

NEWS RELEASE

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“For Immediate Release”

HUMBOLDT LEADS CITIES IN HOUSING STARTS PER CAPITA

The City of Humboldt is leading all cities in Saskatchewan in per capita housing starts according to statistics compiled by the Saskatchewan Building Officials Association.

These statistics reflect the period of January to June, 2006 and show Humboldt with **1.74** units per thousand persons, Weyburn is second with **1.55** per thousand persons. Saskatoon is fourth in the province with an average of **1.44** per thousand persons.

Humboldt has recorded 9 single family starts to the end of June, 2006. This is an increase from the 5 starts recorded in the same period during 2005.

City administration expects to see a large increase in construction permit values when amounts for July and August are compiled. Planned construction includes an office complex for Big Sky Farms Inc. and further commercial expansion in the Downtown district which will push permit values well above the five year average.

“It is a tribute to the local area that we are seeing these positive numbers,” explained Mayor Dennis Korte, “our area businesses and industries are strong, healthy and viable and this drives our economic growth and allows for investment by both the private and public sector. We are solidifying our position in the regional and provincial economy for years to come.”

Planned construction of the new St. Elizabeth’s Hospital will ensure that 2007 continues this trend within the City of Humboldt.

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