

Market Watch

S&P/TSX	S&P 500	DOW	NASDAQ	DOLLAR	OIL per barrel	GOLD
27,905.49 -10.50	6,389.45 +49.45	44,946.12 +34.86	21,622.98 -87.69	72.43¢US even	US\$61.98 -\$1.05	US\$3,382.60 -\$0.60

National home sales rise as long-awaited boost ‘seems to have finally arrived’: CREA

SAMMY HUDES
The Canadian Press

The Canadian Real Estate Association says home sales in July rose 6.6 per cent compared with a year ago, continuing an upward trend after the market had slowed in previous months.

A total of 45,973 homes changed hands last month, up from 43,122 in July 2024.

Home sales rose 3.8 per cent on a month-over-month basis from June, with transactions up a cumulative 11.2 per cent since March.

“With sales posting a fourth consecutive increase in July, and almost four per cent at that, the long-anticipated post-inflation crisis pickup in housing seems to have finally arrived,” said CREA senior economist Shaun Cathcart in a press release.

“Looking ahead a little bit, it will be interesting to see how buyers react to the burst of new supply that typically shows up in the first half of September.”

The association said the bump in sales activity was led overwhelmingly by the Greater

Toronto Area, where transactions have now rebounded a cumulative 35.5 per cent since March.

It’s been a similar story around 200 kilometres southwest of there in London, Ont., said Adam Miller, broker and manager of Royal LePage Triland Realty.

Home sales activity in the London and St. Thomas region was up 27.4 per cent in July compared with a year earlier, according to the CREA data.

Miller said anticipation has been building for months among potential buyers as consumer confidence has started to rebound.

“I think a lot of buyers just said, ‘OK, the rate changes haven’t happened, it seems like the market is pretty stable, prices are probably close to as low as they’ve been for the last little while,’” he said.

“So I think a lot of the buyers decided to show up and have a little summer surprise.”

TD economist Rishi Sondhi said “pent-up demand temporarily sidelined earlier in the year returned to markets with some force last month.”



CP FILE PHOTO

The Canadian Real Estate Association says home sales in July rose 6.6 per cent compared with a year ago, continuing an upward trend after the market had slowed in previous months.

“Indeed, it looks as though the sales recovery that should have happened earlier in the year after significant (interest) rate relief in 2024 was simply delayed some months,” he said in a note.

“Some reduction in economic uncertainty should bring back more buyers in B.C. and Ontario, while further

Real estate analysts pointed to the significant economic uncertainty associated with both U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods, as well as the effect of Canada’s counter-tariffs.

Miller said sentiment in the real estate market has shifted, with many buyers feeling the situation hasn’t been as bad as initially predicted. However, he cautioned that “things can change on a dime.”

“There was sort of that ‘sky was falling’ aspect,” he said.

“People are kind of like, ‘Oh, everything seems to be OK still, maybe we’ll start moving forward with our plans to get a new home, into a first-time home, things like that.’”

Meanwhile, new listings across Canada were up 0.1 per cent month-over-month.

There were 202,500 properties listed for sale across Canada at the end of July, up 10.1 per cent from a year earlier and in line with the long-term average for that time of the year.

The actual national average sale price of a home sold in July was \$672,784, up 0.6 per cent from a year ago.

Fewer firms report U.S. tariff hit as manufacturing sales edge up in June

The Canadian Press

Statistics Canada says manufacturing sales edged up June and a smaller share of firms reported effect from U.S. tariffs.

The agency said Friday that manufacturing sales in June rose 0.3 per cent to \$68.5 billion, breaking a streak of four consecutive monthly declines.

Petroleum and coal sales increased 11.8 per cent to \$6.8 billion in June, while the food product subsector gained 2.5 per cent to reach a record \$13.2 billion.

Meanwhile, the transportation equipment subsector fell

five per cent to \$10.5 billion in June, the lowest level since November 2022, as sales of motor vehicles fell 9.4 per cent and motor vehicle parts lost 2.8 per cent.

Firms continue to report headwinds from Canada’s tariff dispute with the United States, though there are signs some manufacturers are avoiding the trade disruption.

Roughly 40 per cent of manufacturing firms surveyed by Statistics Canada reported being affected by U.S. tariffs in June, down from 50 per cent in May and 60 per cent in April.



PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK

Mayoral candidate and current Edmonton ward councillor Tim Cartmell has, so far, brought in more in corporate donations than any other candidate in Edmonton’s upcoming municipal elections.

Big money is back in Edmonton elections

BRETT MCKAY
Local Journalism Initiative

With businesses and unions again free to put money behind Alberta political candidates, corporate donations are shaping up to have a big influence on Edmonton’s municipal election this fall.

Financial disclosure statements show that in the first two months of the election campaign, 39 per cent of donations to Edmonton city council candidates came from registered corporations.

Of the 10 political hopefuls who reported fundraising amounts for 2024, seven candidates received corporate funding. In total, corporations have donated \$204,687, and 84 per cent of that money, \$172,000, went to the mayoral campaign of current Ward pihësiwin Councillor Tim Cartmell.

Corporations and unions were barred from contributing to candidates in local elections by the former New Democrat government in 2018, but

amendments to the Local Authorities Election Act in 2024 reversed this ban.

There are increasingly few Canadian jurisdictions that allow entities other than individuals to give to politicians, said Bill Kilgannon, co-author of a study examining municipal campaign fundraising in Alberta’s four biggest cities.

Knowing how difficult it can be for candidates to raise money at the municipal level, the \$5,000 corporations and unions can now contribute “makes a huge difference.”

“Albertans, like everywhere else, do not want their politicians to be bought and paid for, and that’s why these laws exist, and why it is so important that there be a process for [contributions] to be investigated,” he said.

In a statement, Cartmell said the reintroduction of corporate donations is simply a return to past rules and doesn’t reflect changing values or priorities.

“With regard to corporate donations in my campaign: we are following the law as written. These contributions are within the legal limit and fully disclosed. Our campaign is focused on earning the trust and support of Edmontonians, not special interests — and that’s where our accountability lies,” he said.

In Edmonton’s 2017 municipal election, the last in which corporate and union donations were permitted, 56 per cent of funds raised by winning candidates came from corporations and eight per cent came from trade unions. The top five donors were all major developers, a trend observed in several of the province’s large and growing cities.

“I’ve been doing this research for many years and speaking with politicians, and it is clear that developers want developer-friendly councils, so that they can make lots of money,” Kilgannon said. “It’s perfectly legal... but it raises the question about how much influence these developers can have.”

PUBLIC NOTICES



Medicine Hat

8AM - 4PM SPECIAL SERVICES

Electric Outages..... 403.529.8260
Gas Emergency403.529.8191
Water & Sewer Emergency 403.502.8042
After Hours Special Services..... 403.526.2828

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED AUGUST 7 TO AUGUST 13, 2025

RESIDENTIAL

43 SIERRA ROAD SW - Single Detached House With Rear Setback Variance

658 INDUSTRIAL AVENUE SE - Multiple Unit Residential Development (4 Units) With Variances To The Parking Stall Dimension, Parking Location & Section 5.9.3(V)

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/INSTITUTIONAL

1 3257 DUNMORE ROAD SE - Change Of Use (Office)

557 18 STREET SW - Change Of Use (Retail And Consumer Services)

HOME BUSINESS

14 CHOW AVENUE SE - Home Business Major - Landscaping.

3 SUNDANCE COURT SW - Home Business Minor - Landscaping.

4 20 2 STREET SW - Home Business Minor- General Contractor/Project Manager.



Scan code
to view development notices online (updated weekly)

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty one (21) days of this publication. Forms available from: City Clerk Dept., 3rd Floor, City Hall or City website: www.medicinehat.ca.

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. For more information, contact Planning and Development Services, 2nd Floor, City Hall. Ph. (403) 529-8374.

FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTION & WATER MAIN FLUSHING

Environmental Utilities Maintenance crews perform regular, routine maintenance to uphold the waterworks system infrastructure and water quality by annually inspecting fire hydrants and flushing water mains.

During these operations, there may be some discolouration in the water which is **not** harmful to consume and will dissipate when flushing is complete. Please note that discoloured water should not be used for laundry and that fluctuating water pressure may also be noticed.

Should discolouration persist beyond three hours, turn on a cold-water faucet or an outside sprinkler and let the water run for several minutes until the water runs clear.

For additional information or to confirm whether crews are working in your zone, refer to the Water Flushing information on the City’s website at www.medicinehat.ca/water or contact Environmental Utilities at 403-529-8176.

www.medicinehat.ca

South Sask Bus Lines

New 2025 Tour Dates
Tickets Now On Sale!

Edmonton River Cree Resort
October 6th to 9th, 2025

Stoney Nakoda Resort Casino
November 2nd to 5th, 2025

St Eugene Resort Casino
Cranbrook, BC
November 16th to 19th, 2025

Disneyland
February 13th to 22nd, 2026
Payment Plan Available

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