

1 City of Humboldt

1.1 Introduction to the Community

Whether holiday traveling or looking for a location for your business enterprise, Humboldt should be on your list of places to see.

A stable agricultural economy, reasonable land prices, trained labour force, and proximity to major urban centres such as Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert, make our City a desirable place to live and work.

Excellent recreational, educational, and shopping facilities along with the friendly atmosphere of the community further enhance Humboldt's appeal. For the business owner, a local small business loan cooperative and available industrial property combined with the full support of City Council assures you of a hearty welcome.

1.2 History

Humboldt takes its name from Baron Alexander von Humboldt, a famous German naturalist and explorer. Of Prussian aristocracy, von Humboldt was born in Berlin in 1769 and traveled extensively in North and South America. Over 1,000 places carry his name, including rivers, mountains, glaciers, streets and cities; but there is only one Humboldt in Canada.

Humboldt's beginnings date to 1875 when it was a mere dot on the Carlton Trail between Fort Qu'Appelle and Fort Carlton. When it became a stage depot and Dominion Telegraph Station in 1878, it was the central point between Fort Edmonton and Fort Garry. In those days a trip between these two points took two months by Red River Cart - in good weather. General Middleton and the North-West Mounted Police camped at Humboldt on their way to crush the Riel Rebellion in 1885. The Humboldt Telegraph Station operated until it was officially closed in 1923.

With the construction of the railway between Regina and Rosthern in the late 1800's, settlers began moving in. One of the first was Caspar Feltin, who in 1903 homesteaded near Burton Lake, north of City. After the Benedictine Fathers arrived from Minnesota that same year, thousands of people followed and settled in Humboldt and District. The railroad arrived in 1904 adopting the name Humboldt for the new settlement from the old Humboldt Telegraph Station and Supply Depot situated some seven miles to the southwest.

The original site for Humboldt was actually Dixon, west of the City, however, because of the proximity to water at Burton Lake for the steam locomotives, the location was moved eastward to the present day site of Humboldt. More settlers arrived and more businesses opened in the ensuing months. On March 6, 1905 the community elders wrote to the Deputy Commissioner of the Northwest Territories in Regina asking for the necessary papers to incorporate as a village. An order-in-council was issued June 30, 1905 and the new Village of Humboldt was officially established. By April 7, 1907 Humboldt was declared a Town.

On November 7, 2000 with a population over 5,500, Humboldt was declared Saskatchewan's thirteenth city.

Humboldt's main source of growth in the early years was attributed to the Canadian Northern and Canadian Pacific Railways. But in addition to it being a railroad division point, Humboldt (its motto is *Heart of the Sure Crop District*) is located in one of Saskatchewan's most progressive and prosperous farming areas, and has very rarely experienced a crop failure. Just as agriculture contributed to its early growth, agriculture can take credit for Humboldt's economic mainstay today. The area has been favoured with many entrepreneurial people who have established numerous agricultural service industries which include a number of manufacturing firms in the surrounding area that not only serve local needs but export markets as well. A mixed farming region, the Humboldt district is part of the largest hog producing area in Saskatchewan.

In less than a century, Humboldt has become a thriving, dynamic community for business, industry, health, education and culture. Humboldt's record of growth is assurance that opportunities do await the Investor in Humboldt.

Humboldt welcomes thousands of visitors a year who are invariably impressed with the cleanliness and efficiency of our modern community. The parks, streets and homes are shaded by luxuriant trees, the people friendly and helpful.

1.3 Geophysical Attributes

The City of Humboldt is strategically located in central Saskatchewan on Highway #5 and #20.

Humboldt is:

- 113 km (66 miles) east of Saskatoon
- 231 km (138 miles) north of Regina
- 655 km (390 miles) west of Winnipeg
- 655 km (390 miles) east of Edmonton
- 728 km (432 miles) east of Calgary
- 350 km (210 miles) north of the U.S.A. border

Humboldt lies in what is known as the Park Country, as distinguished from the open prairie.

Provincial Highways through Humboldt	7.425 km	4.614 miles
Total Area of City	11.66 square km	1,215 Ha
Elevation	548.60 m	
Latitude	52° 16' N	
Longitude	105° 7' W	

Climate

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Temperature												
Daily Mean (°C)	-21.1	-11.4	-7.7	3.1	7.3	12.5	16.7	13.7	10.1	2.8	-3.6	-14.6
Daily Maximum (°C)	-16.7	-6.0	-1.7	9.1	13.7	18.5	23.1	19.9	17.1	8.7	2.8	-9.7
Daily Minimum (°C)	-25.5	-16.8	-13.7	-3.0	1.0	6.6	10.3	7.4	3.1	-3.2	-10.0	-19.5
Precipitation												
Rainfall (mm)	0.0	trace	trace	18.8	42.0	63.7	76.7	76.0	56.4	16.8	0.0	trace
Snowfall (cm)	13.4	19.9	20.0	trace	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	3.9	17.2
Total Precipitation (mm)	13.4	19.9	20.0	18.8	42.0	63.7	76.7	76.0	54.6	20.2	3.9	17.2

Source: Environment Canada, 2004 (<http://www.climate.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca>)

1.5 Map of Saskatchewan



1.6 Map of the City of Humboldt

