



**Alberta Health
Services**

**CROSS-CANADA
RENAL FITNESS CHALLENGE**
Places & Faces

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Saskatoon is the largest city in Saskatchewan, and it is named after the saskatoon berry. The Cree knew the area as "saskwaton", which is what they called the berries, and where we get the name from.

The city was founded in 1882 by the Temperance Colonization Society, designed to be an alcohol-free community. The early settlers could only take the train as far as Moose Jaw, and then had to ride 160 miles in wagons with all their possessions. The Temperance Colonization Society was forced to disband in 1891 due to financial troubles, but Saskatoon carried on.

Saskatoon is known as POW City, because of its three main economic products — Potash, Oil, and Wheat. Roughly two-thirds of the world's potash reserves are located in the Saskatoon area.

Saskatoon has a history of royal visits. Queen Elizabeth II has been to the city five times — in 1951 as a princess, and as queen in 1959, 1978, 1987, and 2005.

Notable people from Saskatoon include hockey legend Gordie Howe, author Farley Mowat, and musician Joni Mitchell, who was not born there but considers it her hometown.



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