

	<b>CALCULATION OF DISTANCES TO COMMUNITIES</b>		<i>Issued: NOV 2007</i>
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<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

### General

Motorists rely on guide signs to help them navigate the highway network and arrive at their desired destination. A part of guiding motorists to their destination is providing information on the distance to communities.

To reliably display distances to given communities on highway guide signs, the department must have a consistently applied practice for the calculation of these distances.

### Standard

In the past, the department has used the distance to the main town post office, rounded to the nearest kilometre, to measure the distance to the community. This practice was easy to apply when each town had a main post office, typically located in the central business district of a community.

Main post offices are becoming less common, and can less frequently be used as a consistent landmark for distance referencing.

For determining future distances to communities, the department is now using the approximate centre of the Central Business District (CBD) or a public building such as: town/city hall, courthouse, or post office as the measurement reference point. Distances continue to be measured to the nearest kilometre along the shortest arterial route.

The following chart was established to identify the reference point in cities and towns with populations over 10,000. This reference point will remain the same regardless of whether or not the CBD centre or post office changes locations over time.

### Guidelines for Use

Distances to communities are used on Destination Distance signs and Combinational Directional/Distance guide signs as outlined in the Highway Guide and Information Sign Manual.

### References to Standards

<i>Highway Guide and Information Sign Manual</i> A4.5.13	Destination Distance Signs
A4.5.14	Combination Directional/Distance Signs at Minor Intersections

<b>Cities</b>	<b>Reference Points</b>
Airdrie	1 <sup>st</sup> Street & 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue
Brooks	Centre Street & 1st Avenue W
Calgary	6th Street & 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SW
Camrose	50 <sup>th</sup> Avenue & 49 <sup>th</sup> Street
Cold Lake	52nd Street & 51st Avenue
Edmonton	98 <sup>th</sup> Street & 103 <sup>rd</sup> A Avenue
Fort Saskatchewan	100 Avenue & 103 Street
Grande Prairie	100 <sup>th</sup> Street & 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Leduc	50 <sup>th</sup> Avenue & 50 <sup>th</sup> Street
Lethbridge	4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue S & 7 <sup>th</sup> Street S
Lloydminster	46th Street & 49th Avenue
Medicine hat	5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue & 1 <sup>st</sup> Street SE
Red Deer	49 <sup>th</sup> Avenue & 49 <sup>th</sup> Street
Spruce Grove	King Street & 1st Avenue
St. Albert	St. Thomas Street & Perron Street
Wetaskiwin	51 <sup>st</sup> Street & 48 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
<b>Special Urban Municipalities</b>	<b>Reference Points</b>
Sherwood Park	Sherwood Drive & Granada Boulevard
Fort McMurray	Hardin Street & Franklin Avenue
<b>Large Towns or Municipalities (&gt;10,000 population)</b>	<b>Reference Points</b>
Canmore	8th Street & 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Cochrane	Centre Avenue & 1 <sup>st</sup> Street E
Okotoks	Clark Avenue & McRae Street
Stony Plain	53 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue & 50th Street
Strathmore	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue