


PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - January 27, 2025

SOCIALBC SEES GROWTH, BLOCKS THREADS, AS SOCIAL MEDIA TRANSITION GATHERS STEAM

- First BC-focused open social media website launched this month.
- Dozens join website in wave searching for alternatives to X, Meta.
- threads.net blocked after Zuckerberg policy changes.
- Bluesky not the same grassroots appeal of SocialBC and Mastodon

 **Chris Alemany**
@chris@socialbc.ca

#Threads #SocialBC


When @PhotographyElf @arbutus @jrenken and the rest of us started the idea of this server back in September, I admit I was probably the most willing to look past worries about Threads.

@zuck@threads.net @mosseri@threads.net policy changes have made this untenable.

As a team we believe we should block Threads.net for the health and safety of current and future SocialBC users.

However, we want to give SocialBC members time to comment and talk about it.

We'll block it starting 9AM PST Monday.
[#Meta](#)



Jan 19, 2025 at 07:04 PM · 🌐 · Ivory for iOS

Last edited Jan 20 at 05:26 AM

8 boosts · 9 favorites

VICTORIA, BC - JAN. 27, 2025 — The new BC focused Twitter alternative, SocialBC (socialbc.ca), is seeing steady growth, as is the rest of the open social web, after the US inauguration and upheaval on traditional social media.

“The voices of marginalized peoples have been silenced by X, Facebook and Instagram”, says Que Banh member of the board which runs SocialBC, “as a disabled woman of colour, who is also a war survivor and activist, Mastodon has proven to be a safer space”. SocialBC is powered by Mastodon, one of the free software platforms on the open social web.

Dozens of new users have signed on to SocialBC since the website opened on January 1st, joining the more than 400,000 users that have joined alternatives to corporate social media this year according to statistics website FediDB.org.

The new administration in the United States and Meta policy changes has affected SocialBC. It blocked Meta's Threads service on Inauguration Day. In a post announcing the change, Board member Chris Alemany said they were blocking Threads, "for the health and safety of current and future SocialBC users."

SocialBC is trying to bring an alternative not only for the residents and people in BC but also for government agencies, businesses, and other entities in the province no longer comfortable with having their communications on the large platforms or looking for something administered within Canada. As a non-profit registered in BC, SocialBC is different, says Alemany.

"We're not billionaires. Some folks are going to Bluesky, but that has the same big money venture capital model as the rest. We're grassroots. I think people and companies are looking for something a little closer to home and that's why we're growing".

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PDF of this Release: <https://socialbc.org/socialbc/pr/PressRelease2.pdf>

[SocialBC.ca](https://socialbc.ca) is a website and social web service providing community interaction for people in British Columbia. We deeply acknowledge our place on the traditional territories of First Nations peoples.

SOSSBC is the non-profit Society (socialbc.org) registered in BC that runs community focused alternative open social websites where people can get local trusted information, interact within their own communities, and communicate to millions on the Open Social Web around the world.