Meadow Lake Saskatchewan

Meadow Lake is a city in the <u>boreal forest</u> of northwestern <u>Saskatchewan</u>, <u>Canada</u>. Its location is about 246 km (153 mi) northeast of <u>Lloydminster</u> and 156 km (97 mi) north of <u>North</u> <u>Battleford^[1]</u> Meadow Lake has a population of 5,344 people (2016). On November 9, 2009, it officially became Saskatchewan's 14th city.^[2]

Meadow Lake is the main business centre of northwestern Saskatchewan and serves the many towns and villages as a regional shopping centre. The city borders the <u>Rural Municipality of</u> <u>Meadow Lake No. 588</u> and the <u>Flying Dust First Nation No. 105</u> reserves. (3)

Economy

Tourism, fishing, fur, pulpwood, forestry, agricultural grains, livestock, dairy and poultry product industries all support Meadow Lake. Currently the city's industry is dominated by forestry and related service companies, including trucking and forestry management companies. The forest companies include NorSask Forest Products Inc., Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp Ltd. and the Meadow Lake OSB Limited Partnership. Support industries include Mistik Management and various privately held trucking companies.

Meadow Lake acts as a business hub providing services for the smaller surrounding communities of Dorintosh and Rapid View and surrounding reserves including the Flying Dust First Nation and the Eagles Lake reserve.

A major component of the Meadow Lake economy is the First Nation communities and their relative success. Flying Dust Reserve directly borders the town. Meadow Lake Tribal Council headquarters is operated out of Flying Dust. It is made up of 9 different Communities both Woodland Cree & Dene First Nations (serving approximately 8000 band members). Flying Dust owns and operates many of the city's most profitable industries, including direct ownership of NorSask Forest Products Inc., a portion of the Meadow Lake OSB Partnership, stakes in local trucking and service companies, and a sizeable farming operation which is currently limited to leasing the vast amounts of local property they own or have title on.

The community's agricultural community is also sizeable, including both cereal production and ranching operations. The most pristine agricultural lands are closest to the city, whereas the surrounding areas become less suitable for farming and more amenable to ranching towards the north & the east to the St. Cyr Hills. The city boasts one stockyard and two major agricultural equipment dealers.

Medical Services

Meadow Lake is home to the Northwest Health Facility: a 45 bed hospital, lab facilities, X-ray, Public Health services, Homecare services, Mental Health & Addictions services, Physio/Occupational therapy, Speech/Language services & a Primary Care clinic.

Education

Meadow Lake is part of the Northwest School Division & is served by a High school, Junior High school, 3 Elementary schools (one being grade 5&6 only), and <u>North West Regional College</u>,^[31] which offers courses at both the college and university levels. University courses, including complete, community-based <u>Bachelor of Education</u> and <u>Master of Education</u> programs are offered by the <u>University of Regina</u>. Academy of Learning AOL is a post secondary career and business college in Meadow Lake.^[33] For the school year 2007-2008, Lakeview Elementary School started a much anticipated French Immersion Program which is now expanding into the high school.

Local media

Newspaper:

The *Northern Pride* is a weekly newspaper based in Meadow Lake and services northwest Saskatchewan.

Radio:

<u>CJNS-FM</u> 102.3 and <u>CFDM-FM</u> 105.7 are the local radio stations. The town is also served by <u>CBKM-FM</u> 98.5, a repeater of CBK-AM 540 in <u>Watrous</u>.

Transportation

Meadow Lake is located on <u>SK Highway 55</u>, and <u>SK Highway 4</u>. <u>Meadow Lake Airport</u> (<u>IATA</u>: YLJ, <u>ICAO</u>: CYLJ) is located 2 <u>NM</u> (3.7 km; 2.3 mi) west of Meadow Lake.

Local Churches & Outreach

Meadow Lake has several different denominations (Christian & Missionary Alliance, Northwest Community Church, Evangelical Free, Lutheran/Anglican joint services, The Bridge, United church of Canada, Catholic) Door of Hope is a locally run outreach/food bank. Meadow Lake Thrift Mission Bethel Gospel Camp (Meadow Lake Provincial Park) Silver Birch Camp (Loon Lake Provincial Park)

Sites of interest

Meadow Lake's slogan is "Gateway to Pure Air and Water." Meadow Lake now has a Tourist Information Centre, which is shared by the Meadow Lake Museum Society, Northern Saskatchewan Tourism, and the Meadow Lake Chamber of Commerce. This is located coming into town on highway #4 S.

- Lions Park, in Meadow Lake, is a favorite destination for active people. Adjacent to the local high school, it houses track & field facilities, a football field, several ball diamonds, playgrounds, walking trails, outdoor exercise equipment, Frisbee golf, a tobogganing hill, campground, & an outdoor amphitheatre.

- Meadow Lake has several other sports facilities: A curling Rink, 2 Arenas for hockey & other events, Stampede grounds, a community swimming pool with spray-park & an 18 hole golf course.
- Meadow Lake has several community gardens with space available for garden lots.

A listing of all the recreational groups in Meadow Lake can be obtained from Meadow Lake City Hall. Phone 306-236-3622 (ext 200) or email <u>reception@meadowlake.ca</u>

<u>Meadow Lake Provincial Park</u>, is located about 40 km north of the city. It is a favorite destination for camping, fishing, canoeing/ kayaking & other boating activities. Nesset Lake Recreation Site, Loon Lake Provincial Park and Saint Cyr Hills Trails Recreation Site are other parks in the vicinity.

Real Estate Listings

www.point2homes.com/CA/Real-Estate-Listings/SK/Meadow-Lake.html

http://remaxmeadowlake.com/

Stats Canada-demographics

http://www.city-data.com/canada/Meadow-Lake-Town.html

http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/as-sa/fogs-spg/Facts-csdeng.cfm?LANG=Eng&GK=CSD&GC=4717052

Meadow Lake City Website

http://meadowlake.ca/

Meadow Lake is a growing community in Northwest Saskatchewan.

Its slogan "Gateway to Pure Air & Water" is fitting, as it is truly a "gateway" city to the north. There are dozens of small villages, reserves & rural communities that come to shop, go to school & utilize the medical facilities in Meadow Lake.

Meadow Lake is called a city, but it really has a small town atmosphere. Many families have lived here for generations. It's fun finding out who is related to who.

Meadow Lake has a growing international community. There are well over 200 Filipino's now living in the community, along with many other nationalities (lower than the national average), such as Iranian, Pakistani, East Indian, Korea....

Meadow Lake is close to half aboriginal/Metis in its make-up. Meadow Lake & area has a large lower income group, along with many single parent households (this area of Canada actually being the highest per capita in the country). There is a higher than average population of young children 0-14 years of age.