YOUR HOUSE YOUR HOUSE YOUR

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO CENTRAL ALBERTA REAL ESTATE | NOVEMBER 9, 2018



27/240 Township Road 392, #306

WOW!

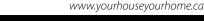
Sophisticated living in a country setting. What a unique find! 2 acre acreage within minutes of Red Deer, all on pavement!

\$724,900

For further info on this multiple listing service home, see page 11 or contact a member of the Red Deer Real Estate Board.



View our complete publication ONLINE at www.yourhouseyourhome.com









Pegasus beauty! 4 beds, 3 baths, granite counters, air conditioning, wet bar, ensuite & so much more!



Immaculate condition, fully finished 4 bdrms, 2 baths, all new plumbing and electrical.

Bett Portelance 403-307-5581





65 ABEL CLOSE, RED DEER

1201 SQ FT, 2 STOREY TOWNHOUSE, 3 BDR, 2 BATHS \$252,900

HELPING YOU MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE ROYALLEPAGE

TAKE THE 3D TOUR OF MY PROPERTIES AT www.geralddore.ca or call me at 403-872-4505



Gerald Doré 403.872.4505



84 KERSHAW CLOSE MASSIVE YARD WITH ROOM FOR LARGE SHOP AND RY! 2100 sq. ft. 2 storey w/ bonus rm. and 3 beds, 3 baths, laminate, dble. att. gar. Fully fenced yard & rare massive size! MLS#CA0146883



19 VOISIN CLOSE Listed below replacement cost! 1565 sq. ft. Executive Bungalow - loaded to the "nines" including triple, heated garage! MLS#CA0142825



trails. 4 beds, 2 boths, new windows, 2 fireplaces, heated oversized, garage, maple kitchen with granite, many upgrades. MLS#CA0149229



132 & 140 BOWMAN CIRCLE Mortgage helper/ investment opportunity! Two almost brand new 1000 sq. ft. home with legal suite - separate entrances and utilities with parking. Ease to rent near schools and parks. MLS#CA147003

NEW LISTING! Only \$474,900! 74 WILTSHIRE BOULEVARD

Location, location! In West Park Estates - just off the River Valley and bike paths! Beautiful 2136 sq. ft. two-storey with large yard & many recent upgrades! 3 beds & 4 baths. ML\$#CA0150861.



5830 59A STREET 6 beds, 3 baths many upgrades on the main level of this 1280 sq. ft. bungalow. 2 Non-comforming suites. MLS# CA0151347



0nly/\$949,900! 4756 56 STREET

Bowood 2 Storey home - right on the Red Deer River valley. Huge lot and over-sized heated garage. Too many options to list! MLS# CA0148687



OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY NOV. 10, 1:00-3:00 PM

4233 40A AVENUE

1000 sq. Ft 5 beds, 2 baths, det. garage, RV pad, lots of renos, big fenced yard. MLS# CA0150860



Steve Cormack 403.391.1672 Trusted, Respected, Connected



Network Realty Corp.

403-346-8900 3608-50 Ave www.stevecormackrealestate.ca



22303 HIGHWAY 21 HIGHWAY #10,

RED DEER COUNTY

Spectacular home w/ 825 ft of Red Deer

riverfront w/stunning views. 6.95 acres with

shop. \$2,399,000



3425 **51 AVENUE**, **RED DEER** Attn Investors! Fully rented **TRIPLEX** near hospital. \$789,900



3510 **51 AVENUE**, **RED DEER** Attn Investors! Fully rented **TRIPLEX Near** hospital. \$739,900



19 TOWERS CLOSE, RED DEER Sprawling bungalow offers luxury at an affordable price. \$688,900



5 Bedroom bungalow in desired area. \$444,900



BLACKFALDS Fully finished! Hot tub, theatre room,A/C \$439,900



#234 EBELING BEACH, GULL LAKE The peace and quiet of lake life, with all the luxuries of the city! \$385.000



4911 51 STREET, ALIX Drive a little, save a LOT! \$179,900



148 REICHLEY STREET, RED DEER Spacious Bi level with 2 garages! \$444,900



30 AURORA HEIGHTS BOULEVARD, BLACKFALDS Elegant Abbey Platinum built 2 storey is waiting for you! \$334,900



4800 WESTBROOKE ROAD. **BLACKFALDS** 5 Bed home priced well under 300k is definitely worth a look! \$281,900



4714A 55 STREET #103. **RED DEER** 2 bedroom unit close to schools and shopping. \$93,500





433 6 AVENUE, ELNORA Near new home with full suite. Sellers say "Bring your offer or trades!" \$224,900



4923 50 STREET, ALIX Outstanding commercial building in Alix \$44,900

Get the best mortgage financing deal

Few people are able to walk into a home, like what they see and then pay for a house in cash. In the vast majority of home purchases, mortgages make the dream of home ownership a reality.

Getting a mortgage requires research and some preparation on the part of borrowers if they hope to get the friendliest terms possible.

Homes are substantial, decades-long investments, so it's smart to shop around to find the best rates and lenders available. These tips can make the process of applying and getting a mortgage go smoothly, and may even help borrowers save some money.

• Learn your credit score. Your credit score will be a factor in determining just how much bargaining power you have for lower interest rates on mortgage loans, according to the financial resource NerdWallet. The higher the credit score, the better. Well before shopping for a mortgage, manage your debt, paying it off if possible, and fix any black marks or mistakes on your credit report.

• **Investigate various lenders.** The Federal Trade Commission says to get information from various sources, whether they are commercial banks, mortgage companies, credit unions, or thrift institutions. Each is likely to quote different rates and prices, and the amount they're willing to lend you may vary as well. Investigating various lenders can help you rest easy knowing you got the best rate for you. Lenders may charge additional fees that can drive up the overall costs associated with getting a mortgage. Compare these fees as well so you can be sure you get the best deal.

• **Consider a mortgage broker.** Mortgage brokers will serve as the middle person in the transaction. A broker's access to several different lenders can translate into a greater array of loan products and terms from which to choose.

• Learn about rates. Become informed of the rate trends in your area. Lower rates translate into significant savings amounts per month and over the life of the Ioan. Rate may be fixed, though some are adjustable-rate mortgages (also called a variable or floating rate). Each has its advantages and disadvantages, and a financial consultant can discuss what might be in your best interest.

• **Discuss points with your financial advisor and lender.** Some lenders allow you to pay points in advance, which will lower the interest rate. Get points quoted in dollar amounts so they'll be easier to compare. If you're unfamiliar with points, discuss the concept with your financial advisor.

The vast majority of homeowners secured a mortgage to purchase their homes. Learning about the mortgage process can help new buyers navigate these sometimes tricky financial waters.





CHEAPER THAN RENTING! Updated 3 bedroom/3 bathroom condo in great location. Immediate possession. \$151,900 CALL BRAD 342-7700.



\$440,000 Investment, Great value! 4 corner style 4-plex on a large 68 x 121 ft lot. All suites have all utilities separately metered. Rent \$800/month.

CALL BRAD 342-7700.



PERFECT STARTER HOME OR RENTAL. 3bdrm/1 bath with 22x26 detached garage, fenced yard in mature neighbourhood. \$209,900 CALL BRAD 342-7700.



BUILDER SAYS SELL THE SHOWHOME! 3 bdrm, 3 bath 2 Storey Family Home in Laredo, w/ vinyl fenced yard, upgraded stainless appliances, walk thru pantry, storage lockers, bonus room, blinds, large garage & more! Priced @ less than appraised value, only \$559,900 CALL NICOLE 342-7700.



NO CONDO FEES in this fully developed 3 bdrm/2 bath townhouse. Comes with all appliances fenced an landscaped yard. **\$219,900 CALL NADINE 342-7700.**



PRIVATE YARD 5 bedroom/2 bathroom updated half duplex perfect for first time buyers or revenue potential. \$222,400 CALL JENNIFER 342-7700.



BRAND NEW 4BDRM/3 BATH BILEVEL with partial basement development. Granite countertops, stainless applicances, vinyl plank flooring PLUS more! \$304,900 CALL JENNIFER 342-7700.





PERFECT FAMILY HOME Be the 1st to live in this 3 bdrm, 3 bath 2 storey, built by Asset Builders. South facing backyard. Room for a large detached garage. **\$314,900 CALL NICOLE 342-7700**

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION Brand new 3bdrm/3bath with stainless appliances, laminateflooring, upstairs laundry, 10 yr warranty - Penhold \$359,900 CALL BRAD 342-7700.

For more info on our listings, check out www.rcrrealestate.com



LEGAL SUITE Executive 3brm/2bath main floor with att'd garage, plus a 1 bdrm basement suite in great Timberlands location \$579,900 CALL NADINE 342-7700.



BACKING ONTO POND Stunning Showhome in Laredo, 4 bdrms, 3 baths, micro office, granite, fireplace, bonus room, covered deck, south facing backyard. Immediate possession. **\$664,900 CALL NICOLE 342-7700.**



THIS WEEK





OPEN HOUSE SAT., 1:00-3:00 PM 51 VICKERS CLOSE, RED DEER \$304,900 2 bedroom/1 bathroom bilevel with undeveloped basement and 22x24 detached garage. Great location in Vanier Woods. CALL NICOLE 342-7700.

OPEN HOUSE SAT., 1:00-3:00 PM 3729 A & B 47TH ST, RED DEER BRAND NEW DUPLEX! Buy 1 side or both! Built by Asset Builders, this 1490 sqft, 3 bdrm, 3 bath ½ duplexes come with 6 appliances, fenced yard, & south facing deck! Immediate possession! \$319,900 CALL NADINE 342-7700.



Home ownership is a dream for people across the globe. Many people save for years before buying their first homes, squirreling away every dollar they can with the hopes they can one day become homeowners.

But thanks to factors beyond their control, even the most devoted savers can sometimes feel like their dream of home ownership may never come true. According to the Pew Research Center, American workers' paychecks are larger than they were 40 years ago, but their purchasing power is essentially the same. Things aren't much different in Canada, where analysis from Statistics Canada and the Bank of Canada has shown that, since 2015, wage growth in Canada has been weaker than in the United States.

Various challenges can make it difficult to buy a home. However, some simple strategies can help prospective home buyers build their savings as they move closer to the day when they can call themselves "homeowners."

Determine where your money is going.

If you're finding it hard to grow your savings, audit your monthly expenses to determine where your money is going. Using exclusively debit or credit cards can simplify this process, as all you need to do is log into your accounts and see how your money was spent over a given period. If you routinely use cash to pay for items, even just to buy coffee on the way to work, keep a notepad handy so you can jot down each expense. Do this for a month and then examine how you spent your money. Chances are you will see various ways to save, and you can then redirect that money into your savings account.

Become a more savvy grocery

shopper. Another great way to save more money is to alter something you already do each month: grocery shopping. If you haven't already, sign up for discount clubs at your local grocer. This is a largely effortless way for shoppers, especially those buying food for families, to save considerable amounts of money. Shopping sales at competing grocery stores also can save money.

• **Dine in more often.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture says that Americans spend, on average, 6 percent of their household budgets on food. However, the USDA also notes that Americans spend 5 percent of their disposable income on dining out. If these figures mirror your spending habits, you can nearly cut your food spending in half by dining out less frequently. That might be a sacrifice for foodies, but it can get you that much closer to buying your own home.

Saving enough money to purchase your first home is a worthy effort that can be made easier by employing a few budget-friendly strategies. www.yourhouseyourhome.ca

COLDWell

BANKCR 9

OnTrack Realty

Friday, November 9, 2018 A7



COLDWELL BANKER 5 OnTrack Realty



403.872.3350 Peggy Lane Associate Broker



Revenue \$\$\$ for the Savvy Investors. Location: Dodd's Lake Community, Innisfail. Bi-Level Style 4 Cornered 4 -Plex, 2001 Construction, has 4-2 bedroom one bath units.Plus patio doors to deck.

din' III

39310 RR 250

OLD FASHION CHARM

Family Size 1166 sq. ft. Country

Style bi-level, 4 beds, 3 baths,

bright inviting kitchen & dining

area. Main floor 4 piece bath &

main floor 3 piece bath, Lower

Level has a three piece bath,

newer flooring through main

and lower level. New furnace &

hot water tank.

\$399,000

Perks + is what you have in this mint condition main floor 2 bed, 2 bath condo. Upgraded dark-walnut engineered hardwood plus ceramic title thru out. Gas FP, air cond., in-floor heating and more.... Drive past then book a showing!

103, 3501-49 AVENUE



Wow! This main floor 2 bdrm condo is affordable. Unit is comfy and cozy as the condo is complimented with in-floor heating and has hat water on demand. 5 appliances are a bonus plus Condominium Fees are \$ 140 per month. Welcome to Condo Living at it's finest! Check this Beauty Out!

CALL PEGGY LANE AT 403-872-3350



Margaret Comeau 4039916399



ATTENTION INVESTORS 8.85 ACRES OF TREED PARADISE! Fully fenced, Mobile

has three additions {Dining room, Porch & large Bedroom} Main Mobile is 980 sq. ft., 1401 with additions. Just 3 km east of Blackfalds on Highway 597. Plenty of space on the property to build a New Home or Shop.



CHARM WITH ECONOMY

Facing a green space, Main floor Features: 2 beds, 4 pc bath, large bright living room, galley kitchen, dining room with covered deck off dining area. Basement Features: Spacious family room, Large bedroom,

3 pc bath, Large Laundry room with storage space.



56 LARNE PLACE, PENHOLD

COMFORTABLE LIFESTYLE

In this bi-level facing a green. Great quiet family area. Just 2 blocks from school. Featues 2 beds on main level, large living room facing west, Kitchen patio windows facing east & deck, great morning sun. UPPER DECK

10'X12', LOWER DECK 12'X 15', 27'x27' garage. Fully fenced.





#36 369 INGLEWOOD DRIVE \$244,900

A well priced and great starter or empty nester home. This immaculate two storey condo offers 3 bdrms (large master with walk-in closet and vaulted ceiling), 1&1/2 bathrooms, hardwood flooring, an open floor plan, 2 assigned parking stalls.

"DALE OFFERS YOU QUALITY SERVICE AND A VERY COMPETITIVE COMMISSION RATE" Call Dale Stuart at 403-302-3107





OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

RED DEER

34 Lawson Close	
65 Able Close	
6009 63A Street	
2 Lawrence Crescent 2:00 - 4:00 pm Jan Carr ROYAL LEPAGE NETWORK	ows
38 Lowden Close	
5942 60 Avenue	ows
5876 69 Street	
15 Carter Close	•
54 Veronica Close	
51 Vickers Close	
178 Webster Drive	
4233 40A Avenue	
192 Vincent Close	
18 Lewis Close	1
212 Terrace Park	
148 Vincent Close	
3729 A & B 47 Street 1:00 – 3:00 pm Nadine Marchand ROYAL CARPET REALTY	
83 Ellis Street	5
36 Neal Close	outh

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

#36 369 Inglewood Dr 1:30 – 4:00 pm Dale Stuart	COLDWELL BANKER ONTRACK.	302-3107 \$244,900 Inglewood West
2 Lawrence Crescent 2:00 – 4:00 pm Jan Carr	ROYAL LEPAGE NETWORK	396-1200 \$349,900 Lancaster Meadows
300 Lampard Crescent 2:00 – 4:00 pm Kevin Durling	ROYAL LEPAGE NETWORK	302-1511 \$439,900 Lancaster Green
20 Ash Close 1:00 – 3:00 pm Kim Fox	RE/MAX	506-7552 \$995,000 Anders Park East
140 Lindman Avenue 1:00 – 3:00 pm Al Sim	RE/MAX	391-1771 \$485,000 Laredo
30 Eakins Crescent 2:00 – 4:00 pm Tracy Thody	ROYAL LEPAGE NETWORK	358-8605 \$354,900 Eastview Estates
4 Drever Close	R/EMAX	396-4005 \$569,900 Deer Park Village

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

521 Wedgewood Ave 12:00 - 3:00 pm Ivan Busenius REMAX ..

OUT OF TOWN

RED DEER

Find your dream house this weekend!

View our complete publication ONLINE at www.yourhouseyourhome.com

A10 Friday, November 9, 2018



Add a pop of purple around the house

Pantone named "Ultra Violet" its color of the year in 2018, helping to create a resurgence in popularity of all things purple. As a result, homeowners who pride themselves on staying on top of the latest trends have increasingly turned to purple when designing their home interiors.

Purple influences can range from the dramatic to the subtle. Here are some ways to embrace purple in your home.

Transition bedroom color

Purple has long been a favorite shade for adolescents who are growing up and moving away from pinks and peaches into more mature room colors. Purple looks well when accented by white, magenta and yellow.

Even though it is embraced by young girls, purple also can be used by adults who want to create soothing retreats in their bedrooms.

Create an accent wall

A purple room may intimidate people who prefer mild, more neutral design schemes. But a purple accent wall can add a pop of color, suggest the home experts at Realtor.com. When it comes time to list a home, it's easier for the next homeowner to embrace a purple accent wall than an entire room decorated in this jeweled tone.

Use accent items

It's easy to add a splash of plum or other variations of purple without making a permanent commitment. Dress up neutral decor with throw pillows, rugs, table linens, or draperies in all shades of purple. As trends change, it's easy to exchange accent items.

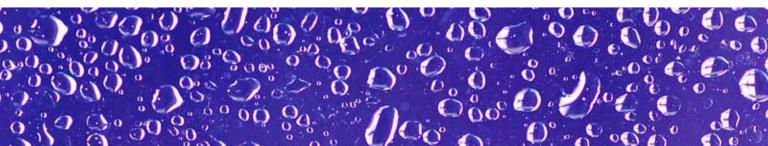
Modern kitchen

Homeowners can offset efficient, modern design in kitchens characterized by white cabinetry and stainless appliances with some well-placed grape focal points. A purple backsplash, purple-clad island or lavender bar stools can lend vibrancy to a space.

Purple powder room

A purple guest bathroom is the ideal place to help overnight guests feel regal. Violet and deeper shades of purple can feel warm and luxurious. Beige or cream bathrooms can be enhanced with a deep purple bath mat, shower curtain and hand towels.

Purple is hot right now and turning up in unexpected places in many homes.





Asha Chimiuk 403 • 597 • 0795



\$135.000 #204, 4515-53 Street 'Woodlea Estates"

Nestled in historic Woodlea, steps away from Coronation Park is this hidden gem! 1 bdrm condo situated on the 2nd floor facing South. Beautifully renovated & freshly painted throughout, is ready to move in! Squeaky clean building, is a pleasure to show. Close distance to downtown makes this a desirable building. Elevator and parking space on



www.ashachimiuk.com

47 Plumtree Crescent, Blackfalds

Impressive price! 2 storey home w/ double aft, garage on a quiet Crescent in Blackfolds. Fantastic front entry with decorative arches & beautiful stair case! Main floor features U shaped kitchen with appliance package, corner pantry, tons of cupboards & countespace! Garden door to large deck & patio. Main floor laundry & 2 pc bath here. Upstairs hos Waster suite featuring bath & walk in closet. 2 more beds & bath Beautifully landscaped yard!



26540 Highway 11 #36

This bungalow is located just East of town on 1.74 Acres. It has been renovated to the Today's modern colors & trends! It looks like new! Gourme stainless value of the divide the divide the state of the divide the dintege the divide the divide the divide the divide floor beds are well appointed right next to a bath! The lower level features two aood size bedrooms



\$149,990 #201, 5326-47 Avenue

Affordable 2 bed. 1 bath downtown condo w/ walking distance to all amenities including shopping, transit & Waskasoo Creek. Squeaky clean, in perfect shape with laminate flooring, tile & corner gas fireplace to keep you warm & cozy. Galley kitchen with white cabinets, white appliances and loads of cupboards. Living om opens onto a nice, sunny deck with wes exposure. Just steps to the secure underground parkade! Parking stall right next to the outside doors, Building does come w/ elevator. Pet



JEW ISTING

TO

EN I

\$409,990

7107 Henner's Road,

Lacombe

Lacombe Slunning, executive style 2 storey home with double garage, close to university! Located on a close w/ kitchenette in the basement & huge pie shaped lot! Beautiful kitchen has been upgraded dining area is open to living room finished w/ fireplace. Den & 2 pc. bath here. Deck right of the kitchen with stunning view! Fabulous M. bedroom features walk in closet & gorgeous, spa like en suite with soaker tub & 5 ft. shower! 2 more beds & bath for kids.

\$379,990

159 Kirton Close

Perfect family home! Nicely finish bi level with open floor plan super sized u shaped kitchen with breakfast bar, 5 bedrooms and

3 bathrooms! Located on the close across from a large park

with beautiful deck and the back

granite side walks and pie shaped lot with RV parking!

CENTURY 21. Advantage

Check for 21 Photos & Videos at

4572 Westbrooke Road, Blackfalds

Blackfalds Great place to call your first home! Large duplex across from park & walking distance to Abbey Centrel Front entry leads to large & bright living room. U shaped Kitchen is open to a dining area, has full appliance package & is a couple sleps away from a deck. 3 beds & 2 baths on the main floor. Mother in law suite (not legal) features large Family Room w/ U shaped kitchen & dining area, 4 pc. bathroom, another good sized bedroom.



\$408.900

111 Dunham Close, Red Deer Large bungalow on a quiet close & has it all! Entry welcomes you with decorative arches & plenty of space for family! Inside has 1739 sq ft of space!! Living room has large bow window, U shaped kitchen w/ updated back splash, appliance package, corner pantry, updated counter tops & sink. Master suite has 4 pc. en-suite and walk in closet! Downstairs offers huge family rm w/ gas fireplace.2 more bedrooms, 3 pc bathroom, storage & laundry combo complete the baseme



306 Valley Ridge Estates

Sophisticated living in a country setting. What a unique find - 2 acres Acreage within minutes of Red Deer all on pavement! 1449 sqft., fully finished, open style, walk-out Bungalow! Both the property and the home are one of a kind. Home welcomes you with impressive curb appeal! Fully paved driveway w/ room for RV, beautiful landscaping front & back, stone sidewalks & decorative fire pit area



#238 27240 Twp Rd 392

Attention acreage lovers! This home is located just outside of Red Deer & boasts 2 completely landscaped acres, large storage shed, 2 decks, patio and paved driveway! The open designed floor plan has a large custom kitchen w/ tons of cabinets, tiled backsplash & island with eat up bar. Entertain in the large dining/ living areas and gorgeous 4 season sun room with doors to a large deck! There is 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on the main. Master bedroom comes with 4 pc. en-suite 2 closets & a private deck



\$290,000

87 Noble Ave, Red Deer 87 Noble Ave, Red Deer Don't judge a book by it's covert Bright home with modern touches situated on a large lot. This 3 level split welcomes you with open design & voluted ceilings. 'U' shaped kitchen wit / full stainless steel appliance package. It is open to dining area and sunk in Living room, gas finetaces & modern flooring. Main floor laundry & 3 pc bath. Upper level has large M. bed with 3pc en suite & closet. 2 actititional beets and the bath w/ large. vanity. 3rd level has extra large rec room utility room & huge crawl space storage



5015-50 A Ave,

Suita-sol A Ave, Sylvan Lake What a rare find, one block from the beach, shopping & golf course! Full -front to back - duplex! Firsthime buyer can live in one side & rent the other side with 5% down! Each unit has separate entry. 2 beach. J full bath, kitchen with a dining area & a spacious living room. Shared laundry in the partial basement with separate entry & comes with large storage room. Both suites are currently rented out at \$700.00 per side & tenants would like to stay



\$395.000 87 Issard Close

Stylish Bi Level located in a family oriented, safe neighbourhood! Fantastic curb appeal! Nicely designed w/ desirable open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, modern colours throughout & updated flooring. Large kitchen with maple cabinets, granite sink, pantry, modern hardware, decorative backsplash, large breakfast bar. Living room is open to dining area with patio doors to large deck. There are 2 beds & full bath on this level



Friday, November 9, 2018 A11



Many homeowners wish for expansive kitchens. Modernized kitchens that include sought after features and showcase the latest trends go a long way to improving the overall value of a home.

As desirable as such kitchens may be, some homes simply don't have enough space for a centerfoldworthy kitchen featuring an island, wine refrigerator and walk-in pantry. However, homeowners with small kitchens can still improve the form and function of their existing spaces.

Reconfigure and revamp cabinetry

Homeowners whose kitchens are small often lament their lack of storage. Redesigning the layout of cabinets, and possibly adding some more cabinetry, may take care of certain storage issues. The experts at Merit Kitchens suggest utilizing corner space with LeMans units, lazy susans and other gadgets to make access to these areas easier. Going vertical with wall cabinets that extend to the ceiling also can add more storage, as can roll-in work carts.

Work with the walls

Small kitchens require clever usage of vertical space. Vertical storage units, hooks, shelving, and more can move items out of drawers and off of counters. Consider an under-the-cabinet toaster oven and microwave to create more counter space.

Use scaled-down appliances

Shop with size in mind when looking at new appliances if you have a small kitchen. Compact versions won't take up as much space as larger alternatives. Homeowners should consider the ultimate function of the kitchen and then think about which appliances will serve them well. Homeowners with small kitchens may not need a large stand mixer or an oversized commercial stove.

Add some glass

The DIY Network recommends incorporating glass to improve the perception of space in small kitchens. Glass lets you see through the objects, thereby enhancing the feeling of spaciousness or what designers call "negative space." Glass also can be reflective, visually expanding the space.

Embrace high-end materials

It costs less to renovate small spaces than bigger areas, so homeowners may be able to afford high-end materials that really add personality to a kitchen. Flooring, counter materials and quality fixtures can really set small kitchens apart.

Small kitchens can be culinary havens with the right improvements to maximize the space.

www.yourhouseyourhome.ca

Ask Charles

I'm selling my home, and the potential buyers also want to use my real estate professional to represent them. Is that allowed?

Yes, that's allowed. The situation you're referring to is called transaction brokerage. Transaction brokerage is a service option when your real estate professional represents a buyer client interested in purchasing the property in which you are the seller client. The reverse is also true - transaction brokerage is a service option when you're interested in buying a property and the property's seller is also represented by your real estate professional.

When a real estate professional works on behalf of only one client in a transaction - the buyer or the seller - they have legal responsibilities, which include:

· undivided loyalty to their client

- acting in their client's best interest at all times
- · the duty to avoid conflicts of interest

 the duty to disclose conflicts of interest when they arrive.

Transaction brokerage changes the services your real estate professional is able to provide to you and to the other party in the transaction. A real estate professional who is working with both the buyer and the seller in a transaction cannot fulfill all of their legal responsibilities because there is a conflict between the best interests of the buyer and those of the seller. The buyer wants to pay as little as possible for the property, while the seller wants to sell



their property for the highest possible price. It is impossible for a real estate professional to advocate for and represent the best interests of a buver client AND seller client in the same transaction.

This is when and why transaction brokerage becomes an option. In transaction brokerage, the real estate professional will provide facilitation services to you and the other party. These services include:

 helping the buyer and seller negotiate an agreement

 giving the buyer and seller property statistics and information, including comparative information from listing services and local databases

providing and preparing agreements of purchase and sale, and other relevant documents according to the buyer and seller's instructions

A transaction facilitator has to treat both parties in an even-handed, objective, and impartial manner. They must remain neutral, not advocate for either you or the buyer, and they cannot provide confidential advice.

Before a real estate professional proceeds with transaction brokerage, both the buyer and the seller need to provide their informed consent by signing an Agreement to Represent both Buyer and Seller. Informed consent means each client understands the facts, implications, and future consequences of providing their consent. You do not have to consent to transaction brokerage. If you don't consent to it, or the other party doesn't, there are other options available to you such as seeking representation from a different real estate professional.

"Ask Charles" is a question and answer column by Charles Stevenson, Director of Professional Standards with the Real Estate Council of Alberta (RECA), www.reca.ca. RECA is the independent, non-government agency responsible for the regulation of Alberta's real estate industry. We license, govern, and set the standards of practice for all real estate, mortgage brokerage, and real estate appraisal professionals in Alberta. To submit a question, email askcharles@reca.ca.



Selling a home can be stressful. Despite this, 5.51 million existing U.S. homes were sold in 2017, according to data from the National Association of REALTORS®. In many cases, homeowners choose to work with real estate agents to facilitate the process of listing, showing and selling their homes.

Real estate agents are valuable assets. Agents have neighborhood knowledge, are educated in pricing trends, can filter phone calls or emails from buyers who aren't serious, and can organize all of the people necessary for a closing. Real estate agents provide many services that the average person may not have the time nor the experience to handle.

When selecting an agent to sell a home, homeowners may not understand that the terms real estate agent and REALTOR® are not interchangeable. Although both must be licensed to sell real estate, the main difference between a real estate agent and a REALTOR® is the latter is a member of the National Association of REALTORS®. NAR ensures that members subscribe to a certain code of ethics.

There are many qualified agents, but an agent cannot do his or her job well without some help on the part of the homeowner. These tips can make the process of selling a home go smoothly.

• **Price the home correctly.** Homeowners should trust the agent's ability to price a home for the market. Everyone wants to get the most

money possible, but listing the home for more than it's worth may cause it to sit unnecessarily for several weeks or months, which could raise red flags among potential buyers.

• Market the home. A real estate agent will list the home via a multiple listing service (MLS) on a private website, in newspapers, and wherever else he or she feels is pertinent. Homeowners can share the listing via social media and word of mouth to help increase the chances of selling the home.

• **Be available.** Limiting the time an agent can show the house to potential buyers is in no one's best interest. Sellers should be ready and willing to open their homes, which is the best way to make a sale. An agent may suggest a lock box so the home can be shown when homeowners are not on the property.

• Make suggested renovations. Agents know which features can make or break a sale. Homeowners should be amenable to certain suggestions, such as neutral paint colors, removing personal effects and clearing clutter.

• **Give recommendations.** Real estate is a commission-based industry. Agents often tirelessly put in hours and only reap rewards if the house is sold. A homeowner who was satisfied with an agent can then recommend that person to friends or family.

By working with real estate professionals, homeowners can sell their homes quickly.

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Friday, November 9, 2018 A15

a treasure waiting for you to make money on!



OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY, NOV. 10, 2-4 PM



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Mitzi Billard Associate 403.396.4005 mitzibillard@remax.net **RE/MAX** real estate central alberta 4440 - 49 ave., red deer 403.343.3020



5 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHS, 2 STOREY with a 24'x26' O/S dbl. heated garage with new Linex flooring. Home is 2,491 sq. ft. Fully fenced, close to all amenities. quality upgrades, private sitting area in master with F/P. Newly painted w/crown moldings. This is a gorgeous house, perfect for relaxing after a hard days work. CA0151610. **\$699,900**



4 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS BUNGALOW with 79'x118' garage – triple vaulted ceilings, island w/eating

with 79'x118' garage – triple vaulted ceilings, island w/eating bar & walk in pantry, main floor laundry, under floor heating in basement & garage. Large ensuite in M/B incuding soaker tub & separate shower. New Deck. CA0151735. **\$569,900**

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