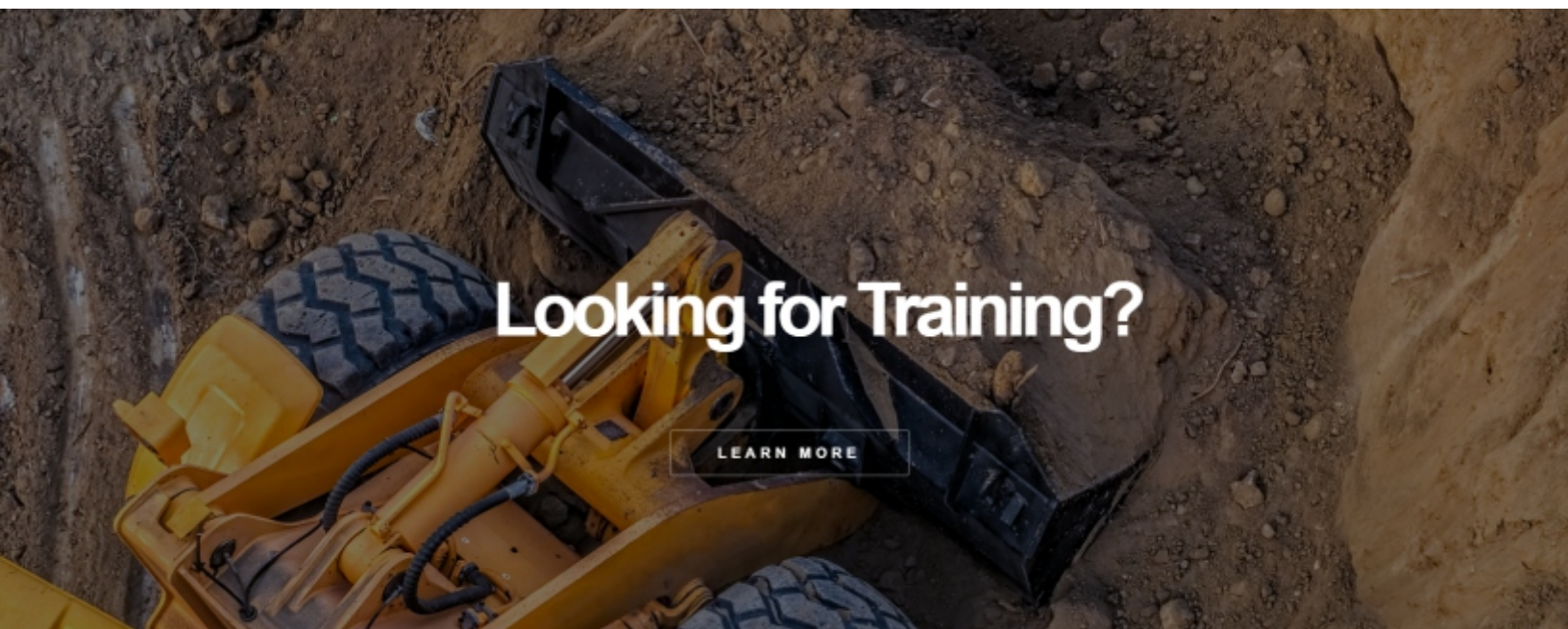
Our program offerings were reimaged and enhanced to better align with member needs and industry best practices. This included strengthening our Contractor Breakfast series with more targeted technical content, expanding regional programming reach, and developing new training modules. These improvements reflect member feedback calling for enhanced collaboration with key stakeholders including BC 1 Call, ICBA, FortisBC, BC Hydro, Trans Mountain, Enbridge, and regulatory bodies.

### Communications and Member Engagement

BCCGA revitalized its communications strategy to ensure timely, relevant information reaches stakeholders when needed most. Enhanced digital communications, improved member outreach, and more frequent touchpoints have strengthened relationships and increased member participation in programs and initiatives. Member feedback indicated 63% interest in contributing to committees or working groups, signaling strong commitment to collaborative engagement.

Our social media presence has grown steadily thanks to a dedicated strategy that has already increased membership to over 270 LinkedIn followers and boosted engagement across our platforms. With a clear campaign goal of reaching more than 1,000 followers by mid-2026, we are calling on all members to help amplify our message—share our posts with colleagues, follow our updates, and actively engage in our damage prevention community. Together, we can expand our reach, strengthen connections, and build a more informed and proactive network.

Follow us on LinkedIn at <http://www.linkedin.com/company/bc-common-ground-alliance>



Looking for Training?

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### Operational Excellence

Behind the scenes, BCCGA conducted a comprehensive review and update of policies and procedures, creating a more robust operational framework. This work establishes clear processes, improves accountability, and positions the organization for sustainable growth while maintaining the efficiency expected from our \$250,000 annual budget. These improvements demonstrate our commitment to operational excellence and responsible stewardship of member and funder resources.



# CORE PROGRAMMING

## GROUND DISTURBANCE 201 & 101

5

BC training providers



3,850

Workers trained in 2024



4,530

Workers trained in 2025  
(forecasted to end of year)

## LOCATOR CERTIFICATION

2

Associations delivering training



123

Locators trained in 14 sessions in 2025



42

Locators had their knowledge refreshed in 5 sessions in 2025



# GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Provincial Proclamation for April as Safe Digging Month obtained in 2025

**MLA LUNCH**

awareness session

1

28

**MLA'S ENGAGED**

including 6 cabinet ministers

**BUDGET PRESENTATION**

1

1

**FACE TO FACE MEETING**

with the provincial damage prevention champion – The Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions

## SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

4

BCCGA Board/  
Member meetings

24

Subcommittee meetings

4

Member Meetings

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

\$

Total revenue from all sources in 2025 – \$250,850

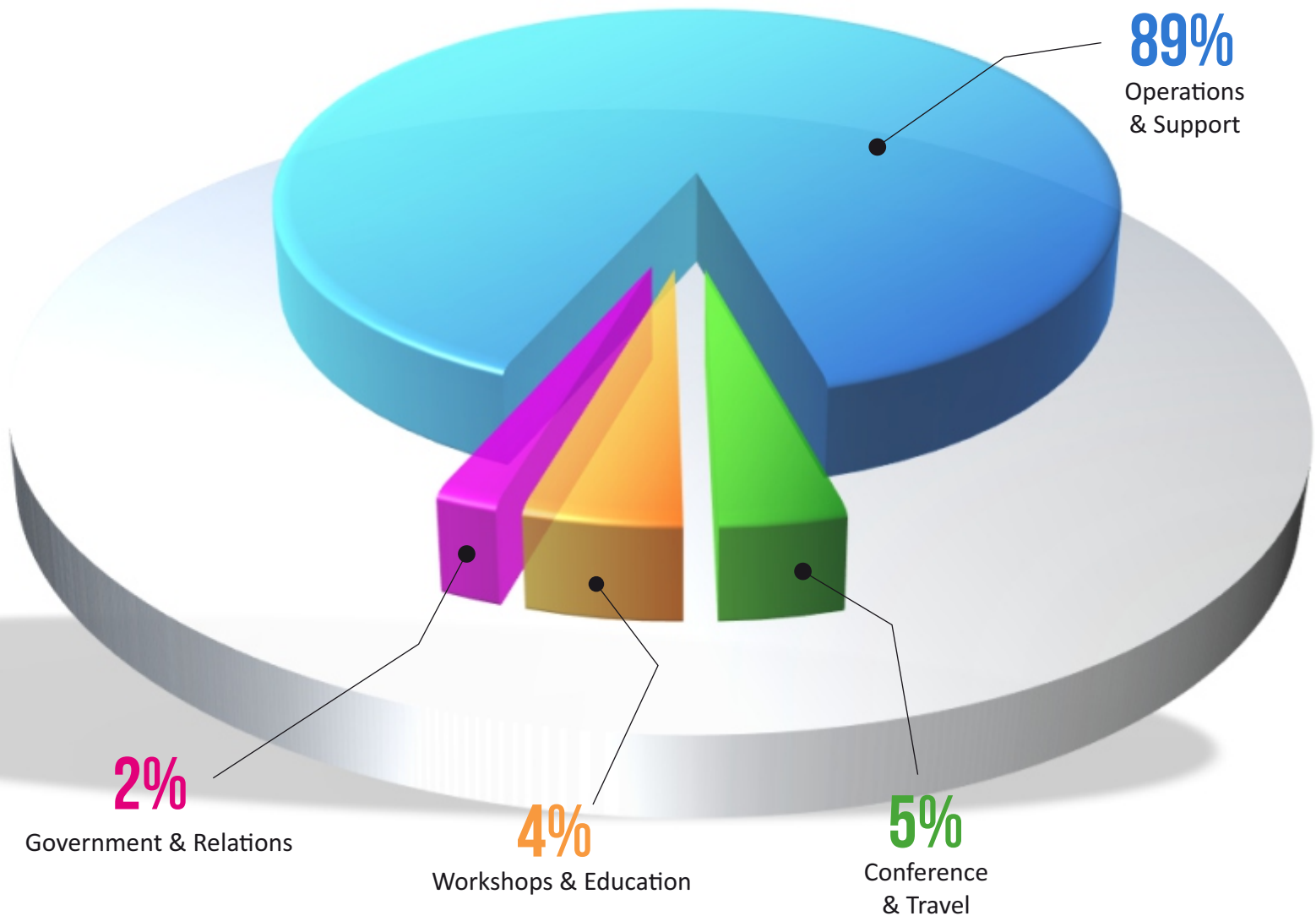
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Total expense – \$247,700 (forecasted to year end)



# EXPENDITURES

(Forecasted)



A non-profit open to all individuals with an interest in safety connected with ground disturbance in BC.

## 2024 CANADIAN DIRT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The Canadian Common Ground Alliance's 2025 DIRT (Damage Information Reporting Tool) Report, analyzing 2024 data, demonstrates meaningful progress in British Columbia's damage prevention efforts while highlighting persistent challenges that require continued attention and collaborative action.

Number of damages in BC		Root cause	
<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>372</b>
1,065	895	Notification Issue	Excavation Issue

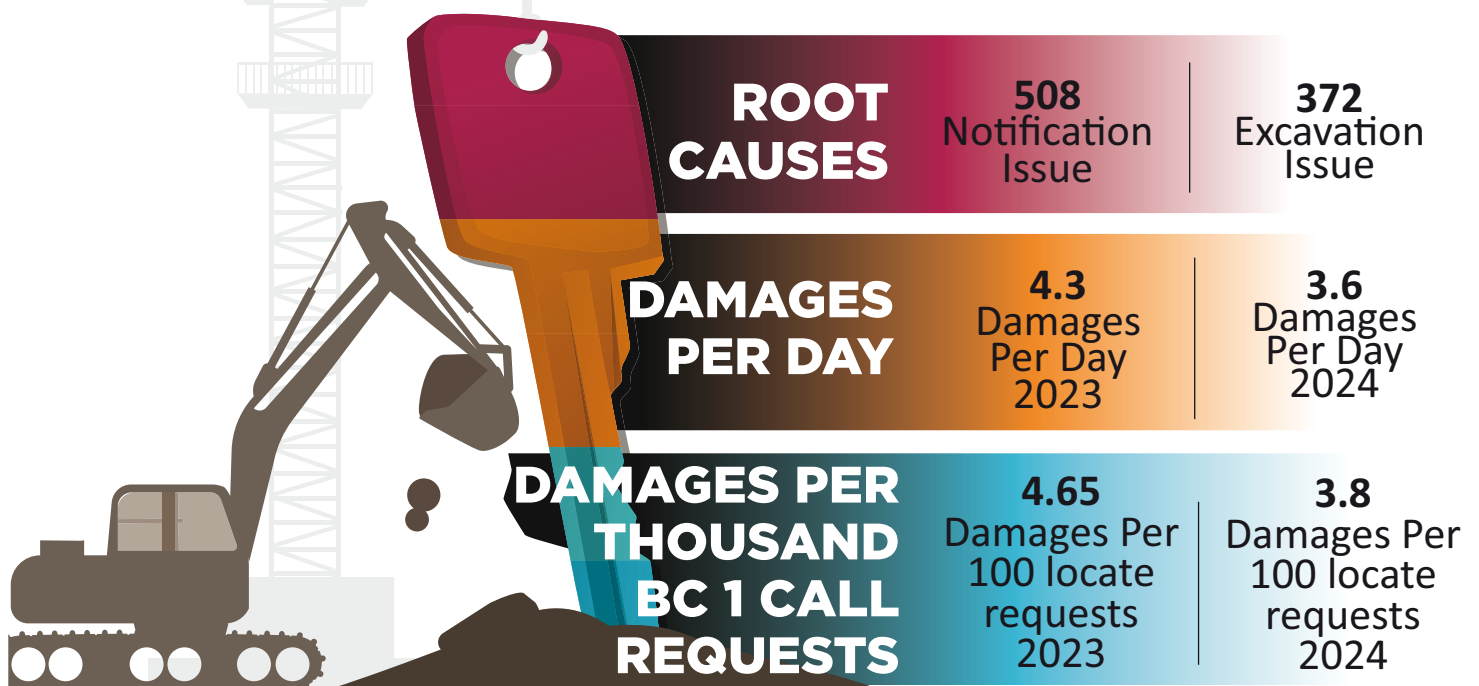
British Columbia achieved a 16% reduction in reported underground infrastructure damages in 2024. This marks the third consecutive year of improvement and represents a 27% reduction since 2020, demonstrating the effectiveness of ongoing damage prevention initiatives and stakeholder collaboration across the province.

Metric	2024 Result	Trend
Total BC Damages	895	↓ 3.3% from 2023
5-Year Improvement	27% reduction	Since 2020
Consecutive Years of Improvement	3 years	Ongoing progress

### Persistent Challenges

Despite progress, significant safety concerns remain. Fifty-five percent of BC's reported damages (509 incidents) were attributed to failure to call BC 1 Call before digging, and 98% of these "no locate" damages involved natural gas facilities, creating serious public safety risks.

These findings underscore the critical need for enhanced public awareness, stakeholder engagement, and potential legislative measures to ensure compliance with damage prevention protocols.

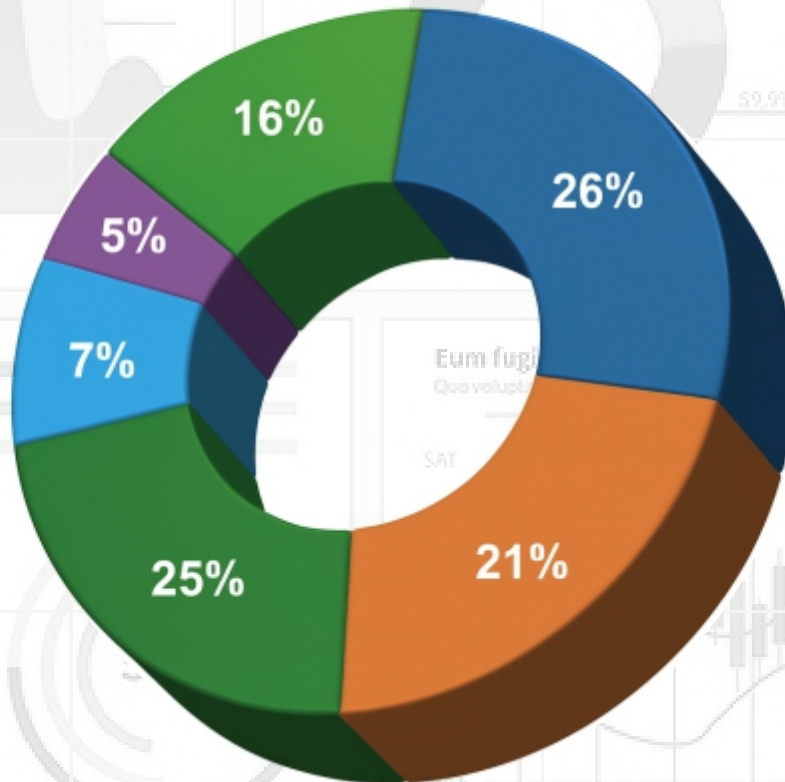


### Data Quality and Reporting Limitations

The DIRT Report relies on voluntary participation which creates inherent limitations in data comprehensiveness and representation. Underreporting bias, particularly among stakeholders involved in damages, means actual incident numbers exceed reported figures. Enhanced data collection mechanisms and broader stakeholder participation will strengthen future reporting accuracy and support evidence-based policy development.

## DAMAGES BY WORK GROUP

■ Sewer & Water ■ Utility ■ Construction ■ Landscaping ■ Unknown/Other ■ Street & Road



895  
Damages Were Reported  
Across BC in 2024

[VIEW THE REPORT](#)



## LOOKING FORWARD: 2026 AND BEYOND

Building on the strong foundation established in 2025, BCCGA enters 2026 with renewed energy, enhanced capabilities, and clear strategic direction focused on expanding impact, deepening member engagement, and advancing damage prevention outcomes across British Columbia.

### Strategic Priorities for 2026

BCCGA's 2026 priorities reflect member feedback and emerging industry needs. Key focus areas include expanding regional programming, particularly Contractor Breakfasts in Prince George and Fort St. John; enhancing collaboration with BC1Call, utilities, and regulatory bodies; strengthening contractor oversight and locating documentation quality; and expanding outreach to those outside the BC1Call system. These initiatives directly address member-identified gaps and opportunities for enhanced damage prevention impact.

### Sustained Funding and Financial Stability

The consistent support from WorkSafeBC and member organizations provides stable financial footing for 2026 and beyond. This funding confidence affirms that BCCGA's strategic direction is sound and our value proposition is clear. Responsible stewardship of these resources, combined with enhanced operational efficiency, enables continued investment in programs, services, and initiatives that deliver tangible value to members and measurable improvements in damage prevention outcomes.

### Enhanced Training and Education

Expanding training standards remains a cornerstone of BCCGA's 2026 strategy. Plans include updating certification programs, enhancing existing technical training modules, and leveraging technology to reach broader audiences across the province. These initiatives respond to member demand for high-quality professional development opportunities and support industry-wide competency enhancement in damage prevention practices.

### Gratitude and Commitment

BCCGA's leadership team extends sincere appreciation to Board Members, member organizations, WorkSafeBC, industry partners, and all stakeholders and individual members who have contributed to our success in 2025. Your engagement, feedback, and collaboration have been instrumental in our organizational transformation. Together, we are building a stronger, more effective BCCGA that will serve British Columbia's damage prevention needs for years to come.

***We look forward to an exciting and productive 2026 as we continue this important work together.***



**Do You Know What To Do  
Before You Dig  
To Dig Safe?**

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