



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
REAL ESTATE  
ASSOCIATION

## **For immediate release**

### **January Home Sales Mark Brisk Start to 2006**

**Vancouver, BC – February 17, 2006.** It was a busy start to the year for BC realtors, as January's residential sales figures remained well above January's month-end totals for 2005.

The British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA) reports 5,238 homes, worth more than \$1.92 billion, were sold in the province on the Multiple Listing Service® (MLS®) in January 2006—a 42.3 per cent increase in dollar volume and a 13.2 per cent hike in the number of units sold during the same month last year. Nine of the 12 real estate boards reported at least a double-digit percentage increase in dollar volume sales over January 2005; seven boards reported a boost of at least 25 per cent.

“Last month's figures are yet another example of a consistently strong real estate market here in BC, as many regions continue to report significant increases in activity,” said BCREA President Dave Barclay. “British Columbians throughout the province have a great deal of confidence in our economic future, and they know that investing in real estate and the dream of homeownership is a big part of that future.”

A study prepared by Clayton Research Associates Limited found the average BC home sold on the MLS® between 2002 and 2004 triggered an estimated \$27,873 in additional spending, including legal fees, moving expenses, furniture and appliance purchases and taxes.

BCREA represents 12 member real estate boards and their more than 15,000 realtors on all provincial issues, providing an extensive communications network, standard forms, government relations, required post-licensing courses and continuing education. To demonstrate the profession's commitment to improving Quality of Life in BC communities, BCREA supports growth that encourages economic vitality, provides housing opportunities and builds communities with good schools and safe neighbourhoods.

For detailed statistical information, contact your [local real estate board](#). MLS® is a cooperative marketing system used only by Canada's real estate boards to ensure maximum exposure of properties listed for sale.

**Multiple Listing Service® - January 2006 - BC Residential Sales Data**

	Jan. '06 Residential Sales (\$)	Jan. '05 Residential Sales (\$)	Per Cent Change	Jan. '06 Residential Sales (Units)	Jan. '05 Residential Sales (Units)	Per Cent Change
Provincial Totals	1,923,012,011**	1,350,967,760	42.34%	5,238**	4,626	13.23%

\*\*Note: January 2006 residential dollar volume and unit sales totals do not include information from the BC Northern Real Estate Board (BCNREB), which is currently unavailable.

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**For more information, please contact:**

Dave Barclay, President, 250.847.5999 or 250.847.0365

Kyle Thom, Communications Coordinator, 604.742.2784