# **News Release**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Home prices adapt to affordability demands

**VANCOUVER, B.C. – October 2, 2008** – The Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver (REBGV) reports that residential property sales in Greater Vancouver declined 42.9 per cent in September 2008 to 1,585 from the 2,776 sales recorded in September 2007.

New listings for detached, attached and apartment properties increased 28.8 per cent to 6,142 in September 2008 compared to September 2007, when 4,770 new units were listed.

"After five years of unprecedented increases, housing prices are beginning to realign," REBGV president, Dave Watt said. "Although the economic situation in the United States has affected consumer confidence globally, the consensus view remains that our local housing market is underpinned by solid economic fundamentals."

Sales of detached properties in September 2008 declined 50.3 per cent to 546 from the 1,099 units sold during the same period in 2007. The benchmark price, as calculated by the MLSLink Housing Price Index®, for detached properties declined 1.6 per cent from September 2007 to \$726,331. Since May 2008, the benchmark price for a detached property in Greater Vancouver has declined 5.8 per cent.

Sales of apartment properties declined 35.1 per cent last month to 764, compared to 1,177 sales in September 2007. The benchmark price of an apartment property declined 0.7 per cent from September 2007 to \$369,062. Since May 2008, the benchmark price for an apartment property in Greater Vancouver has declined 5.2 per cent.

Attached property sales in September 2008 decreased 41.9 per cent to 450, compared with the 775 sales in June 2007. The benchmark price of an attached unit increased 7.6 per cent between June 2007 and 2008 to \$476,585. Since May 2008, the benchmark price for an attached property in Greater Vancouver has declined 3 per cent.

-30-

The Real Estate industry is a key economic driver in British Columbia. In 2007, 38,050 homes changed hands in the Board's area generating \$1.065 billion in spin-offs. Total dollar volume of residential sales set a new record at \$22.25 billion and total dollar volume of all sales set a record at \$22.77 billion. The Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver is an association representing more than 9,800 REALTORS®. The Real Estate Board provides a variety of membership services, including the Multiple Listing Service®. For more information on real estate statistics and buying or selling a home, contact a local REALTOR® or visit realtylink.org.

For more information please contact:

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#### **Preliminary Report**

### **MLSLINK HOUSING PRICE INDEX**



### September 2008

PROPERTY		BENCHMARK	PRICE	3 MONTH AVG	PRICE	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR
TYPE	AREA	PRICE	RANGE	BENCHMARK	INDEX	CHANGE	CHANGE	
'''	1		(+/-)	PRICE		%	%	%
Residential	Greater Vancouver	\$538,628	0.7%	\$546,859	227.5	-0.7	32.3	78.6
Detached	Greater Vancouver	\$726,331	1.3%	\$739,160	214.5	-1.6	30.2	72.7
	Burnaby	\$722,582	3.1%	\$723,089	212.7	-1.1	29.8	70.6
	Coquitlam	\$679,305	6.0%	\$679,980	239.0	7.1	38.8	80.7
	South Delta	\$626,841	4.2%	\$623,533	204.8	-1.5	16.8	60.5
	Maple Ridge	\$448,200	2.7%	\$450,022	204.5	-0.8	24.7	57.8
	New Westminster	\$533,419	6.2%	\$551,394	219.8	-3.0	19.5	81.5
	North Vancouver	\$815,398	3.4%	\$855,849	203.7	-6.0	22.6	52.4
	Pitt Meadows	\$467,186	8.2%	\$479,433	191.8	-1.3	28.8	50.5
	Port Coquitlam	\$541,288	5.1%	\$539,141	228.8	2.6	35.7	68.8
	Port Moody	\$619,891	10.2%	\$703,672	186.3	-20.4	17.0	30.7
	Richmond	\$754,481	2.6%	\$763,823	222.7	3.9	38.1	81.8
	Squamish	\$528,666	9.4%	\$580,126	200.8	-0.4	32.1	18.4
	Sunshine Coast	\$431,989	6.2%	\$418,301	245.8	-3.4	27.2	92.0
	Vancouver East	\$650,590	2.8%	\$663,333	220.4	-2.9	29.0	78.3
	Vancouver West	\$1,315,517	3.9%	\$1,359,255	218.3	-5.8	37.0	84.9
	West Vancouver	\$1,407,069	7.2%	\$1,443,186	207.3	-3.9	28.8	81.1
Attached	Greater Vancouver	\$464,478	1.0%	\$467,288	225.3	2.5	34.9	78.1
	Burnaby	\$457,610	1.6%	\$460,319	229.2	3.3	33.4	85.3
	Coquitlam	\$416,017	3.1%	\$417,432	224.4	1.5	29.3	75.1
	South Delta	\$436,158	7.9%	\$448,091	233.6	-2.9	37.4	83.1
	Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows	\$312,800	2.7%	\$314,525	217.0	0.0	31.6	79.3
	North Vancouver	\$559,426	3.3%	\$576,587	218.9	-2.9	25.3	67.3
	Port Coquitlam	\$398,864	2.6%	\$393,646	219.3	4.5	32.1	71.4
	Port Moody	\$386,861	3.8%	\$390,143	230.9	-0.9	39.4	82.0
	Richmond	\$459,909	1.9%	\$461,081	221.8	5.2	39.5	71.9
	Vancouver East	\$531,504	4.1%	\$522,828	248.5	7.0	52.6	99.9
	Vancouver West	\$698,077	3.5%	\$708,879	249.1	3.3	32.3	84.9
Apartment	Greater Vancouver	\$369,062	0.7%	\$375,039	240.1	-0.7	34.1	84.8
	Burnaby	\$332,505	1.4%	\$339,156	248.5	0.3	32.7	90.4
	Coquitlam	\$281,777	2.4%	\$286,980	240.3	-0.7	36.6	86.7
	South Delta	\$352,018	4.5%	\$348,836	229.3	1.0	41.7	77.5
	Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows	\$250,610	3.5%	\$256,839	266.1	-2.0	40.6	111.5
	New Westminster	\$282,425	2.4%	\$291,769	229.4	-1.8	39.0	90.2
	North Vancouver	\$377,867	2.9%	\$379,242	240.4	-1.2	29.6	84.6
	Port Coquitlam	\$252,141	1.9%	\$254,259	295.3	-0.2	36.1	110.9
	Port Moody	\$289,954	3.5%	\$297,519	247.4	-3.3	22.3	91.7
	Richmond	\$307,601	1.6%	\$313,337	250.0	0.2	39.1	95.8
	Vancouver East	\$319,627	2.1%	\$323,862	261.7	1.2	43.4	103.9
	Vancouver West	\$465,309	1.3%	\$472,067	236.7	-1.2	30.6	76.3
	West Vancouver	\$605,640	10.5%	\$633,477	217.3	-5.9	26.3	70.7

#### HOW TO READ THE TABLE:

BENCHMARK PRICE: Estimated sale price of a benchmark property. Benchmarks represent a typical property within each market.

PRICE RANGE: Expresed as a + or - percentage of the benchmark price, there is a 90% probability the sale price of a benchmark house is within the interval.

PRICE INDEX: Index numbers estimate the percentage change in price on typical and constant quality properties over time. All figures are based on past sales.

In Year 2001, the indexes are averaged to 100

Key: \* = Sales sample too small; Price information not reported.

## **MLS® SALES Facts**

REALESIOF GREATE	R VAN	BOAI					Maple Ridge/Pitt Meads	inster	uver	am	t Moody/Belcarra			Coast	East	Nest		Whistler/Pemberton	
=	08	-	þ	lam	South	- Gulf	Ridge	estm	/anc	t Coquitlam	oody	puo	ish	he C	Wer	Wer	anco	r/Per	47.5
20			Burnaby	Coquitlam	Delta -	Islands	Maple	New Westminster	North Vancouver	Port Co	Port M.	Richmond	Squamish	Sunshine (	Vancouver E	Vancouver West	West V	Whistle	<i>7074LS</i>
	Number	Detached	51	42	29	3	72	10	45	26	12	59	11	36	70	46	21	13	546
September	of Sales	Attached Apartment	43 93	18 42	3	0	17 21	9 46	24 38	20 27	11 17	41 134	10 10	7 11	16 70	39 223	2 8	15 9	275 764
2008	Median	Detached	\$689,000	\$659,900	15 \$602,000	n/a	\$462,500	n/a	\$825,000	\$499,750	n/a	\$691,000	n/a	\$395,000	\$685,000	\$1,440,000	\$1,282,500	n/a	704
	Selling	Attached	\$420,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$590,000	\$367,450	n/a	\$441,800	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$545,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Price	Apartment	\$322,500	\$259,000	n/a	n/a	\$199,000	\$264,000	\$345,000	\$244,000	n/a	\$332,500	n/a	n/a	\$312,000	\$411,500	n/a	n/a	
	Number	Detached	44	47	25	1	74	16	56	15	12	49	10	30	81	46	19	10	535
August	of Sales	Attached Apartment	51	20	4	0	26	8	15	23	18	37	7	11	12	37	5	19	293
2008	Median	Detached	92 \$665,000	38 \$633,500	6 \$624,500	0 n/a	17 \$450,000	62 n/a	\$835,000	26 n/a	16 n/a	92 \$678,500	6 n/a	5 \$402,450	85 \$668,000	234 \$1,495,000	9 n/a	11 n/a	740
	Selling	Attached	\$438,000	\$414,000	n/a	n/a	\$305,500	n/a	n/a	\$351,000	n/a	\$488,500	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$767,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Price	Apartment	\$332,000	\$269,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$278,000	\$375,000	\$241,000	n/a	\$312,000	n/a	n/a	\$307,500	\$425,000	n/a	n/a	
	Number	Detached	81	88	36	8	133	29	81	46	19	147	21	57	172	112	54	15	1,099
Contombor	of Sales	Attached	69	25	10	0	43	9	32	18	34	115	15	8	31	70	3	18	500
September 2007		Apartment Detached	131 \$738,000	70 \$605,000	15 \$604,500	0 n/a	22 \$469,900	81 \$542,500	82 \$829,000	32 \$497,000	32 n/a	168 \$684,000	12 \$485,000	3 \$361,360	103 \$651,500	384 \$1,463,000	16 \$1,681,500	26 n/a	1,177
2007	Median Selling	Attached	\$425,000	\$359,250	n/a	n/a	\$298,500	n/a	\$551,000	n/a	\$458,000	\$420,000	n/a	n/a	\$486,900	\$675,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Price	Apartment	\$331,250	\$268,000	n/a	n/a	\$257,500	\$253,000	\$357,500	\$236,450	\$321,000	\$321,000	n/a	n/a	\$299,450	\$421,500	n/a	\$364,500	
	Number	Detached	661	692	362	31	887	189	704	321	168	1,008	146	404	1,118	900	408	75	8,074
	of Sales	Attached	585	268	65	1	332	118	267	226	197	746	109	68	264	449	46	134	3,875
Jan Sep. 2008		Apartment	1,186	508	126	0	259	656	627	295	261	1,254	86	41	981	3,047	113	75	9,515
Sep. 2006	Median Selling	Detached Attached	\$726,000 \$440,000	\$644,000 \$432,450	\$625,000 \$438,000	\$464,500 n/a	\$489,900 \$316,000	\$556,000 \$394,500	\$885,000 \$589,000	\$529,193 \$385,000	\$692,000 \$428,000	\$718,800 \$459,000	\$493,500 \$390,000	\$395,600 \$290,000	\$680,500 \$525,800	\$1,491,000 \$715,500	\$1,500,000 \$942,000	\$875,000 \$631,500	n/a
Year-to-date	Price	Apartment	\$330,000	\$281,000	\$322,250	n/a	\$235,000	\$292,000	\$369,000	\$245,000	\$331,000	\$319,000	\$283,150	\$290,000	\$325,000	\$440,500	\$735,000	\$300,000	II/a
	Number	Detached	1,064	1,049	492	60	1,251	268	925	466	215	1,447	211	584	1,748	1,418	611	107	11,916
_	of Salas	Attached	854	317	100	0	488	88	356	261	288	1,231	143	63	369	655	47	155	5,415
Jan	Sales	Apartment	1,575	679	159	0	291	761	889	395	330	1,604	165	29	1,325	4,418	161	130	12,911
Sep. 2007	Median Selling	Detached Attached	\$682,450	\$595,000	\$586,500	\$382,000	\$462,900	\$539,400 \$373,750	\$800,000	\$483,000	\$703,500	\$654,000	\$455,000	\$376,000	\$630,000	\$1,349,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,140,000	2/0
Year-to-date	Price	Attached	\$409,150 \$310,000	\$385,000 \$252,500	\$375,000 \$300,000	n/a n/a	\$296,500 \$220,000	\$373,750 \$263,349	\$559,000 \$339,000	\$367,000 \$233,000	\$424,900 \$317,800	\$419,400 \$282,000	\$365,000 \$272,450	\$259,000 \$235,000	\$484,700 \$289,000	\$669,000 \$414,000	\$1,130,000 \$679,500	\$580,000 \$325,000	n/a
			¥0.0,000	<b>4</b> _5_,000	\$555,000		<del>+</del> 5,000	\$200,040	<b>#</b> 000,000	<b>4</b> _00,000	¥0,000	<del>4</del> 202,000	ψ <u>2. 2,</u> 400	<b>#</b> _00,000	<del>+====</del> ,	<b></b> ,000	<b>40.0,000</b>	<b>\$020,000</b>	

Note: Median Selling Prices are not reported for areas with less than 20 sales or for the Gulf Islands

## **MLS® LISTINGS Facts**

REAL EST OF GREATE		BOAI						SMC										Punos	
Septe 20	embe 08	er	Burnaby	Coquitiam	Delta - South	Islands - Gulf	Maple Ridge/Pitt Meado	New Westminster	North Vancouver	Port Coquitlam	Port Moody/Belcarra	Richmond	Squamish	Sunshine Coast	Vancouver East	Vancouver West	) of	Whistler/Pemberton	TOTALS
	Number of	Detached	203	265	87	13	240	66	231	88	50	239	55	83	331	314	155	26	2,446
September	Listings	Attached Apartment	136 321	72 141	11 20	0	65 59	16 184	84 169	48 118	51 56	144 341	17 15	13 16	96 312	182 895	7 37	44 26	986 2,710
2008	% Sales to Listings	Detached  Attached  Apartment	25% 32% 29%	16% 25% 30%	33% 27% 75%	23% n/a	30% 26%	15% 56%	19% 29% 22%	30% 42%	24% 22% 30%	25% 28%	20% 59% 67%	43% 54% 69%	21% 17% 22%	15% 21%	14% 29% 22%	50% 34% 35%	n/a
	Number	Detached	161	199	67	n/a 13	36% 184	25% 32	106	23% 62	41	39% 238	34	72	260	25% 209	72	33	1,783
August	of Listings	Attached Apartment	117 213	43 111	10 14	0	80 53	20 116	28 86	37 64	27 63	133 228	13 27	7 20	49 228	99 566	13 22	36 25	712 1,836
2008	% Sales to Listings	Attached	27% 44%	24% 47%	37% 40%	8% n/a	40% 33%	50% 40%	53% 54%	24% 62%	29% 67%	21%	29% 54%	42% 157%	31% 24%	22% 37%	26% 38%	30% 53%	n/a
	Number of	Apartment  Detached  Attached	43% 162 104	34% 185 57	74 17	n/a 5 0	32% 200 78	53% 44 18	48% 166 47	41% 80 39	25% 39 46	40% 205 135	35 10	25% 97 4	37% 250 67	41% 247 103	41% 137 17	44% 18 36	1,944 778
September	Listings	Apartment	227	107	25	0	94	145	157	56	38	251	90	6	147	653	33	19	2,048
2007	% Sales to Listings	Detached Attached Apartment	50% 66% 58%	48% 44% 65%	49% 59% 60%	160% n/a n/a	67% 55% 23%	66% 50% 56%	49% 68% 52%	58% 46% 57%	49% 74% 84%	72% 85% 67%	60% 150% 13%	59% 200% 50%	69% 46% 70%	45% 68% 59%	39% 18% 48%	83% 50% 137%	n/a
Jan	Number of Listings	Detached Attached Apartment	1,915 1,328 2,751	2,151 609 1,405	816 118 204	108 1 0	2,119 678 594	451 225 1,526	1,617 577 1,435	812 510 697	483 423 737	2,590 1,525 2,826	386 226 190	1,019 114 94	2,991 658 2,148	2,701 1,308 7,450	1,277 119 299	265 347 309	21,701 8,766 22,665
Sep. 2008	% Sales to	Detached	35% 44%	32% 44%	44%	29% 100%	42% 49%	42% 52%	44% 46%	40%	35% 47%	39% 49%	38%	40%	37% 40%	33%	32% 39%	28%	n/a
Year-to-date*	Listings	Apartment	43%	36%	62%	n/a	44%	43%	44%	42%	35%	44%	45%	44%	46%	41%	38%	24%	
Jan	Number of Listings	Detached Attached Apartment	1,763 1,104 2,364	1,809 459 985	680 120 202	118 1 0	1,877 654 547	423 155 1,211	1,307 460 1,201	728 376 542	370 390 528	2,247 1,594 2,420	305 153 275	1,037 95 63	2,708 531 1,816	2,114 1,016 6,194	1,013 105 287	209 245 253	18,708 7,458 18,888
Sep. 2007	% Sales to		60% 77%	58% 69%	72% 83%	51% 0%	67% 75%	63% 57%	71% 77%	64% 69%	58% 74%	64% 77%	69% 93%	56% 66%	65% 69%	67% 64%	60% 45%	51% 63%	n/a
Year-to-date*		Apartment	67%	69%	79%	n/a	53%	63%	74%	73%	63%	66%	60%	46%	73%	71%	56%	51%	

<sup>\*</sup> Year-to-date listings represent a cumulative total of listings rather than total active listings.

## **Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver**

## **Listing & Sales Activity Summary**

			<u>ings</u>			<u>Sales</u>							
	1 Sep 2007	2 Aug 2008	3 Sep 2008	Col. 2 & 3 Percentage Variance	5 Sep 2007	6 Aug 2008	7 Sep 2008	Col. 6 & 7 Percentage Variance	9 Jul 2007 - Sep 2007	10 Jul 2008 - Sep 2008	Col. 9 & 10 Percentage Variance		
BURNABY				%				%			%		
DETACHED	162	161	203	26.1	81	44	51	15.9	335	164	-51.0		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	104 227	117 213	136 321	16.2 50.7	69 131	51 92	43 93	-15.7 1.1	271 554	154 321	-43.2 -42.1		
	221	213	321	50.7	131	92	93	1.1	334	321	-42.1		
COQUITLAM	405	400	005	22.0	00	47	40	40.0	0.40	405	50.0		
DETACHED ATTACHED	185 57	199 43	265 72	33.2 67.4	88 25	47 20	42 18	-10.6 -10.0	348 114	165 72	-52.6 -36.8		
APARTMENTS	107	111	141	27.0	70	38	42	10.5	242	133	-45.0		
DELTA													
DETACHED	74	67	87	29.9	36	25	29	16.0	132	86	-34.8		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	17 25	10 14	11 20	10.0 42.9	10 15	4 6	3 15	-25.0 150.0	25 53	11 36	-56.0 -32.1		
	-		-		-	-	-						
MAPLE RIDGE/PITT MEADOWS  DETACHED	200	184	240	30.4	133	74	72	-2.7	415	246	-40.7		
ATTACHED	78	80	65	-18.8	43	26	17	-34.6	140	79	-43.6		
APARTMENTS	94	53	59	11.3	22	17	21	23.5	84	56	-33.3		
NORTH VANCOUVER													
DETACHED ATTACHED	166 47	106 28	231 84	117.9 200.0	81 32	56 15	45 24	-19.6 60.0	262 119	176 69	-32.8 -42.0		
APARTMENTS	157	86	169	96.5	82	41	38	-7.3	293	150	-48.8		
NEW WESTMINSTER													
DETACHED	44	32	66	106.3	29	16	10	-37.5	94	48	-48.9		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	18 145	20 116	16 184	-20.0 58.6	9 81	8 62	9 46	12.5 -25.8	35 290	24 176	-31.4 -39.3		
PORT MOODY/BELCARRA  DETACHED	39	41	50	22.0	19	12	12	0.0	82	46	-43.9		
ATTACHED	46	27	51	88.9	34	18	11	-38.9	117	56	-52.1		
APARTMENTS	38	63	56	-11.1	32	16	17	6.3	108	54	-50.0		
PORT COQUITLAM													
DETACHED	80	62	88	41.9	46	15	26	73.3	155	63	-59.4		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	39 56	37 64	48 118	29.7 84.4	18 32	23 26	20 27	-13.0 3.8	97 139	60 77	-38.1 -44.6		
RICHMOND													
DETACHED	205	238	239	0.4	147	49	59	20.4	495	200	-59.6		
ATTACHED	135	133	144	8.3	115	37	41	10.8	417	149	-64.3		
APARTMENTS	251	228	341	49.6	168	92	134	45.7	566	350	-38.2		
SUNSHINE COAST DETACHED	97	72	83	15.0	<b>57</b>	30	26	20.0	207	109	47.0		
ATTACHED	4	7	13	15.3 85.7	57 8	11	36 7	-36.4	207	21	-47.3 -4.5		
APARTMENTS	6	20	16	-20.0	3	5	11	120.0	12	23	91.7		
SQUAMISH													
DETACHED	35	34	55	61.8	21	10	11	10.0	79 50	35	-55.7		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	10 90	13 27	17 15	30.8 -44.4	15 12	7 6	10 10	42.9 66.7	50 41	23 18	-54.0 -56.1		
VANCOUVER EAST													
DETACHED	250	260	331	27.3	172	81	70	-13.6	563	276	-51.0		
ATTACHED	67	49	96	95.9	31	12	16	33.3	109	52	-52.3		
APARTMENTS	147	228	312	36.8	103	85	70	-17.6	403	264	-34.5		
VANCOUVER WEST													
DETACHED ATTACHED	247 103	209 99	314 182	50.2 83.8	112 70	46 37	46 39	0.0 5.4	440 222	180 126	-59.1 -43.2		
APARTMENTS	653	566	895	58.1	384	234	223	-4.7	1463	758	-48.2		
WHISTLER													
DETACHED	18	33	26	-21.2	15	10	13	30.0	40	28	-30.0		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	36 19	36 25	44 26	22.2 4.0	18 26	19 11	15 9	-21.1 -18.2	56 56	40 26	-28.6 -53.6		
WEST VANCOUVER/HOWE SOUND									30		23.0		
DETACHED	137	72	155	115.3	54	19	21	10.5	200	77	-61.5		
ATTACHED APARTMENTS	17 33	13 22	7 37	-46.2 68.2	3 16	5 9	2 8	-60.0 -11.1	14 51	13 28	-7.1 -45.1		
GRAND TOTALS				JULE									
DETACHED	1939	1770	2433	37.5	1091	534	543	1.7	3847	1899	-50.6		
ATTACHED	778	712	986	38.5	500	293	275	-6.1	1808	949	-47.5		
ADADTMENTO	2049	1026	2710	47.6	1177	740	764	2.2	4255	2470	12.2		

#### Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver Average Price Graph January 1977 to September 2008

DETACHED ----- CONDOMINIUM ——ATTACHED ——APARTMENTS

IN THOUSANDS (\$) 1000 \$790,037 900 800 700 \$499,976 600 500 400 \$369,354 300 200 100

1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008