

BC NORTHERN REAL ESTATE BOARD



November 6, 2020

News Release

BCNREB Supports Temporary Halt to Open Houses

The BC Northern Real Estate Board supports the call to temporarily halt Open Houses, as recommended by the real estate regulatory agencies and the British Columbia Real Estate Association on November 5, 2020.

“Many of our members have already stopped Open Houses and have moved to virtual options, such as virtual Open Houses, expanded virtual tours or modified showings,” states President Shawna Kinsley. “Listings may also be designated “no showings” while remaining on the MLS® system. If you are a buyer or seller, please speak to your REALTOR® about COVID-19 preparedness.”

BC Northern REALTORS® have long developed, and recently updated, guidelines for real estate practices such as showings, in accordance with health authority orders and guidance from WorkSafeBC, the regulators and the provincial association. President Kinsley notes, “Buyers and sellers will have seen changes to how properties are previewed and showed – changes intended to ensure the health and well-being of consumers during extraordinary times.”

REALTORS® moved to virtual options at the start of the pandemic in March and quickly adopted requirements for social distancing, sanitizing and health and travel questions during showings. “We have long adapted to the realities of COVID”, added President Kinsley. “The temporary halt to Open Houses is not expected to affect northern or north central markets.”

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