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The Western Hub: Developing a Pan-Canadian Battery Metals Value Chain

BMAC's 2022 Roadmap for Canada's Battery Value Chain set out a pathway to secure Canada's place in the global net-zero economy, by mapping out the needs and opportunities for a robust, well developed Canadian battery value chain. Building off that work, this project will identify key resources, developments, and investment opportunities in Western Canada to contribute to Canada's battery value chain, as well as the necessary partnerships including industry, government, and Indigenous stakeholders, to seize these opportunities.



DETAILS

FUNDING



APPLICATION

BMAC's work covers the entire battery value chain from minerals extraction to materials processing, battery cell and component production, battery use and recycling. This work is intended to help inform industry, governments, investors and communities on the opportunities for strategic developments and collaborations across the battery value chain.

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PROJECT GOALS

This Project will identify key opportunities for investment in and development across the entire battery value chain, with specific focus on Indigenous inclusion, as well as strategic opportunities for Western battery hubs and integration with battery developments in the East. The key goals of the project are to:

- Engage with Indigenous stakeholders to identify opportunities and actions for meaningful Indigenous inclusion across the battery value chain, with economic reconciliation in mind.
- Analyze 8 critical minerals vital to the energy transition to map the processes and flow from mineral extraction to materials ready for battery manufacturing.
- Identify opportunities, provide economic analysis, and highlight policies to leverage Western minerals and other assets in value chain development.
- Identify key strategies to enhance efficiencies and materials recovery throughout the battery value chain.

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BENEFITS TO ALBERTA

Through this work BMAC intends to:

- Highlight the opportunities, the economic business case and key enabling policies in Alberta and the West to attract investment and drive development within a Western Canada battery value chain.
- Educate industry on the importance of engaging Indigenous communities and organizations, as well as key steps to facilitate effective and mutually beneficial partnerships and collaborations across the value chain, that are based on inclusion and reconciliation, including economic reconciliation, within Alberta and the West.
- Identify strategies to maximize efficiencies and effectiveness throughout the battery mineral value chain, including geographically and operationally integrated battery hubs, value optimization, and fostering direct supply to other battery hubs in the East.



4 Publications

CURRENT STATUS

Work completed to date includes initial interviews as well as BMAC's first Circular Strategies workshop with over 70 participants. BMAC has also engaged with collaborating partners on workshop design for Indigenous Inclusion and Metals Strategies work. BMAC is also in the process of planning its first annual battery conference.

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