

Proposed Content of Section B – Our Local Context

This section is intended to provide an introduction to the Official Community Plan (OCP) and its use. This section is proposed to include the two subsections:

1. Our Location and Our History
2. Our Present and Future

Details on each subsection and the source of its content is included below.

B1 – Our Location and Our History

This section provides Saskatoon's location and history, including location of the city on Treaty Six Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis in what is now the province of Saskatchewan. It provides an overview of the history of the area up to present day. This includes information on:

- The initial Indigenous inhabitants of the area.
- The Métis communities that have made the area home.
- The signing of Treaty Six.
- The arrival of the Temperance Colonization Society.
- The incorporation of the Village of Saskatoon.
- The development of the city through the boom and bust of the early twentieth century.
- The development and diversification of the economy through modern times.
- The establishment of the first urban reserve in Saskatoon.

The inclusion of this information provides an introduction to Saskatoon's history and helps provide context to the opportunities and issues that currently exist in Saskatoon.

The information was drafted with city archivist Jeff O'Brien and includes information sourced from the following sources:

- [City of Saskatoon History webpage](#) and the City of Saskatoon Archives;
- [ayisiyiniwak: A Communications Guide](#); and
- The following publications:
 - Alexander Dietz, "Wapahaska: The Early History of the Whitecap Band", *Saskatoon History Review*, No. 6, 1991, (Saskatoon: Saskatoon Heritage Society)
 - Bill Waiser, *A World We Have Lost: Saskatchewan before 1905*, (Markham, Ont: Fifth House Ltd., 2016)

- Ehman, Amy Jo. *Saskatoon: A History in Words and Pictures*. (Lunenburg: McIntyre Purcell Publishing Inc., 2017)

The information was then reviewed by City staff with particular knowledge and experience regarding local history and Indigenous communities. This included Director of Indigenous Initiatives, Gilles Dorval, Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Coordinator, Becky Sasakamoose-Kuffner. Staff from Community Development, Planning & Development and Communications and Public Engagement and former Executive Director of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Harry Lafond, also reviewed the section and provided additional content.

B2 – Our Present and Future

This section provides an overview of Saskatoon today and what is expected into the future. It is divided into three sections – Population, Economy and Land Use.

The Population section provides the current population and summarizes recent population growth, as well as the projected growth rate.

The Economy section provides a general overview of Saskatoon's economy highlighting its role as a focal point for health services, tourism and cultural opportunities and attractions, serving the city, the surrounding region and the northern half of the province. It also highlights major industries and economic drivers including the resource industry, the University of Saskatchewan, significant small business growth, as well as increased business growth driven by immigration and First Nations, as well as the broader Indigenous communities' increased interest in investing in the Saskatoon region.

Finally, the Land Use section summarizes the evolution of Saskatoon's urban form and structure from the original core neighbourhoods of Saskatoon, including Nutana and Riversdale. These neighbourhoods were built in a traditional grid pattern, through to neighbourhoods developed with curvilinear streets and cul-de-sacs throughout the second half of the 20th century. Eventually, newer neighbourhoods blend these two patterns while incorporating a more diverse mix of uses and housing types.

The inclusion of this information provides context to Saskatoon's population growth, economic development and the form and structure of the urban environment. This can help provide a better understanding of how Saskatoon developed as it did and inform how Saskatoon will develop into the future.