



AREA Monthly

The eNewsletter of the Alberta Real Estate Association | November 2017

Government Liaison Days



Understanding the NDP Panel. From left to right: Kathleen Monk, Cheryl Oates, Brad Lavigne

AREA's 2017 Government Liaison Days took place from November 27-29, 2017 at the Matrix Hotel in downtown Edmonton. Over the three-day period, attendees were presented with various panels and key note speakers who discussed key issues within the real estate industry.

The conference was available to all AREA members, including participation in an MLA Reception which received excellent attendance by MLAs, including six Cabinet ministers.

The keynote speakers for the conference were the Honourable Sandra Jansen, Minister of Infrastructure, and the Honourable Jason Kenney, leader of the United Conservative Party. Both speakers shed light on their respective platforms and the importance of the real estate industry and the consumers that REALTORS® serve to Alberta's economy.



AREA Updates

Enforceable Contracts Course: AREA members are reminded they must [complete their course](#) by January 31, 2018.

Upcoming events

January 11, 2018
Renewable Energy and the Future of our Homes Webinar - David Dodge, Green Energy Futures

March 8, 2018
Ask an Expert - Foreclosure Properties Webinar - Denise Hendrix, Hendrix Law, and AREA Director, Doug Singleton



MLA Lorne Dach's Remarks

During AREA's Government Liaison Days conference, attendees were given the opportunity to attend Question Period at the Alberta Legislature on November 28, 2017. Lorne Dach, MLA for Edmonton-McClung, introduced AREA at Question Period, and his member's statement is as follows:

"I rise today to speak to you about an industry and an organization in which I am proud to have served. Prior to being elected as the MLA for Edmonton-McClung, I had a 30-year career in real estate and was a proud member of the Alberta Real Estate Association. Seated here in the gallery today are 48 members from that same association attending their annual Government Liaison Days conference.

The Alberta Real Estate Association was incorporated on February 11, 1947. Then, as now, property ownership is one of the cornerstones of the high-quality life that Albertans enjoy. As their part in maintaining that quality of life, the Alberta Real Estate Association provides professional development for their realtor members as well as advocates on behalf of their membership to ensure that industry professionals are able to serve the Alberta public effectively. They advocate for realtors and their clients on issues like land transfer taxes, the land titles registry system, standards for home and property inspections, marijuana grow op remediation, and Alberta's Condominium Property Act regulations. In fact, the association was an important contributor to the recent consultations on the Condominium Property Act and age-restricted condos.

The Alberta Real Estate Association is a valued and constructive stakeholder on government issues related to real estate in Alberta. I know because I've been on both sides of the equation as a property owner and as a realtor. The Alberta Real Estate Association and the Alberta government share the same desire to protect and promote the interests of Albertans by making sure that there are rules and guidelines in place to help make significant real estate decisions, like purchasing a home or selling a subdivision, easier and trouble free.

I hope you'll all join me in congratulating the Alberta Real Estate Association and its member realtors for 70 years of dedicated service to our province and its people.”*

We would like to thank MLA Dach for his warm welcome to AREA and its members at Question Period, and also for his continued work and advocacy for the real estate industry.

*Hansard: 29th Legislature, Third Session, Day 57.

Interactive Residential Rebate Map

Homeowners in Alberta are becoming more conscious of the value of energy efficiency, and because of this, buyers and sellers alike are adding efficiency upgrades and deficiencies to their “must have” or “to do” list.

With funding from the Alberta Real Estate Foundation, AREA, in partnership with the Pembina Institute, wants to empower Alberta's REALTORS® by providing them with information that can enrich client relationships during Alberta's energy transition. This series of tools and resources is designed to help REALTORS® educate and market themselves to clients who are actively interested in residential energy efficiency, as well as assist in marketing properties to energy-conscious buyers.

The Interactive Residential Rebate Map is a tool that helps REALTORS® identify government rebates at the municipal, provincial and federal level that their clients can investigate further. [Click here to learn more.](#)



At Risk Commissions Insurance member opinion update

We are still awaiting the results of the actuarial analysis on the AREA/REIX insurance offering. Following the analysis, we will come back to members with more information about the structure of a possible program and invite all members to vote on whether they would like AREA to proceed. Stay tuned.



Market Report

Each month AREA produces a Market Report snapshot of real estate in Alberta.

[Click to view October's Market Report online.](#)



Comments

Feedback or editorial requests can be sent to communications@albertarealtor.ca