



**Alberta Health
Services**

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

Vancouver, British Columbia

Aboriginal people lived in the Vancouver area as long as 10,000 years ago, but the first European to visit was a Spanish explorer in 1791. One year later, in 1792, British explorer George Vancouver visited the area.

The Fraser Gold Rush of 1858 brought the first people to the area. A settlement called Gastown grew up, which was later changed to be called Granville. In 1884, Granville was chosen as the western end of the cross-Canada railway, and in 1886 the area became an official city called Vancouver.

Two months later, the entire city burned to the ground in the Great Vancouver Fire of 1886, but it was still small and was quickly rebuilt. Today it is the third largest metropolis in Canada, even though most Vancouver residents live outside of the official city limits.

A number of notable people come from Vancouver, including singers Bryan Adams and Michael Bubl , actors Michael J. Fox and James Doohan, author William Gibson, scientist David Suzuki, and several athletes, such as Joe Sakic of the NHL, Justin Morneau of the MLB, and Steve Nash of the NBA.



2,313,328