

For immediate release

Housing Supply Not Keeping Pace with Demand in Most BC Regions

Vancouver, BC - June 13, 2017. The British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA) reports that a total of 12,402 residential unit sales were recorded by the Multiple Listing Service® (MLS®) in May, down 7.9 per cent from the same period last year. Total sales dollar volume was \$9.33 billion, down 4.0 per cent from May 2017. The average MLS® residential price in the province was \$752,536, a 4.2 per cent increase from the same period last year.

"Market conditions have tightened considerably this spring as an upturn in consumer demand has not been accompanied by a rise in homes listed for sale," said Cameron Muir, BCREA Chief Economist. "The supply of homes for sale in the province has fallen 50 per cent over the past five years."

MLS® Residential Market Conditions **British Columbia**



"The entire southern portion of the

province is experiencing a shortage of housing supply, which makes continuing upward pressure on home prices inevitable, at least in the near term," added Muir. Total active listings in the province were down 11.1 per cent to 28,404 units from May 2016. The ratio of home sales to active listings was well over 20 per cent in nine of the province's 11 real estate boards, and over 50 per cent in Vancouver, the Fraser Valley, Chilliwack and Victoria.

Year-to-date, BC residential sales dollar volume was down 25.2 per cent to \$30.6 billion, when compared with the same period in 2016. Residential unit sales declined 20.1 per cent to 43,158 units, while the average MLS® residential price was down 5.7 per cent to \$709,541.

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May 2017 Residential Average Price, Active Listings and Sales-to-Active-Listings Data by Board

| Board | Average Price | | | , | Active Listings | Sales-to-Active-Listings | | |
|--------------------|--|--|-------------|---|---|--------------------------|--|--|
| | May 2017 Residential Average Price (\$) | May 2016 Residential Average Price (\$) | % change | May 2017 Residential Active Listings (Units) | May 2016 Residential Active Listings (Units) | % change | May 2017 Residential Sales to Active Listings (%) | May 2016 Residential Sales to Active Listings (%) |
| BC Northern | 283,928 | 271,061 | 4.7 | 2,597 | 2,998 | -13.4 | 19.5 | 14.5 |
| Chilliwack | 457,956 | 414,653 | 10.4 | 936 | 947 | -1.2 | 54.6 | 55.9 |
| Fraser Valley | 740,438 | 724,332 | 2.2 | 4,009 | 4,381 | -8.5 | 64.4 | 63.7 |
| Greater Vancouver | 1,110,376 | 1,055,495 | 5.2 | 8,816 | 8,431 | 4.6 | 50.2 | 58.2 |
| Kamloops | 377,355 | 352,174 | 7.2 | 1,306 | 1,805 | -27.6 | 28.5 | 19.2 |
| Kootenay | 309,652 | 275,365 | 12.5 | 2,257 | 2,678 | -15.7 | 16.5 | 11.1 |
| Okanagan Mainline | 513,492 | 486,636 | 5.5 | 3,140 | 3,752 | -16.3 | 36.1 | 32 |
| Powell River | 280,044 | 274,155 | 2.1 | 125 | 130 | -3.8 | 28.8 | 48.5 |
| South Okanagan | 394,844 | 387,647 | 1.9 | 973 | 1,196 | -18.6 | 33.4 | 27.2 |
| Northern Lights | 239,420 | 274,188 | -12.7 | 433 | 417 | 3.8 | 8.5 | 3.8 |
| Vancouver Island | 436,466 | 394,817 | 10.5 | 2,443 | 3,502 | -30.2 | 46.8 | 37.5 |
| Victoria | 674,237 | 585,994 | 15.1 | 1,369 | 1,731 | -20.9 | 69.8 | 71.1 |
| Provincial Totals* | 752,536 | 722,020 | 4.2 | 28,404 | 31,968 | -11.1 | 43.7 | 42.1 |

^{*}Numbers may not add due to rounding

May 2017 BC Residential Multiple Listing Service® Data by Board

| | Doll | ar Volume (000s) | | Units | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|--|--|----------|--|
| Board | May 2017 Residential Sales (\$) | May 2016 Residential Sales (\$) | % change | May 2017 Residential Sales (Units) | May 2016 Residential Sales (Units) | % change | |
| BC Northern | 143,951 | 118,183 | 21.8 | 507 | 436 | 16.3 | |
| Chilliwack | 234,016 | 219,352 | 6.7 | 511 | 529 | -3.4 | |
| Fraser Valley | 1,912,552 | 2,021,611 | -5.4 | 2,583 | 2,791 | -7.5 | |
| Greater Vancouver | 4,913,414 | 5,182,480 | -5.2 | 4,425 | 4,910 | -9.9 | |
| Kamloops | 140,376 | 122,204 | 14.9 | 372 | 347 | 7.2 | |
| Kootenay | 115,191 | 81,508 | 41.3 | 372 | 296 | 25.7 | |
| Okanagan Mainline | 582,300 | 584,937 | -0.5 | 1,134 | 1,202 | -5.7 | |
| Powell River | 10,082 | 17,272 | -41.6 | 36 | 63 | -42.9 | |
| South Okanagan | 128,324 | 125,985 | 1.9 | 325 | 325 | 0 | |
| Northern Lights | 8,859 | 4,387 | 101.9 | 37 | 16 | 131.3 | |
| Vancouver Island | 499,317 | 518,395 | -3.7 | 1,144 | 1,313 | -12.9 | |
| Victoria | 644,570 | 721,359 | -10.6 | 956 | 1,231 | -22.3 | |
| Provincial Totals* | 9,332,951 | 9,717,673 | -4 | 12,402 | 13,459 | -7.9 | |

^{*}Numbers may not add due to rounding

^{**}NOTE: The Northern Lights Real Estate Board (NLREB) became part of the South Okanagan Real Estate Board (SOREB) on May 1, 2011.

May 2017 Year-to-Date BC Residential Multiple Listing Service® Data by Board

| Board | Dollar Volume (000s) | | | Unit Sales | | | Average Price | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------|------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) | % change | 2017 | 2016 | % change | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) | % change |
| BC Northern | 456,219 | 413,337 | 10.4 | 1,650 | 1,572 | 5 | 276,496 | 262,937 | 5.2 |
| Chilliwack | 732,523 | 780,814 | -6.2 | 1,645 | 2,014 | -18.3 | 445,302 | 387,693 | 14.9 |
| Fraser Valley | 6,179,206 | 8,589,563 | -28.1 | 9,077 | 12,137 | -25.2 | 680,754 | 707,717 | -3.8 |
| Greater Vancouver | 16,149,318 | 23,810,445 | -32.2 | 15,688 | 21,937 | -28.5 | 1,029,406 | 1,085,401 | -5.2 |
| Kamloops | 467,237 | 421,849 | 10.8 | 1,300 | 1,249 | 4.1 | 359,413 | 337,749 | 6.4 |
| Kootenay | 356,071 | 285,138 | 24.9 | 1,175 | 1,064 | 10.4 | 303,039 | 267,987 | 13.1 |
| Okanagan Mainline | 1,771,629 | 1,811,131 | -2.2 | 3,652 | 4,024 | -9.2 | 485,112 | 450,082 | 7.8 |
| Powell River | 43,438 | 45,294 | -4.1 | 146 | 170 | -14.1 | 297,517 | 266,433 | 11.7 |
| South Okanagan | 381,424 | 356,263 | 7.1 | 999 | 1,000 | -0.1 | 381,806 | 356,263 | 7.2 |
| Northern Lights | 37,579 | 21,033 | 78.7 | 156 | 84 | 85.7 | 240,893 | 250,390 | -3.8 |
| Vancouver Island | 1,638,647 | 1,694,145 | -3.3 | 3,910 | 4,475 | -12.6 | 419,091 | 378,580 | 10.7 |
| Victoria | 2,409,084 | 2,726,305 | -11.6 | 3,760 | 4,731 | -20.5 | 640,714 | 576,264 | 11.2 |
| Provincial Totals* | 30,622,372 | 40,955,316 | -25.2 | 43,158 | 54,457 | -20.7 | 709,541 | 752,067 | -5.7 |

^{*} Numbers may not add due to rounding

BCREA is the professional association for over 22,000 REALTORS® in BC, focusing on provincial issues that impact real estate. Working with the province's 11 real estate boards, BCREA provides continuing professional education, advocacy, economic research and standard forms to help Realtors provide value for their clients.

To demonstrate the profession's commitment to improving <u>Quality of Life</u> in BC communities, BCREA supports policies that help ensure economic vitality, provide housing opportunities, preserve the environment, protect property owners and build better communities with good schools and safe neighbourhoods.

For detailed statistical information, contact your <u>local real estate board</u>. MLS® is a cooperative marketing system used only by Canada's real estate boards to ensure maximum exposure of properties listed for sale.