



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

IMPRESSIVE FIRST QUARTER MLS® ACTIVITY

MLS® Sales Up 3%, Dollar Volume Jumps 18%

WINNIPEG – The Winnipeg real estate market is showing no let up in 2006 with a continuation of a trend that started in 2002 where sales are solid and dollar volume reaches a new plateau for each month. Gains are evident when you have three months of sales worth over \$50 million more than the same period a year ago. One overriding contributing factor is there is double the number of residential-detached sales in the highest price range of \$300,000 and over. Winnipeggers are confident about investing in higher-priced real estate.

March MLS® unit sales are in a virtual deadlock with the same month last year (1,015/1,018) while dollar volume is up 9% (\$150.1 million/\$137.3 million). Year-to-date MLS® sales are up 3% (2,353/2,276) and dollar volume is well ahead by over 18% (\$341.9 million/\$288.7 million).

MLS® listings for the first quarter are up 13% and the conversion of these sales is at the high percentage level of 70%.

“Our MLS® system continues to perform exceptionally well,” said Walter Boni, President of The Winnipeg Real Estate Board. “We fully intend to do more to enhance it through continual upgrades to help our 1,100 REALTOR® members provide the best value-added services available to their clients.”

Residential detached sales in March, 2006 were most active in the \$130,000 - \$159,999 price range with 20% of total sales activity. Activity in price ranges above \$200,000 is increasing relative to ones below with nearly one-quarter of all sales now. 55% of all residential-detached sales this month sold at or above list price. The average days on market for March, 2006 was 23 days, 4 days quicker than last month and 2 days off the pace set in March, 2005.

The Winnipeg Real Estate Board is a professional industry association representing 1,300 real estate brokers, salespeople, appraisers, and financial members active in the local real estate market. It exists to serve its members and to promote the benefits of organized real estate.

For further information, contact Peter Squire at 786-8854.

Residential Detached Sales March 1st, 2006 to March 31st, 2006

