

# The British Pacific Gateway

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## VANCOUVER

A BRIEF OUTLINE OF ITS PAST,  
PRESENT AND PROBABLE FUTURE

The City of Vancouver is the commercial and industrial centre of British Columbia, the largest and, potentially, the richest of the Canadian Provinces. It is situated on Burrard Inlet, an arm of the Gulf of Georgia, and through the latter, connects with Puget Sound and the Pacific Ocean.

Vancouver was incorporated in 1886 and later in the same year was destroyed by fire. At the time of this disaster the population was about 3,000 people. It is to-day, 23 years later, not less than 100,000. In the year 1887 the first regular transcontinental train reached the city.

In another part of this pamphlet are given statistical tables showing the progress of the city since its incorporation. These indicate that during the period named, Vancouver has moved steadily onward, increasing rapidly in wealth and population, and that during the last five years its growth has exceeded that of the previous eighteen.

While it has been no easy task to meet the requirements arising from such a rapid growth in population, this has been so successfully accomplished that there is probably no other city in the world of anything like similar age, whose civic equipment approaches the excellence of that of Vancouver.

The same remark applies to the substantial character of its business blocks, school, church and public buildings, the extent and convenience of its docks, railway yards, and freight houses; its street car and telephone services, and to the very superior quality of its residences, and the beautiful lawns and gardens that surround them.

In short, Vancouver has the appearance and atmosphere of a city with many decades of growth and improvement behind it, whereas less than fifteen years ago it was but a crude pioneer town.