

For immediate release

Home Sales Up Slightly in September

Vancouver, BC – October 15, 2004. September gave way to an upturn in the value of BC homes sold on the Multiple Listing Service®, according to the British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA). A total of \$2.29 billion worth of homes changed hands last month, which is a 1.12 per cent increase compared to September 2003. Year over year, unit sales dropped to 7,925 from 8,436.

"Autumn is typically a busier time in the real estate market," says BCREA President Gordon Maroney, a REALTOR for nearly 20 years. "Both unit sales and dollar volume are up from August, which demonstrates ongoing demand and consumer confidence."

Year-to-date sales have reached 76,716 units, worth \$22 billion—a 19.98 per cent improvement in dollar volume, and a 6.82 per cent jump in unit sales, over the first nine months of 2003.

"Positive job growth and migration into BC, in addition to continuing low interest rates, mean the real estate market will remain strong for the foreseeable future," says Maroney. "We're well on track to top last year's record home sales."

Though economic conditions vary around the province, ten of the 12 BC real estate boards reported increased dollar volume sales compared to September 2003, while eight noted an increase in unit sales.

BCREA represents 12 member real estate boards and their more than 13,500 REALTORS on all provincial issues, providing an extensive communications network, required licensing and continuing education courses, standard forms and government relations. For detailed statistical information, contact your local real estate board.

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Multiple Listing Service® - September 2004 - BC Residential Sales Data

	Sept. '04	Sept. '03	Per Cent	Sept. '04	Sept. '03	Per Cent
	Residential	Residential	Change	Residential	Residential	Change
	Sales (\$)	Sales (\$)		Sales (Units)	Sales (Units)	
Provincial Totals	2,285,094,857	2,259,755,000	1.12%	7,925	8,436	-6.06%

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For more information, please contact:

Gordon Maroney, president, 604.290.6635 Norma Miller, director of communications, 604.742.2789