# **News Release**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Property listings decrease, as February sales improve

VANCOUVER, B.C. – March 3, 2008 – Residential housing sales in Greater Vancouver rose 94 per cent in February compared to the month before, with 1,480 sales registered in February compared to 762 sales in January, which was the slowest month for housing sales in 25 years. Over the past 10 years, February sales have typically surpassed January by an average increase of 53 per cent.

At the same time, new MLS® listings for residential properties continued to decrease for the fourth month in a row. New listings decreased 25.6 per cent in February compared to the previous year; 20 per cent in January; 8.6 per cent in December; and 10 per cent in November.

"There are terrific opportunities out there right now, but with property listings continuing to decrease, those opportunities may be available only for a brief window of time," said Dave Watt, president of the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver (REBGV).

REBGV reports that year-over-year property sales in Greater Vancouver declined 44.7 per cent in February 2009 from the 2,676 sales recorded in February 2008. Year-over-year, those are the lowest sales figures for February since the mid-1980s.

"REALTORS® are reporting more activity compared to recent months as people begin to see whether their position in the housing market has strengthened as a result of falling interest rates and improved affordability," Watt says. "It took, on average, 67 days to sell a home in Greater Vancouver in February, seven days less than last month, but behind the seller's market of last February when the average stood at 33 days.

Sales of detached properties in February 2009 declined 41 per cent to 587 from the 995 units sold during the same period in 2008. The benchmark price, as calculated by the MLSLink Housing Price Index®, for detached properties declined 14.2 per cent from February 2008 to \$653,452.

Sales of apartment properties declined 45.6 per cent last month to 650, compared to the 1,197 sales in February 2008. The benchmark price of an apartment property declined 13.9 per cent from February 2008 to \$333,143.

Attached property sales in February 2009 decreased 49.8 per cent to 243, compared with the 484 sales during the same month in 2008. The benchmark price of an attached unit declined 9.7 per cent between Februarys 2008 and 2009 to \$426,268.

New listings for detached, attached and apartment properties declined 25.6 per cent to 3,916 in February 2009 compared to February 2008, when 5,260 new units were listed.

-30-

The Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver is an association representing more than 9,500 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 www.rebgv.org.



#### **Preliminary Report**

## **MLSLINK HOUSING PRICE INDEX**



### February 2009

PROPERTY		BENCHMARK	PRICE	3 MONTH AVG	PRICE	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR
TYPE	AREA	PRICE	RANGE	BENCHMARK	INDEX	CHANGE	CHANGE	
			(+/-)	PRICE		%	%	%
Residential	Greater Vancouver	\$486,054	0.6%	\$486,424	205.29	-13.5	11.1	49.1
Detached	Greater Vancouver	\$653,452	1.3%	\$653,837	193.0	-14.2	9.1	45.3
	Burnaby	\$630,681	3.2%	\$641,403	185.6	-17.4	7.0	40.3
	Coquitlam	\$595,735	4.6%	\$590,607	209.6	-8.8	15.1	49.2
	South Delta	\$580,820	4.2%	\$602,954	189.8	-11.8	8.9	42.7
	Maple Ridge	\$390,847	3.2%	\$397,982	178.3	-14.7	4.2	28.4
	New Westminster	\$509,460	6.7%	\$515,653	210.0	-13.9	0.2	49.0
	North Vancouver	\$739,856	3.9%	\$750,598	184.8	-16.1	1.8	28.4
	Pitt Meadows	\$378,013	15.2%	\$430,397	155.2	-26.1	-7.2	15.1
	Port Coquitlam	\$485,883	4.4%	\$505,443	205.4	-12.7	13.9	40.7
	Port Moody	\$678,575	10.7%	\$649,274	204.0	-6.0	26.3	38.5
	Richmond	\$679,344	2.6%	\$672,215	200.6	-12.2	16.2	53.8
	Squamish	\$530,479	10.1%	\$530,617	201.5	-8.9	23.3	47.5
	Sunshine Coast	\$346,736	9.3%	\$368,464	197.3	-19.0	-5.7	44.7
	Vancouver East	\$610,052	2.4%	\$593,984	206.6	-11.1	10.7	54.0
	Vancouver West	\$1,170,886	2.9%	\$1,156,889	194.3	-19.4	11.1	58.1
	West Vancouver	\$1,232,469	6.7%	\$1,189,319	181.6	-16.5	4.3	39.3
Attached	Greater Vancouver	\$426,268	1.1%	\$424,972	206.8	-9.7	17.1	51.8
	Burnaby	\$419,229	1.5%	\$409,380	210.0	-9.3	16.5	53.8
	Coquitlam	\$387,376	5.5%	\$383,686	209.0	-9.1	13.3	53.2
	South Delta	\$479,911	6.9%	\$419,494	257.0	5.2	41.7	100.4
	Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows	\$281,123	2.9%	\$292,721	195.0	-9.3	12.5	47.9
	North Vancouver	\$535,646	4.1%	\$526,138	209.6	-13.6	14.9	44.3
	Port Coquitlam	\$361,644	2.7%	\$363,124	198.9	-8.2	12.9	41.4
	Port Moody	\$360,970	3.0%	\$357,014	215.4	-11.5	15.0	52.3
	Richmond	\$418,528	1.9%	\$422,434	201.8	-9.2	18.2	48.5
	Vancouver East	\$460,242	4.2%	\$465,003	215.2	-8.8	22.6	64.9
_	Vancouver West	\$635,072	4.0%	\$631,871	226.6	-12.3	19.5	53.3
Apartment	Greater Vancouver	\$333,143	0.7%	\$333,674	216.7	-13.9	12.1	53.1
	Burnaby	\$301,776	1.5%	\$302,762	225.6	-11.9	13.8	59.0
	Coquitlam	\$246,192	2.4%	\$247,209	209.9	-19.1	7.5	54.4
	South Delta	\$321,342	4.7%	\$324,995	209.3	-5.7	18.7	57.3
	Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows	\$233,421	4.7%	\$233,421	247.9	-10.5	19.7	80.7
	New Westminster	\$257,589	2.2%	\$256,409	209.2	-14.4	13.9	64.0
	North Vancouver	\$332,650	3.1%	\$328,866	211.7	-15.6	7.4	46.5
	Port Coquitlam	\$225,337	2.5%	\$222,847	263.9	-12.9	15.8	75.0
	Port Moody	\$254,736	3.6%	\$266,509	217.4	-16.5	2.3	48.1
	Richmond	\$278,019	1.6%	\$277,306	226.0	-11.4	13.4	60.0
	Vancouver East	\$286,000	2.3%	\$290,396	234.1	-13.2	21.2	71.2
	Vancouver West	\$422,456	1.3%	\$424,214	214.9	-15.2	9.4	42.9
	West Vancouver	\$571,909	13.3%	\$549,239	205.2	-5.4	17.6	43.6

#### HOW TO READ THE TABLE:

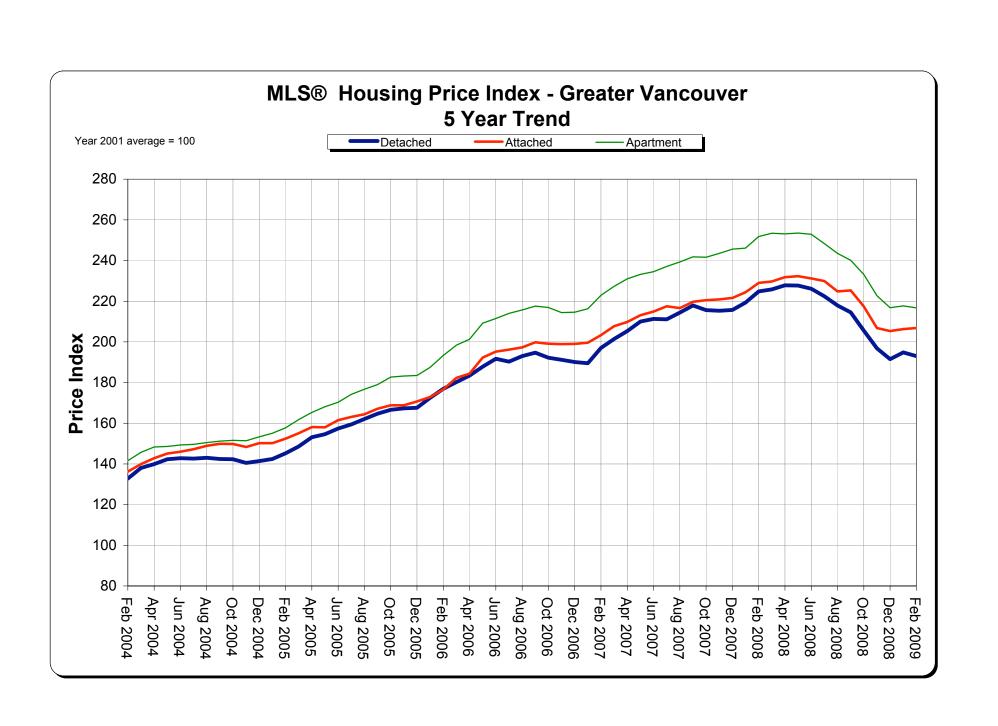
BENCHMARK PRICE: Estimated sale price of a benchmark property. Benchmarks represent a typical property within each market.

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**

REALESI OF GREATE	R VAN	BOAI					Ridge/Pitt Mead.	ster	Ver		elcarra			lst	. St	) set	10 WO	oerton	
Febr	uary	/	1	1 _	€	Gulf	]   Be	l ië	00	itlai	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	1_	1 .	Coast	<u>"</u>	×	1 00	em k	S
2009		Burnaby	Coquitlam	Delta - South	Islands - G	Maple Rid	New Westminster	North Vancouver	Port Coquitlam	Port Moody/Belcarra	Richmond	Squamish	Sunshine (	Vancouver East	Vancouver West	West Vancouver/Howe	Whistler/Pemberton	707ALS	
	Number	Detached	47	44	22	-1	49	10	46	34	15	69	8	20	92	100	27	5	587
February	of Sales	Attached Apartment	46 70	8 41	4 14	0	15 10	6 52	12 38	20 14	20 15	47 83	4 1	2	17 59	37 245	0 5	5 1	243 650
2009	Median	Detached	\$657,500	\$525,000	\$524,500	n/a	\$424,443	n/a	\$686,000	\$452,500	n/a	\$629,000	n/a	\$345,500	\$593,400	\$1,265,000	\$1,081,000	n/a	
	Selling	Attached	\$371,500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$347,500	\$390,000	\$400,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$580,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Price	Apartment	\$292,500	\$245,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$255,500	\$309,500	n/a	n/a	\$282,000	n/a	n/a	\$275,000	\$390,000	n/a	n/a	
	Number of	Detached Attached	29	27	13	1	38	6	12	11	2	30	4	8	42 11	46	22	1	292
January	Sales	Apartment	18 42	7 32	1 2	0	13 11	5 24	4 23	5 10	6 10	13 56	2 3	2 0	22	14 117	1 3	7 6	109 361
2009	Median	Detached	\$648,000	\$540,905	n/a	n/a	\$425,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$648,500	n/a	n/a	\$634,000	\$1,080,000	\$1,187,500	n/a	
	Selling	Attached	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Price	Apartment	\$316,000	\$255,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$249,500	\$278,750	n/a	n/a	\$248,000	n/a	n/a	\$289,500	\$420,000	n/a	n/a	
	Number	Detached	77	81	44	5	107	17	81	38	27	130	13	43	128	138	56	10	995
Eobruary.	of Sales	Attached Apartment	60	30	7	0	46	19	35	32	30	104	12	4	30	52	5	18	484
February 2008	Median	Detached	150 \$723,750	55 \$626,000	16 \$627,000	0 n/a	35 \$510,000	63 n/a	93 \$920,000	30 \$553,500	37 \$661,000	144 \$733,000	12 n/a	2 \$385,000	120 \$651,500	413 \$1,625,000	14 \$1,570,000	13 n/a	1,197
2000	Selling	Attached	\$464,250	\$442,500	n/a	n/a	\$326,250	n/a	\$595,000	\$397,400	\$428,000	\$450,000	n/a	n/a	\$489,950	\$717,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Price	Apartment	\$354,000	\$287,900	n/a	n/a	\$245,000	\$286,250	\$365,000	\$239,250	\$316,000	\$337,500	n/a	n/a	\$315,000	\$443,500	n/a	n/a	-
	Number	Detached	76	71	35	0	87	16	58	45	17	99	12	28	134	146	49	6	879
	of Sales	Attached	64	15	5	0	28	11	16	25	26	60	6	4	28	51	1	12	352
Jan		Apartment	112	73	16	0	21	76	61	24	25	139	4	2	81	362	8	7	1,011
Feb. 2009	Median Selling	Detached Attached	\$649,000 \$382,500	\$539,900	\$554,000 n/a	n/a n/a	\$425,000 \$284,500	n/a n/a	\$697,000 n/a	\$450,000 \$360,000	n/a \$389,000	\$647,000	n/a n/a	\$343,000 n/a	\$600,000 \$479,500	\$1,200,000 \$595,000	\$1,173,000 n/a	n/a n/a	n/a
Year-to-date	Price	Apartment	\$382,500	n/a \$245,000	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	\$284,500 \$199,900	n/a \$254,500	n/a \$297,000	\$209,850	\$389,000	\$400,000 \$261,500	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	\$479,500	\$595,000	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	ıı/a
	Number	Detached	136	132	74	6	174	31	127	58	44	210	30	71	216	213	98	16	1,636
	of	Attached	112	51	15	0	72	31	51	52	46	174	20	11	46	80	7	34	802
Jan	Sales	Apartment	248	112	27	0	59	117	156	61	56	265	21	2	200	690	25	18	2,057
Feb. 2008	Median	Detached	\$723,500	\$624,900	\$631,500	n/a	\$500,000	\$553,000	\$922,500	\$537,500	\$652,400	\$705,000	\$483,500	\$400,500	\$650,500	\$1,570,000	\$1,440,000	n/a	
Year-to-date	Selling Price	Attached Apartment	\$460,250 \$350,000	\$485,000 \$287,500	n/a \$338,000	n/a n/a	\$325,000 \$236,500	\$394,000 \$294,500	\$615,100 \$373,000	\$378,500 \$245,000	\$435,000 \$320,500	\$450,000 \$324,900	\$405,250 \$237,500	n/a n/a	\$510,000 \$312,500	\$715,000 \$442,500	n/a \$769,000	\$825,000 n/a	n/a
		Apartment	φουσ,υυυ	φ201,300	φ330,000	II/d	φ <b>∠</b> 30,300	φ <b>∠</b> ઝ4,500	φ3/3,000	φ240,000	φ320,300	φ3 <b>∠4</b> ,900	φ237,300	II/a	φυ 12,500	φ <del>44</del> 2,500	φ <i>1</i> 08,000	II/d	

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

## **MLS® LISTINGS Facts**

REALEST OF GREATE		SOAI				eadows											Punos em		
February 2009		Burnaby	Coquitlam	Delta - South	Islands - Gulf	Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadon	New Westminster	North Vancouver	Port Coquitlam	Port Moody/Belcarra	Richmond	Squamish	Sunshine Coast	Vancouver East	Vancouver West	West Vancouver/House	Whistler/Pemberton	70TALS	
	Number	Detached	127	150	76	8	180	40	142	49	56	168	27	85	176	203	97	20	1,604
February	of Listings	Attached Apartment	103 165	58 81	4 25	0	73 44	18 124	54 109	32 43	34 39	107 184	17 10	3 5	43 143	113 588	7 28	31 27	697 1,615
2009	% Sales to Listings	Detached Attached	37% 45%	29% 14%	29% 100%	-13% n/a	27% 21%	25% 33%	32% 22%	69% 63%	27% 59%	41% 44%	30% 24%	24% 67%	52% 40%	49% 33%	28% 0%	25% 16%	n/a
	l	Apartment Detached	42%	51%	56%	n/a	23%	42%	35%	33%	38%	45%	10%	40%	41%	42%	18%	4%	4.400
January	Number of Listings	Attached Apartment	118 93 197	103 39 84	60 10 18	4 0 1	184 55 40	36 11 119	99 40 93	56 38 46	20 29 52	185 93 192	31 13 16	62 6 4	150 32 143	195 125 600	81 12 25	22 36 32	1,406 632 1,662
2009	% Sales to	Detached	25% 19%	26%	22%	25% n/a	21% 24%	17% 45%	12% 10%	20%	10%	16%	13% 15%	13%	28%	24% 11%	27%	5% 19%	n/a
		Apartment	21%	38%	11%	0%	28%	20%	25%	22%	19%	29%	19%	0%	15%	20%	12%	19%	0.400
February	Number of Listings	Detached Attached Apartment	157 138 268	194 58 145	88 16 30	6 0 0	197 48 105	47 39 135	152 60 155	101 53 64	49 33 72	234 144 333	42 16 15	118 19 5	303 47 215	241 105 726	146 17 30	33 29 32	2,108 822 2,330
2008	% Sales to	Detached	49% 43%	42% 52%	50% 44%	83% n/a	54% 96%	36% 49%	53% 58%	38% 60%	55% 91%	56% 72%	31% 75%	36% 21%	42% 64%	57% 50%	38% 29%	30% 62%	n/a
	Listings	Apartment	56%	38%	53%	n/a	33%	47%	60%	47%	51%	43%	80%	40%	56%	57%	47%	41%	
Jan	Number of Listings	Detached Attached Apartment	245 196	253 97	136 14	12 0	364 128	76 29	94 92	105 70	76 63	353 200	58 30	147 9	326 75	398 238	178 19	42 67	3,010 1,329
Feb. 2009	% Sales to	Detached	362 31%	165 28%	43 26%	0%	24%	243 21%	202	89 43%	91 22%	376 28%	26 21%	9 19%	286 41%	1,188 37%	53 28%	59 14%	3,277
Year-to-date*	Listings	Attached Apartment	33% 31%	15% 44%	36% 37%	n/a 0%	22% 25%	38% 31%	17% 30%	36% 27%	41% 27%	30% 37%	20% 15%	44% 22%	37% 28%	21% 30%	5% 15%	18% 12%	n/a
		Detached Attached	327 243	327 114	161 31	10 1	405 106	80 66	286 102	159 101	90 76	487 264	72 29	212 36	520 92	477 208	283 32	54 60	3,950 1,561
Jan Feb. 2008	Listings % Sales to		516 42%	279 40%	53 46%	0 60%	160 43%	269 39%	292 44%	130 36%	147 49%	569 43%	33 42%	24 33%	378 42%	1,431 45%	67 35%	76 30%	4,424
Year-to-date*	% Sales to Listings	Attached Apartment	46% 48%	45% 40%	48% 51%	0% n/a	68% 37%	47% 43%	50% 53%	51% 47%	61% 38%	66% 47%	69% 64%	31% 8%	50% 53%	38% 48%	22% 37%	57% 24%	n/a

<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**

		1 Feb 2008	List 2 Jan 2009	ings 3 Feb 2009	Col. 2 & 3 Percentage Variance	5 Feb 2008	6 Jan 2009	7 Feb 2009	Sales Col. 6 & 7 Percentage Variance	9 Dec 2007 - Feb 2008	10 Dec 2008 - Feb 2009	Col. 9 & 10 Percentage Variance
BURNABY DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS		157 138 268	118 93 197	127 103 165	% 7.6 10.8 -16.2	77 60 150	29 18 42	47 46 70	% 62.1 155.6 66.7	194 170 362	106 86 156	<b>%</b> -45.4 -49.4 -56.9
COQUITLAM  DETACHED  ATTACHED  APARTMENTS		194 58 145	103 39 84	150 58 81	45.6 48.7 -3.6	81 30 55	27 7 32	44 8 41	63.0 14.3 28.1	202 78 164	105 25 96	-48.0 -67.9 -41.5
DELTA  DETACHED  ATTACHED  APARTMENTS		88 16 30	60 10 18	76 4 25	26.7 -60.0 38.9	44 7 16	13 1 2	22 4 14	69.2 300.0 600.0	102 20 34	47 7 23	-53.9 -65.0 -32.4
MAPLE RIDGE DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	/PITT MEADOWS	197 48 105	184 55 40	180 73 44	-2.2 32.7 10.0	107 46 35	38 13 11	49 15 10	28.9 15.4 -9.1	256 102 84	114 34 32	-55.5 -66.7 -61.9
NORTH VANC	OUVER	450	00	142	42.4	94	10	46	202.2	174	05	45.4
OETACHED ATTACHED		152 60	99 40	142 54	43.4 35.0	81 35	12 4	46 12	283.3	174 72	95 29	-45.4 -59.7
NEW WESTMII DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	NSTER	155 47 39 135	93 36 11 119	40 18 124	17.2 11.1 63.6 4.2	93 17 19 63	6 5 24	38 10 6 52	65.2 66.7 20.0 116.7	43 38 180	22 13 104	-48.8 -65.8 -42.2
PORT MOODY DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	/BELCARRA	49 33 72	20 29 52	56 34 39	180.0 17.2 -25.0	27 30 37	2 6 10	15 20 15	650.0 233.3 50.0	55 59 79	21 34 35	-61.8 -42.4 -55.7
PORT COQUIT DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	LAM	101 53 64	56 38 46	49 32 43	-12.5 -15.8 -6.5	38 32 30	11 5 10	34 20 14	209.1 300.0 40.0	84 63 85	62 37 37	-26.2 -41.3 -56.5
RICHMOND  DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS		234 144 333	185 93 192	168 107 184	-9.2 15.1 -4.2	130 104 144	30 13 56	69 47 83	130.0 261.5 48.2	317 226 383	137 86 195	-56.8 -61.9 -49.1
SUNSHINE CO DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	AST	118 19 5	62 6 4	85 3 5	37.1 -50.0 25.0	43 4 2	8 2 0	20 2 2	150.0 0.0 200.0	112 16 5	37 7 3	-67.0 -56.3 -40.0
SQUAMISH DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS		42 16 15	31 13 16	27 17 10	-12.9 30.8 -37.5	13 12 12	4 2 3	8 4 1	100.0 100.0 -66.7	39 31 30	12 8 7	-69.2 -74.2 -76.7
VANCOUVER I DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	EAST	303 47 215	150 32 143	176 43 143	17.3 34.4 0.0	128 30 120	42 11 22	92 17 59	119.0 54.5 168.2	314 68 307	194 46 150	-38.2 -32.4 -51.1
VANCOUVER I DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS	WEST	241 105 726	195 125 600	203 113 588	4.1 -9.6 -2.0	138 52 413	46 14 117	100 37 245	117.4 164.3 109.4	269 121 965	202 79 483	-24.9 -34.7 -49.9
WHISTLER DETACHED ATTACHED APARTMENTS		33 29 32	22 36 32	20 31 27	-9.1 -13.9 -15.6	10 18 13	1 7 6	5 5 1	400.0 -28.6 -83.3	22 44 25	10 19 8	-54.5 -56.8 -68.0
WEST VANCO	UVER/HOWE SOUND	146	81	97	19.8	56	22	27	22.7	125	62	-50.4
ATTACHED		17	12	7	-41.7	5	1	0	-100.0	11	1	-90.9
GRAND TO	ΓALS	2102	1402	1596	12.0 13.8	990	291	5 588	102.1	2308	14 1226	-57.6 -46.9
ATTACHED		822	632	697 4645	10.3	484 4407	109	243 650	122.9	1119	511 4429	-54.3 54.7

### Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver Average Price Graph January 1977 to February 2009

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

IN THOUSANDS (\$) 1000 \$792,551 900 800 700 \$437,233 600 500 400 \$353,064 300 200 100

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 2009