BC Maritime
Employers Association

2023 Annual Report

Driving Digital Solutions for Canada's Supply Chain Stability

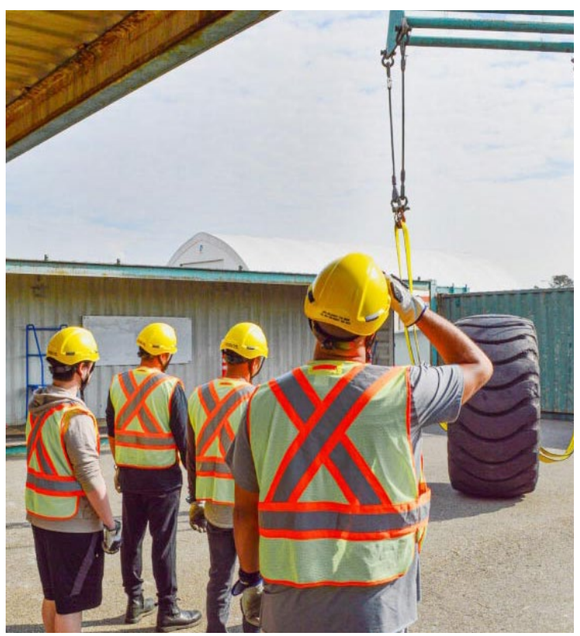
The maritime industry stakeholders and public policymakers are increasingly prioritizing using data digitalization to strengthen Canada's supply chain. Canada's economic growth depends on a resilient supply chain to provides jobs and goods, while maintaining affordability. Digitalization is critical to this process, which includes enhancing information sharing to become more efficient.

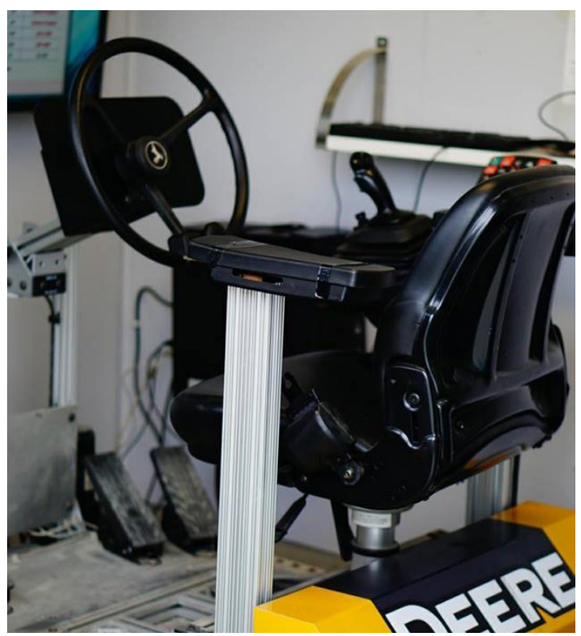
At the BCMEA, we have been driving progress to best support workforce planning and training for our member's operations, while doing our part to contribute to the stability of Canada's supply chain. This year marked our second in our three-year Data Strategy Roadmap. We prioritized developing a data governance program and 6-week labour demand prediction as a part of the WaterfrontWorks program, a seven-element technological solution that a multi-disciplinary BCMEA team developed for optimizing workforce planning.

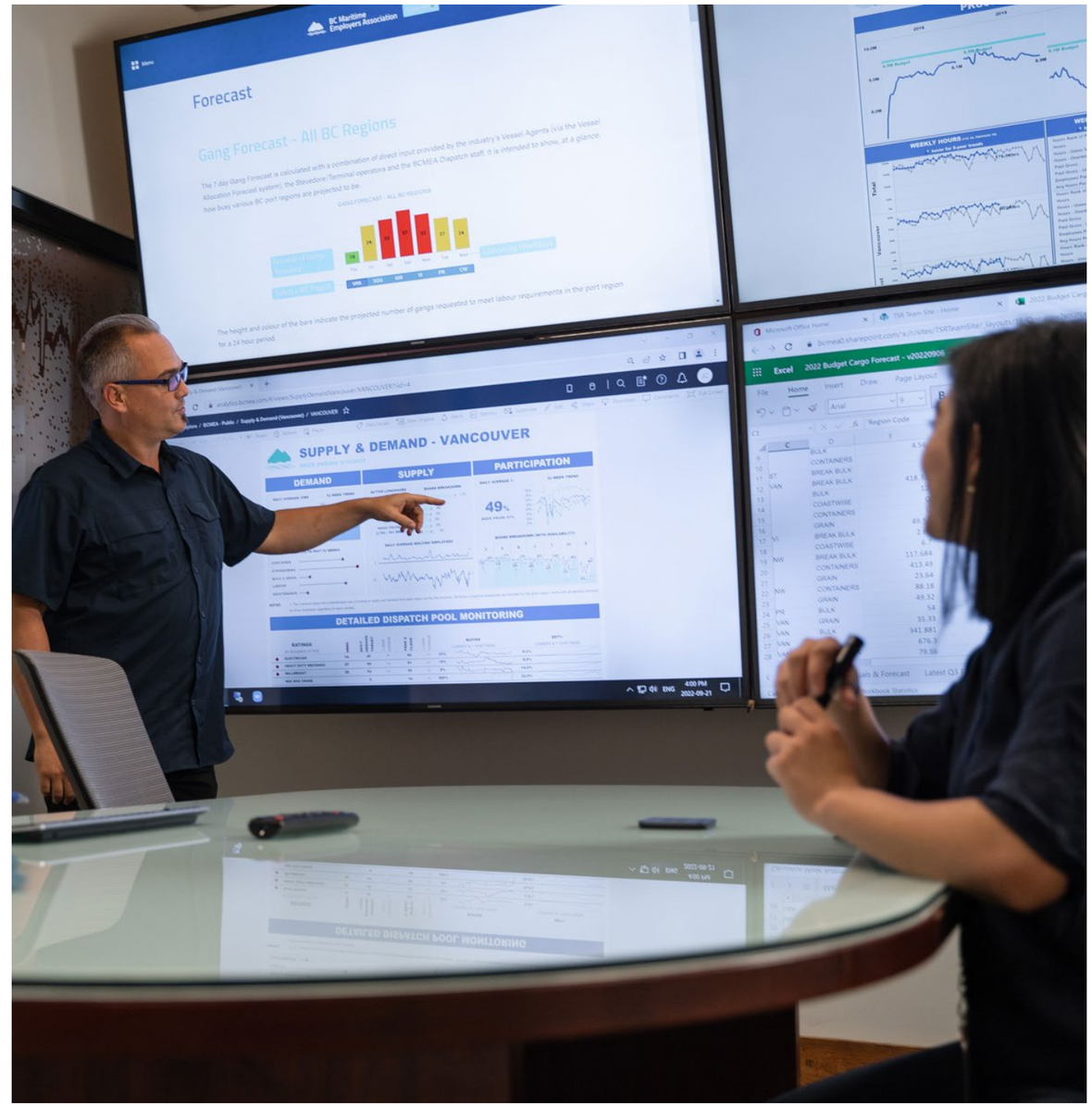
Throughout the last decade, the increasing complexities of longshore labour supply and demand requirements, including the growth of the Asia-Pacific Gateway, have made it challenging to ensure the reliable availability of trained longshore labour. WaterfrontWorks offers a viable solution by providing advanced data analytics to predict and identify short, medium and long-term labour shortages—allowing the BCMEA to invest in workforce training and recruitment to mitigate shortages and maintain smooth supply chain operations.

Supported by the BCMEA's data analytics program, WaterfrontWorks seeks to revolutionize the waterfront through improving asset and operations management, coordination, planning and optimization of supply chains to help alleviate bottlenecks through the matching of labour supply and demand. The project addresses a critical supply chain pinch point and will generate substantive benefits by allowing for targeted improvements to address labour challenges at Canada's West Coast ports, which have been impacted by extreme weather, economic turmoil and global supply chain disruptions.

WaterfrontWorks expands on the BCMEA's recent efforts to improve visibility and data exchange mechanisms between stakeholders at Canada's West Coast ports. Already well underway at the BCMEA, WaterfrontWorks will bring together the BCMEA, our members and critical supply chain stakeholders in our shared commitment to investing in the future of Canada's West Coast longshore workforce, leading to improved reliability, efficiency and affordability for Canadians and supply chain operations.







Financial Report

December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2023	2022
Current assets		
Cash	$106,928,499	$144,039,377
Accounts receivable and other assets	20,648,064	18,846,449
	127,576,563	162,885,826
Tangible capital assets	38,692,620	37,009,984
Intangible assets	131,022	—
	$166,400,205	$199,895,810
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$36,127,407	$23,890,417
Accrued longshore vacation pay	48,835,991	49,284,073
Accrued Container Gainshare liability	46,734,185	57,838,019
Deferred revenue	3,846,509	752,063
Current portion of Post-employment benefit liability	33,819	34,140
Current portion of Modernization and mechanization allowance liability	6,171,000	5,947,000
	141,747,911	137,745,712
Post-employment benefit liability	1,468,718	1,117,102
Modernization and mechanization allowance liability	56,563,000	48,238,000
Asset retirement obligation	127,951	124,096
	199,907,580	187,224,910
Net assets		
Investment in property and equipment and intangible assets	38,823,642	370,009,984
Deficit	-72,331,017	-24,339,084
	-33,504,375	12,670,900
	$166,400,205	$199,895,810

Statement of Operations

Revenue	2023	2022
Payroll assessments	$154,933,232	$161,487,437
Hourly assessments	42,270,053	47,950,570
Cargo assessments	58,881,210	57,630,329
Labour surcharge assessment	12,082,830	
Investment income	3,833,760	2,290,299
Container Gainshare levies	45,472,855	57,157,645
Vancouver Island Gang Interchange	340,327	470,135
Lower Mainland Interchange	506,040	913,669
Government of Canada violence & harassment program contributions	108,571	2,330,091
Other income	84,409	103,622
	318,513,287	330,333,797
Expenses		
Payroll related labour fringe benefits	164,512,506	159,667,667
Hourly related labour fringe benefits	45,152,128	48,681,711
Cargo related expenses	69,514,615	63,057,923
Container Gainshare contributions	46,734,185	57,838,019
Retroactive pay	31,212,376	
Vancouver Island Gang Interchange expenses	340,327	470,135
Government of Canada violence & harassment program expenses	108,571	2,330,091
	358,080,748	332,959,215
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	-39,567,461	-2,625,418

The Future of Canada's Supply Chain

At no time in our history has the B.C. Maritime Employers Association been battle tested as often as it has in the last few years. From the worldwide pandemic to extreme weather events and the damage wrought by labour disruptions, our organization has found strength in unity to meet these challenges and emerge stronger and more resilient.

If recent history is a guide, uncertainty is the only certainty we can prepare for. Economic instability, geopolitical tensions and the pace of inflation are just a few of the current challenges we must navigate.

Although we are limited in our influence of global issues and dynamics, we find ourselves in a strengthened position, founded upon unprecedented collaboration, to nimbly respond to shifting landscapes. Strategic investments in people, safety, training and innovative technologies set us apart, allowing us to deliver more for our members. And when our members benefit from these operational efficiencies, so too does our entire West Coast supply chain.

The heart of our business is people and our successes are a credit to the dedicated BCMEA membership of ocean carriers, marine terminals and agents and the waterfront workforce. The support and leadership from the BCMEA Board of Directors has been nothing short of exemplary and we extend our sincere gratitude for their continued dedication and hard work during trying times.

Together, we are tried, tested and trusted—as we continue to deliver for Canadians.