

For Immediate Release

BC REALTORS® Adapt “Open House” Practices to Protect Consumers

Vancouver, BC – July 8, 2020. The British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA), the Real Estate Council of British Columbia, and the Office of the Superintendent of Real Estate, with support from WorkSafeBC, have developed [guidance](#) to support BC’s REALTORS® in adapting traditional “open house” practices to keep consumers safe. While BC has entered Phase 3 of its Restart Plan, it will be anything but business as usual for Realtors and consumers when it comes to resuming open houses.

“Realtors will continue taking every opportunity to use technology to reduce in-person contact, for example, through virtual showings and executing documents remotely,” says Darlene Hyde, BCREA Chief Executive Officer. “When it comes to resuming open houses, this guidance will support Realtors in adapting their practices to help ensure the safety of their clients and the broader public.”

The guidance is not about a return to normal but adapting to a new normal. Recommendations include limiting open house attendees to serious buyers by leveraging technology tools and screening for qualifying consumers; encouraging pre-registration and/or scheduling attendance; having assistance to ensure physical distancing measures are followed inside and outside the home; and other considerations for multi-tenanted properties.

Consumers attending an open house should also be prepared to adhere to safety protocols. The guidance recommends that all open house attendees, including Realtors, wear a mask and minimize physical contact with the home. Recommendations also include limiting the number of individuals allowed in the home at one time and encouraging consumers to wait in their car or line up outside while maintaining physical distancing from other waiting consumers.

“As we cautiously move ahead with Phase 3 of BC’s Restart Plan, Realtors look forward to working with consumers to keep BC communities safe,” adds Hyde.

To view the guidance for safely resuming open houses, please [click here](#).

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About BCREA

[BCREA](#) is the professional association for about 23,000 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 Quality of Life in BC communities, BCREA supports policies that help ensure economic vitality, providing housing opportunities, preserve the environment, protect property owners and build better communities with good schools and safe neighbourhoods.