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Wishing our Canadian Olympic Athletes the Very Best!

Winter Olympics Fun Facts

- *The first Winter Olympics were held in Chamonix, France, in 1924.*
- *No country in the Southern Hemisphere has ever hosted a Winter Olympics.*
- *Four athletes have won medals at both the Winter and Summer Olympic Games: Eddie Eagan (United States), Jacob Tullin Thams (Norway), Christa Luding-Rothenburger (East Germany) and Clara Hughes (Canada).*
- *Eddie Eagan is the only athlete to have won gold at both Winter and Summer Olympics - at the 1920 Games in boxing and at the 1932 Lake Placid Games in the team bobsled event.*
- *The most medals won by any athlete at the Winter Olympics is 12 by cross-country skier Bjorn Dählie of Norway.*
- *Norway has won more golds at the Winter Games than any other country.*

Ask the Agent: This Month's Question

I want my next home to be "green." What should I look for?

Energy-efficient homes can lower fuel bills, improve indoor air quality and comfort, reduce construction material costs, lower ongoing maintenance and operational costs, and reduce water usage. An environmentally friendly home will probably have:

1. Effective insulation - to ensure even temperatures throughout the home
2. Energy efficient windows - to help keep heat in during winter and out during summer
3. Tight construction and ducts - to reduce drafts, moisture, dust, pollen, and noise and to improve indoor comfort and air quality
4. Efficient heating and cooling systems - to improve home comfort and use less energy
5. Efficient products - such as light fixtures and appliances with an energy-efficiency designation.

Active Pre-Olympic Housing Market in the Fraser Valley

FVREB News Release, February 2, 2010

The Fraser Valley experienced a return to typical home sale levels plus an early surge in new listings in January, according to the latest figures from the Fraser Valley Real Estate Board.

Paul Penner, President of the Board said, "Compared to last January, the market has returned to balance. Consumers continue to take advantage of the affordability created by lower interest rates." There were 981 sales processed on FVREB's Multiple Listing Service® (MLS®) in January, an increase of 152 per cent compared to the same month last year when 389 sales were processed. There was also a 46.8 per cent increase in new listings, 2,941 compared to 2,003 during January last year. On a month-to-month basis, sales decreased 22 per cent in January compared to December, while new inventory more than doubled, going from 1,453 new listings in December to 2,941 in January. This increased overall inventory by 14 per cent in one month. Penner added, "If I were house-hunting right now, I'd be pretty excited. There is more selection and potentially less competition over the next few weeks.

"Some buyers will put their house-hunting on hold during the Olympics creating an advantage for those who don't want to wait."

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