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# The Real Estate Report

# Winter Safety Tips for Your Home

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# Ensure your peace of mind throughout the winter season

While we may not (yet) be snowed under, it seems that winter has come to stay in the Okanagan this year. The sub-zero temperatures have become the majority and it's time to turn our attention to the best ways to thrive throughout the frigid season. Here are some home safety tips that will help you do more than hibernate:

#### Warm but not toasty

With weather becoming colder, it's time to light up the fireplace and candles to keep warm. This means that it's important to observe fire safety at all times. Make sure that you have working smoke detectors installed with fresh batteries. For a gas fireplace, make sure to have it serviced regularly – including checking for leaks. Don't leave burning candles or wood fireplaces unattended.

#### Cold but not icy

Don't let the walkability of your driveway and sidewalks slip away.

Clear all pathways of snow as soon as possible to prevent it from turning into ice. Excess snow can be packed around the base of your house to provide additional insulation. Sprinkle sand or de-icing mixture on icy areas to prevent dangerous falls. You can also use kitty litter to provide traction on ice.

#### **Ready for anything**

Keep a well-stocked emergency kit in your home so that you will be prepared for any eventuality. Include essential items such as battery-powered flashlight and radio, non-perishable food items, water and blankets. Make sure it is easily accessible and can be transported (a backpack or suitcase on wheels) should you need to evacuate your home. The Government of Canada has a great list of what should be included as well as general emergency preparedness tips at www. getprepared.gc.ca

## **Residential Sales by Price**

Price Range	2015	2014
\$0 to \$200,000	15	23
\$200,000 to \$240,000	27	34
\$240,000 to \$280,000	43	55
\$280,000 to \$320,000	91	117
\$320,000 to \$360,000	192	252
\$360,000 to \$400,000	291	281
\$400,000 to \$440,000	299	300
\$440,000 to \$480,000	303	290
\$480,000 to \$520,000	272	226
\$520,000 to \$560,000	261	204
\$560,000 to \$600,000	167	146
\$600,000 to \$999,999	525	371
\$1 Million and over	50	63

### **Real Estate Stats Last Month**

Average house price last month	511,966	539,463
Median house price last month	468,250	459,500
Average Mobile Home price	111,267	84,846
Houses listed	494	474

#### Residential Sales (Year To Date)

Туре	2015	2014
Acreage/House	137	120
Townhouse	841	766
Condo	1,100	973
Lots	193	233
Mobile Homes	242	223
Residential	2,542	2,362
Residential (Waterfront)	55	60
TOTAL	5,110	4,747

## Active Listings









