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February home sales rise as buyers scoop up first of the 2022 spring listings



Statistics released by the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) show national home sales were up in February 2022 as buyers jumped on the first batch of spring listings.

Home sales recorded over Canadian MLS® Systems climbed 4.6% between January and February 2022. The monthly increase in activity was likely the result of a rebound in new listings in February following big a decline in January. As such, stronger activity may persist as late-February new listings continue to sell in March.

Sales were up in about 60% of local markets in February, led by some big jumps in Calgary and Edmonton, as well as a gain ahead of the national increase in the GTA.

The actual (not seasonally adjusted) number of transactions in February 2022 came in 8.2% below the monthly record set in 2021. That said, as was the case in January and throughout the second half of 2021, it was still the second-highest level on record for that month.

How to stay safe during your next road trip



(NC) Feeling housebound and restless from the pandemic? A road trip may be just what

you need. It's the perfect opportunity to explore places closer to home that you may not have considered otherwise.

Plus, the feeling you'll get on the open road, listening to your favourite music and enjoying the sights, will surely give you a lift. Before heading out, here are some tips to make your trip as smooth as possible:

Plan your route

First, decide where you want to go and any attractions you'd like to see along the way. Plan your route accordingly, taking into consideration gas or recharging stations, rest stops and dining options. Get tickets or make reservations ahead of time for any attractions, restaurants or hotels you'd like to visit to ensure availability. Before setting off, check the weather forecasts, as well as road closures or any restrictions along your planned route.

Car maintenance

Before embarking on a road trip, ensure your car is in top shape. You'll want to check that your tires are in good condition, there are no unusual noises while braking, fluid levels are normal, the wipers are working and that everything is in good order.

This is also a good time to familiarize yourself with the driver assistance features of your car. From blind-spot warnings to cameras, sensors and adaptive cruise control, these features are a great aid. But it's important to know how they will warn you or intervene, and also when they might not work properly, like in bad weather or with poor visibility. Transport Canada recommends reviewing these features in the owner's manual or on the manufacturer's website.

Communicate

Let family and friends know the route you're taking, as well as your destination and the timeline for your trip. Stay in contact throughout the road trip, sending quick updates as you stop at different landmarks or attractions.

Vehicle Safety Kit

Consider keeping a vehicle safety kit in your vehicle that may include first aid items, food, tools, flares, reflective safety items, and provisions that can keep you warm. Kits can be purchased at retailers.

www.newscanada.com

Have mortgage questions? I'm here to help you!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. It would be a pleasure to assist you or any one of your friends or family members!

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