



Hard to believe isn't it? Summer just flew by! And what a gorgeous summer it was.

Both Winter and Spring passed by in the blink of an eye thanks to all of you and your referrals. Wasn't that 90mm rain dump in June something else? I commiserate with any one of you who ever had leaks in the basement! Thanks to the city system, our weeping tile backed up into the basement. In typical fashion as my feet squelched through the carpet, I turned to my husband, and with a big smile said, "Well, we wanted to redo the basement honey!" I wish I had taken a picture of his face!

In July we took a quick trip to New York to celebrate the very 1st birthday of my brother's twins. It was quite the party...I needed to nap with them afterward.

When I was finally able to take a breath my boys and I quickly disappeared for some much needed R & R on the Big Rideau.

At this time of Thanksgiving, I want to take a quick moment to thank ALL of you for continuing to trust me with your real estate needs, and for the ongoing referral of my services to your friends, family and colleagues. I am deeply grateful to, and for, each and every one of my clients.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and would love to hear from you, even if it's just to say "Hi".



HOW IS THE OTTAWA MARKET YOU ASK?

Published by the Ottawa Real Estate Board, Sept. 6, 2011
Above-average home sales in August

Members of the Ottawa Real Estate Board sold 1,329 residential properties in August through the Board's Multiple Listing Service® system compared with 1,099 in August 2010, an increase of 20.9 per cent.

The five-year average for August sales is 1,225. Of those sales, 285 were in the condominium property class, while 1,044 were in the residential property class.

"Through the summer, the resale housing market has picked up some momentum and made up for the quiet start to 2011; this year's unit sales to date are now within a percentage point of the number of homes sold by this time last year. However, we are seeing that homes are taking slightly longer to sell than they did in July," said Board President Joanne Tibbles. "Interest rates are still low, which continues to motivate many buyers and sellers, but a more balanced market means more properties for buyers to choose from, which often leads to a longer selling time," she added.

The average sale price of residential properties, including condominiums, sold in August in the Ottawa area was \$337,372, an increase of 6.2 per cent over August 2010.

The average sale price for a condominium-class property was \$252,999, an increase of 3.1 per cent over August 2010.

The average sale price of a residential-class property was \$360,405, an increase of 6.3 per cent over August 2010.

DID YOU KNOW??

A flamingo can eat only when its head is upside down.

- **All of the clocks in the movie "Pulp Fiction" read 4:20.**
- **"60 Minutes" on CBS is the only TV show to not have a theme song or music.**
- **If you were to spell out numbers, you would have to go until 1,000 until you could find the letter "A".**
- **It's against the law to slam your car door in Switzerland.**
- **Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.**
- **If you keep a goldfish in the dark room, it will eventually turn white**

French Canadian Pea Soup



Ok, ok - so it's not for everyone - but with Fall bearing down on us, this is one of those meals that brings back so many childhood memories from my Grandmother's "cabane". Totally and completely one of my comfort foods. Enjoy!

Serves 8 **Yields 10 cups**

- 1 lb peas dried
- 8 cups water
- 1/2 lb salt pork, all in one piece
- 1 onion, large chopped
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- 1/4 cup carrot, grated
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley leaves, chopped
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon savory, dried
- salt
- black pepper

Directions:

1. Wash and sort peas; soak in cold water overnight.
2. Drain and place in a large pot; add water, parsley, salt pork, onion, celery, carrots, parsley, bay leaf, savory and 1 tsp salt.
3. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer until peas are very tender, about 2 hours, adding more water if needed.
4. Remove salt pork; chop and return to soup. Discard bay leaf. Season to taste with salt and pepper.



FALL HOME CHECKLIST

- Check chimneys for obstructions such as nests.
- Vacuum electric baseboard heaters to remove dust.
- Check and clean or replace furnace air filters each month during the heating season. Ventilation system, such as heat recovery ventilator, filters should be checked every two months.
- Check smoke, carbon monoxide and security alarms, and replace batteries.
- Remove interior insect screens from windows to allow air from the heating system to keep condensation off window glass and to allow more free solar energy into your home.
- Cover outside of air-conditioning units and shut off power.
- Clean leaves from eavestroughs and roof, and test downspouts to ensure proper drainage from the roof..
- Ensure that the ground around your home slopes away from the foundation wall, so that water does not drain into your basement.
- Drain and store outdoor hoses. Close interior valve to outdoor hose connection and drain the hose bib (exterior faucet), unless your house has frost-proof hose bibs.

Ottawa Festivals



One World Film

Festival

Oct. 13, 2011 to Oct. 16, 2011



Ottawa International

Writers Festival, Fall Edition

Oct. 20, 2011 to Oct. 25, 2011



Ottawa Children's

Storytelling Festival

November 5, 2011



Canadian Folk Music

Awards

November 19, 2011



3i Summit: Imagine -

Interact - Inspire

November 26, 2011



Christmas Lights

Across Canada

December 1, 2011 to January 7, 2012



Winterlude

(Weekends) February 3 to 20, 2012

Feb. 3, 2012 to Feb. 20, 2012



Canadian Tulip

Festival

May 4, 2012 to May 20, 2012