



BRITISH COLUMBIA
REAL ESTATE
ASSOCIATION



For Immediate Release

GROW-OPS ADDED TO PROPERTY DISCLOSURE

VANCOUVER, BC - The Board of Directors of the British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA) has decided to amend the Property Disclosure Statement, requiring sellers to indicate whether a property has been used as a marijuana grow operation or to manufacture illegal drugs.

“Grow ops and illegal drug operations can produce property defects and other hazards that are major concerns for the public,” says David Herman, BCREA President. “We made this decision in consultation with our member boards and Inspector Paul Nadeau of the RCMP, who’s responsible for the combined police effort to battle grow-ops and illegal drugs in BC.”

New questions will be added to two province-wide forms known as Property Disclosure Statements; one for residential properties, the other for strata title properties. The statements provide a written review of the condition of a property for sale.

The new questions are as follows:

Residential: Are you aware if the premises or property have been used as a marijuana grow operation or to manufacture illegal drugs?

Strata title: Are you aware if the unit has been used as a marijuana grow operation or to manufacture illegal drugs?

These changes will be added to the electronic forms in the next few days.

BCREA’s two largest members, the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley Real Estate Board, requested the change in December 2003 in response to REALTORS’ concerns over the issue.

The Property Disclosure Statement was introduced in 1990. Many issues affect the condition of a property, and BCREA routinely considers requests for additions to the statement. Changes are only made when a matter of particular importance and broad impact is raised.

BCREA represents 12 member real estate boards and their nearly 13,000 REALTORS on all provincial issues, providing an extensive communications network, required licensing and continuing education courses, standard forms and government relations.

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