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RE/MAX Orchard Country

Okanagan and BC were down 49%, with 45 units.

We continue to assist our Buyer clients in acquiring property on their journey of new home ownership.

Our Seller clients continue to realize valuable returns on their investment when they sell and are also often choosing to port their existing, low rate mortgages to new properties when they move.

As always, we are here to provide you with timely information and assist you in making smart investment decisions.

We are YOUR trusted advisors, with world connections!

Love where you live!



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FIRST DAY of Spring

**MARCH 2023** 

Spring is near...

RE/MAX



More buyers and sellers think of RE/MAX<sup>®</sup> than any other real estate brand.







## MARKET UPDATE

We hope that this month's communication finds you and yours well and in good health!

305 properties were listed in the month of February in the South Okanagan which is up just over 7% over last February.

Unit Sales across the South Okanagan however have not kept pace with listings however we are seeing an uptick with 110 unit sales which is down 44% from the 182 unit sales reported in February of last year.

The average days to sell a Single Family Home in Penticton has decreased to 56 days last year to 47 days.

In Penticton, 116 properties were listed for sale in February which is still slightly lower than February 2022 by 2%.

Unit sales in Penticton, like the entire South

### HOME DESIGN TREND

Curb Appeal is The Hook!

Your exterior says a lot about how your home is maintained both inside and out.

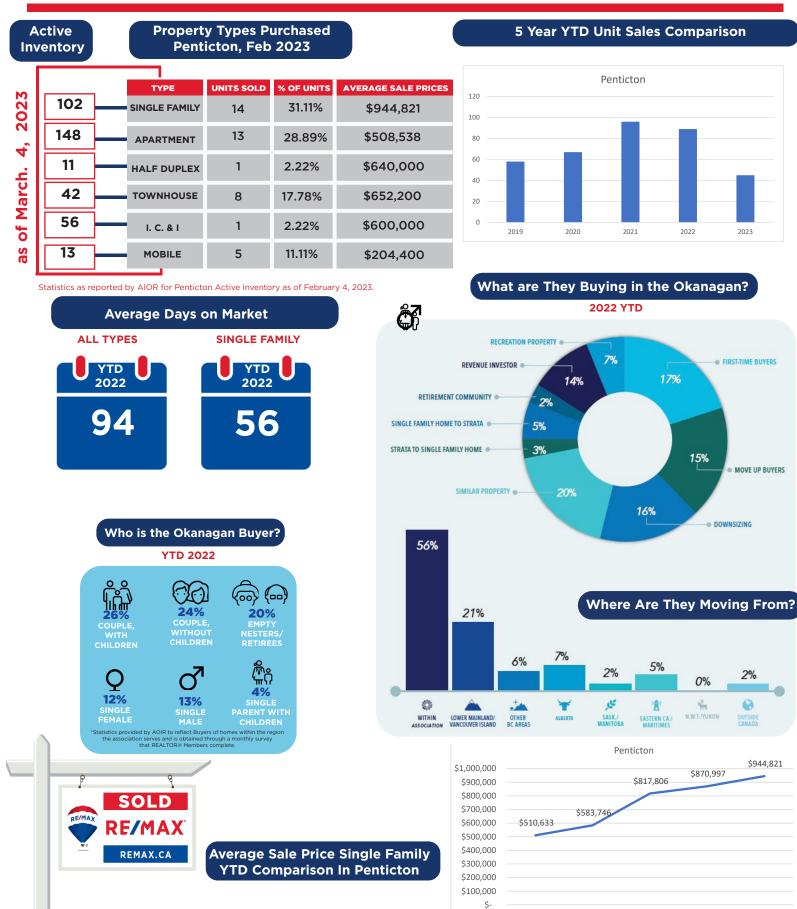
When buyers see an attractive exterior, they will be eager to stop and darn right excited to view the interior as well!

Full article on our Blog: https://www.yoursouthokanaganhome.com/ blog/curb-appeal-hook/



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## JUST THE Stats Please



2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

\*Based on MLS® Statistics as reported by AIOR for the South Okanagan for 2017-2022.

# REALESTATE RE/MAX PENTICTON REALTY



#### Things to Know When Buying a Condominium

We often get questions about the difference of condominium ownership vs single-family ownership as many of our clients consider buying a condominium as opposed to a traditional single-family home.

We wanted to share with all of you what we tell our client so that you too can make the most informed of decisions.

Considering that last year in the South Okanagan, there were almost 1800 unit sales of residential property in the area and out of all of those sold units almost 19% of those were condominium sales! That is almost 1 in 5 unit sales!

FOR SALE

The gaining popularity of condominium living is no surprise as condo living can be a wonderful way to get into homeownership without worrying about all of the maintenance that comes with single-family homes and sometimes it can be more affordable. But benefits can sometimes come with trade off's which is why it is important to fully understand the ins and out, so to speak, of condo ownership and living.

#### You are Buying Into a Corporation

Let's start at the beginning shall we...with one of the largest distinguishes of free-hold single family ownership and condominium ownership which is that when you buy a condominium you buy into a corporation. When you buy a single-family home you have control over your domicile including expenditures whereas when you acquire a condominium you become part owner in a corporation with shared rights and responsibilities. This means that it is important for Buyers to do some research prior to investing into the corporation.

This is why it is common practice for REALTORS<sup>®</sup> to request the financial statements, budgets and confirm strata fees for their clients as part of their assistance to helping buyers perform due diligence when acquiring condominiums.

#### Each Condominium Has It's Own Personality

Every strata corporation has it's own set of ByLaw's & Rules & Regulations detailing how the strata corporation operates and the responsibilities of both Strata Lot Owners and the Strata Corporation. It is important for Buyers to review the ByLaw's & Rules to ensure that the lifestyle offered at the strata matches the one desired by the Buyer.

#### Strata Meeting Minutes Is A Great Way To Get To Know A Strata

Every Strata is legislated by the Strata Property Act which requires Annual General Meetings. Strata Corporations have regular Strata Council meetings, which all Strata Lot Owners are invited to. The business of the strata corporation is conducted and minutes are taken. REALTORS<sup>®</sup> commonly request 2 year's worth of meeting minutes for their Buyer clients to review as they know that this is the best way for their clients to become familiar with what has been transpiring in the corporation they are considering acquiring an interest in.

#### A Special Assessment Is Not Always So Special

Special Assessments are voted on by Strata Corporations and if approved run with the Strata Lot meaning that even if a Strata Lot is sold the debt/special assessment is owed by the Strata Lot. Strata Corporations approve Special Assessments to pay for expenditures that are not provided for in the Budget and that the Contingency Reserve Fund cannot. Don't get us wrong, special assessments can be a valuable mechanism whereby strata corporations make significant improvements or repairs and we kind of like the pay as you go model!

RE/MAX Agents just want to ensure that our Buyer clients buy in an informed fashion and know if there are currently any special assessments or if there are any planned. Additionally, your RE/MAX Agent will insert a provision into your Contract of Purchase & Sale requiring the Seller to pay any Special Levy passed after the Contract of Purchase & Sale is accepted but before closing.

#### To Amenity or Not To Amenity That is The Question

Amenities such as roof top terraces, lap pools, business centres, club houses, BBQ areas, security, and concierge services rock! Nothing better that coming home from a hard day's work, picking up your delivery from the concierge before hitting the lap pool and then head up to the common area terrace to throw a steak on. But that pool, terrace and BBQ need to be cleaned, maintained/repaired and replaced at some point and all of those features have costs associated with them and you now are a part Owner.

You have questions, we have answers! RE/MAX

For more blog posts, visit: yoursouthokanaganhome.com/blog

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LOCAL EVENTS IN

#### Various Dates & Times PENTICTON VEES

Cheer on the Penticton Vees in their record-breaking season! Go VEES Go! Mar 11 vs Merritt Mar 17 vs Nanaimo Mar 18 vs Merritt Mar 24 vs Vernon Mar 26 vs Salmon Arm \*LAST REGULAR SEASON GAME! Where: South Okanagan Events Centre

### March 24 - April 2, 2023

IGNITE THE ARTS FESTIVAL 10 Day celebration of art and culture. Visit www. ignitethearts.ca for schedule of events. Where: Various Locations

#### March 25 7:00PM FMX WORLD TOUR

The FMX World Tour is an extreme action sports competition which has grown into an international phenomenom.

### Where: South Okanagan Events Centre

#### March 25 & 26 HELLO SPRING | ARTISAN SHOWCASE

Bringing you some of the best Artisians, Crafters, Makers Growers & Brewers the Okanagan has to offer! Where: Penticton Trade & Convention Centre



We are pleased to be bringing back the RE/MAX Easter Egg-Stravaganza to Summerland this year!

After a long-awaited return, we are excited to announce the event will take place on Saturday April 8th at Memorial Park from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Join us for a fun day of kid's activities, bouncey castles, local vendors, food offerings, visits with the Easter Bunny, games and of course, the Easter Egg Hunt!



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

