

## CHAMBER PARTNERS WITH CAN-SASK

In our last newsletter, we had an article informing businesses on the SaskNetWork site through Can-Sask Career & Employment Services. Starting February 1, 2006, the Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce will be going out and promoting this "job bank".

Zina Shewchuk has been hired on a three month contract position for the promotion of the SaskNetWork. This position is funded through the Community Works Program. Phil Smith, Director of the HDCC, states "One of the Action Humboldt initiatives was to create a regional job bank. We envisioned a 'one-stop'

website where all employers within the region could list available jobs, and prospective employees (and their spouses) could pursue available employment in the region. The Sasknet-work website fulfills the initiative and more. It is a free service to employers, it allows employees to search by area and job type, and allows employees to post resumes.

We know the website has already produced results, even generating international inquiries. Our task now is to inform businesses about the Sasknetwork website and to encourage all businesses within the region to utilize the site fully."

Carol Weiman from the Can-Sask Career & Employment Services office in Humboldt, feels that it is great that the Chamber is taking the lead roll on the promotion of the SaskNetWork. The partnership between Career and Employment Services and the Chamber is effective because it allows for an easy connection between employers and workers. On the Sasknetwork website, you will find information on best practices in hiring, interviewing and keeping employees.

For more information on the Sasknetwork, visit the website at [www.sasknetwork.ca](http://www.sasknetwork.ca).

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce went into 2005 with a fairly ambitious set of goals. While we still struggle to meet some of these, the progress on most fronts has been very exciting.

One of the broad goals that we targeted was to work more with partners that have common objectives with the Chamber. These included organizations such as the City of Humboldt, the Carlton Trail REDA, Action Humboldt, and other organizations of the like. Fortunately, we found that this was also the desire of many of these groups. We are now just beginning to discover the benefits of working together with these and other organizations. As you read through this newsletter, you will find a number of areas where partnerships have been cultivated and the initial results.

Our work with CanSask on the job network was started just this year. This was kick started through our involvement with Action Humboldt who was able to identify that this service could be improved in the area.

One project that I personally have found very rewarding has been working with the CTREDA, Sagehill Business Corporation, and Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food on the development of the 'Rural Business Opportunities - Build Your Own Business' seminar to be held later this month. This looks to be an excellent opportunity for would-be rural entrepreneurs to get some quality information on how to build a successful business in the area.

The relationship we have with the City of Humboldt is very important to the Chamber. They have been very inviting to the Chamber's input on items such as the renovations to the campground, upgrades to Main Street, and their tax incentive program. The Chamber Board of Directors has a non-voting position for a City of Humboldt representative and in the past couple of years Councillor Wendy Yaworski has been a welcome addition to our Board providing us with some insight on City initiatives and input on our initiatives.

Working closely with partners will continue to be an important component of the Chamber's mission "To foster an environment in which Humboldt and area businesses can grow and prosper."

Thank you to all of our partners and our members for your support in 2005. We wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2006.



Humboldt & District  
Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 1440  
Humboldt, SK S0K 2A0  
Phone: (306)682-4990  
Email:  
[humboldtchamber@sasktel.net](mailto:humboldtchamber@sasktel.net)

**Website:**  
[www.humboldtchamber.ca](http://www.humboldtchamber.ca)

**President:**  
Larry Durand  
*Ducks Unlimited/Mr. Sub*

**Vice-President:**  
Elaine Cann  
*CURVES*

**Board Chairperson:**  
Susan Noble-Griffeth  
*Scotiabank*

Lance Stockbrugger  
*PricewaterhouseCoopers*

Devin Leonard  
*Dunham Services*

Rob Muench  
*St. Peter's Press*

Shannon Stroeder  
*Chick Allan's Restaurant*

Andy Burgess  
*Carlton Trail Regional  
College*

Phil Smith  
*Membercare Financial  
Services*

Jerry Angelstad  
*Angelstad's Quick Cobbler*

Dean Hergott  
*Mark Seidel's Office*

Aaron Behiel  
*Behiel, Munkler & Will*

Lorrie Bunko  
*Chamber Manager*

## FAREWELL TO LONG-TIME MEMBER: Denim World

Denim World has been in business for nearly 23 years and has been a member of the HDCC ever since. It was first opened as Work World and it's first location was in the Geschaft Centre Mall and then moved over to the Humboldt Mall. Up until 2 years ago the name was changed to Denim World. Denim World has been owned and operated by Denise Silzer for the lifetime of the business.

As of December 31, 2005, this long time retailer will be closing its doors. Denise is semi-retiring and looks forward to spending more time with family. Denise does have some recommendations to anyone that is thinking of opening up a retail store of their own and they are: develop a business plan, be aware of the devotion that running a business will take and owning your own business can be very rewarding in the end.

The Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce would like to wish all the best to Denise and her family and thank her for her loyalty to the HDCC over the years.

# WIDENING OF HIGHWAY #5: SASKATOON—HUMBOLDT

The Saskatchewan Party recently put out a petition for the widening of Highway 5 from Saskatoon to Humboldt. The reasons for the petition are the narrowness of this stretch of highway prevents defensive driving, this highway is the main corridor to Saskatoon, this highway is the main ambulance corridor to a tertiary health centre and that the condition of this highway makes passing hazardous.

The Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce had the opportunity to discuss this petition at the last board meeting and supports the petition. HDCC President Larry Durand states, "This matter is, above all else, a safety issue. In its current state, Highway 5 is not safe enough to adequately meet the needs of business or citizens of the area."

The HDCC would like your thoughts on the widening of Highway #5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon. Please visit the Chamber website at [www.humboldtchamber.ca](http://www.humboldtchamber.ca) where you will find an online poll asking "Are you in favour of the widening of Highway #5 from Saskatoon—Humboldt."

## MANAGER'S REPORT

There has been a lot of activity in the Chamber in the last few months and we are entering 2006 with just as much activity.

At the beginning of November, the HDCC hosted their annual Harvest Fall Showcase. This was a two-day show and we were very pleased with the local involvement in this year's show.

In mid November, the HDCC held a Special Membership Meeting to discuss the current initiatives of the Chamber, future goals and membership rates.

The Chamber then held the first Annual Festive Fun Day which consisted of a Christmas Parade and a free Matinee at Golden West Cinema for children. This Christmas Promotion took place on the first Saturday of December.

A couple of directors which were Aaron Behiel and Dean Hergott and myself then held a meeting with the Doctor Recruiting Committee in December to find common objectives. The outcome of this meeting was positive and we recognize the amount of work that this committee has been doing.

As for upcoming plans, the Chamber along with partners is planning the Build Your Own Business Seminar which will be taking place on January 18, 2006. The Mark of Excellence Awards are coming up in February and we have also partnered with Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan for a special luncheon in February.

Aside from these activities, the Tourist Booth committee and myself were quite busy to find my replacement. On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, we are pleased to announce that Heather Lins will be the interim Chamber Manager and starts her position on January 9. Heather brings to the Chamber a wealth of knowledge of Humboldt and area, training in Tourism and a wonderful personality.

Since this will be the last newsletter that I will be reporting in for a while, I would like to thank the board of directors for their support and direction that they have provided me, I would like to thank the membership at large for their respect and the open lines of communication that we have developed and also to the City of Humboldt and CTREDA for the close working relationship that we have developed. I am enjoying my position with the Chamber and I look forward to my return. *Have a prosperous new year!!*



### Rural Business Opportunities Build Your Own Business

An event for rural entrepreneurs who are developing, or are interested in developing, a new business venture or enterprise in their community or on the farm.

January 18, 2006  
9:00—4:15  
Bella Vista Inn

#### Guest Speakers:

Al Scholz, Agrivision Corp.  
Tom Allen, U of S  
Melanie Boldt, Pine View Farms  
Kevin Hursch, Hursch Consulting

For more information, visit [www.humboldtchamber.ca](http://www.humboldtchamber.ca) under "Chamber Events"  
To register, phone 1-888-732-8999

#### Sponsored By:

Sask. Agriculture and Food  
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada  
Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce CARDS  
AIMS  
Carlton Trail REDA  
Sagehill Development Corp.

## UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

January 18  
BYOB Seminar  
Rural Business Opportunities

February 10  
Mark of Excellence Awards

February 14  
Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan Luncheon

*For more information, please contact the Chamber office at 682-4990.*