

BC NORTHERN REAL ESTATE BOARD



November 17, 2017

News Release

The BC Northern Real Estate Board supports many of the rule changes recently announced by the Superintendent, but is disappointed in the banning of limited dual agency without clear practice guidelines for small offices.

“The new rules are a response to problems arising in the very large and very busy lower-mainland market”, notes BC Northern President John Evans. “Unfortunately, with limited dual agency gone, what is left are agency rules designed for larger offices and we are a board of small offices.”

BC Northern Vice-President, Court Smith, notes: “I broker a small office in Williams Lake and have real concerns going forward. According to lawyers and instructors contacted by the Board, the type of agency meant for larger offices just cannot be properly practised in smaller offices. Will I have to close my office and lay off my licensees? I am hopeful that the Superintendent will find a solution soon.”

“What will replace limited dual agency for the smaller office remains unclear at this point,” adds Mr. Evans. “We have asked the Office of the Superintendent of Real Estate to consider the issue and we hope to receive some guidance.”

The BC Northern Real Estate Board strongly supports the rule changes clarifying licensee disclosure requirements to consumers. In fact, the new rules largely codify information REALTORS® provide now.

Stronger licensee education is also supported by the Board. BC Northern already requires members to take more education than is currently required by the Real Estate Council of British Columbia and believes additional Superintendent-mandated courses will benefit the profession.

The members of the BC Northern Real Estate Board are committed to improving the Quality of Life in their communities. The BC Northern Real Estate Board supports growth which encourages economic vitality, provides housing opportunities and builds communities with good schools and safe neighbourhoods. The REALTOR® members of the BC Northern Real Estate Board serve the real estate needs of the communities from Fort Nelson in the north to 70 Mile House in the south and from the Alberta border to Haida Gwaii.

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