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Staying in Touch
Market Update - February 18, 2014

Good News For First Time Home Buyers



Government reduces tax burden on first-time buyers

First-time home buyers received welcome news in today's provincial budget. Any REALTORS® currently working with first-time buyers will want to share this news with them as soon as possible.

The government has announced, effective February 19, 2014, under the Property Transfer Tax (PTT) First-Time Home Buyers' Exemption program, qualifying first-time buyers can buy a home worth up to \$475,000. The previous threshold was \$425,000.

The partial exemption continues and will apply to homes valued between \$475,000 and \$500,000.

With this change, the government estimates 1,700 additional first-time buyers will annually be eligible to save up to \$7,500 in PTT when they buy their home.

The government estimates this measure will cost \$8 million in lost tax revenue each year.

The Real Estate Board, together with BC Real Estate Association, has actively lobbied to make home ownership more affordable for first-time home buyers. This increase in the threshold clearly signals our efforts have paid off as in past years.

In 2008, as a result of industry lobbying, the provincial government increased the threshold to \$425,000 from \$375,000.

In 2005, the government increased the threshold to \$325,000 from \$275,000.

The PTT is calculated at a rate of one per cent on the first \$200,000 and two per cent on the remaining value of the purchase price.

Here is a link to the Budget.: <http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2014/default.htm>

The above info is deemed reliable, but is not guaranteed.
SOURCE: Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver

"Professional and Dedicated Real Estate Services For Over 28 Years"

Thinking of Buying or Selling?

Call me... let's talk real estate **604-518-9778**

If you know someone thinking of Buying or Selling a Home?

Please keep me in your thoughts.

Thank You... for your continued support and referrals!

This communication is not intended to cause or induce breach of an existing agency agreement.

