

The Inside Track...

March 2008 Edition

BANK OF CANADA LOWERS OVERNIGHT RATE TARGET BY 1/2 PERCENTAGE POINT TO 3 1/2 PER CENT

The Bank of Canada announced on March 4th, that it is lowering its target for the overnight rate by one-half of one percentage point to 3 1/2 per cent. The operating band for the overnight rate is correspondingly lowered, and the Bank Rate is now 3 3/4 per cent.

Information received since the January *Monetary Policy Report Update (MPRU)* indicates that economic growth in Canada through the four quarters of 2007 was broadly in line with expectations. Domestic demand has remained buoyant, as rising commodity prices and high employment have continued to support income growth. Canada's net exports weakened further in the fourth quarter, reflecting the slowing U.S. economy and the impact of the past appreciation of the Canadian dollar. Overall, the Canadian economy remained above its production capacity at year-end. Core and total CPI inflation – at 1.4 per cent and 2.2 per cent, respectively, in January – have also been consistent with the Bank's expectations.

At the same time, there are clear signs that the U.S. economy is likely to ex-

perience a deeper and more prolonged slowdown than had been projected in January. This stems from further weakening in the residential housing market, which is adversely affecting other sectors of the U.S. economy and contributing to further tightening in credit conditions. The deterioration in economic and financial conditions in the United States can be expected to have significant spillover effects on the global economy. These developments suggest that important downside risks to Canada's economic outlook that were identified in the *MPRU* are materializing and, in some respects, intensifying.

The Bank now judges that the balance of risks around its January projection for inflation has clearly shifted to the downside, and, as a result, the Bank is lowering the target for the overnight rate. Further monetary stimulus is likely to be required in the near term to keep aggregate supply and demand in balance and to achieve the 2 per cent inflation target over the medium term.

The Bank will publish a new projection for the economy and inflation, including risks to the projection, in the *Monetary Policy Report* on 24 April 2008.

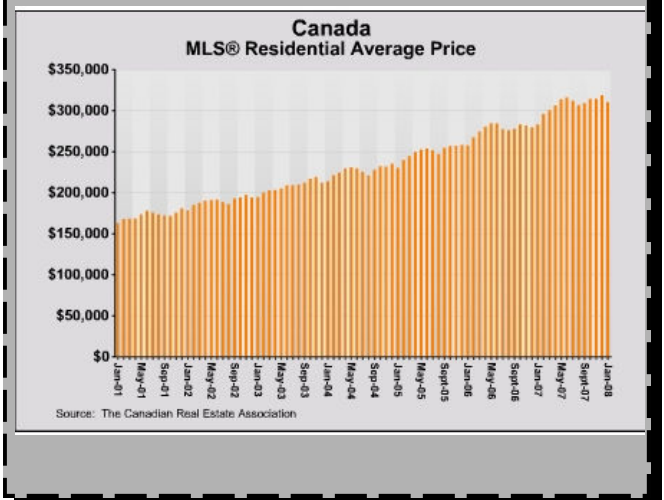
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THE CARSON TEAM

Canadian MLS Avg. Price Increase

The MLS® average price climbed to its highest level on record in Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and stood just slightly below record levels in British Columbia and Newfoundland and Labrador. The average sale price in Saskatchewan climbed by almost 50 per cent year-over-year in January 2008 – the largest increase ever!



We're Looking For...

As always we're working out hardest for our clients and this month we have some specific homes that are needed. If you know of someone who may have a home that meets any of these specifics let us know because we have buyers for them!

- East Hill 2-3 bedroom brick home
- 2 or 3 Bedroom Brick Bungalow w/ 2 car garage flexible closing date
- 2 bedroom condo needing some TLC
- 3500+ sq ft Century Home with Character up to \$800,000
- A "Fixer Upper" that needs some TLC



We are always seeking properties for our specific buyers, to find out if we have someone for your home give us a call 613-968-1177

Business Spotlight

The Carson Team would like to introduce the ultimate option for everything orderly! Simplify's Amanda Holt is a professional organizer who will literally change your life.

Office clutter getting to you? Closets that NEVER end? Feel like you can never catch up? You may very well need to give SIMPLIFY a call. With services ranging from simple techniques for managing that clutter, to major systems for implementing serious change in your life, Amanda has it all.

The Carson Team would like to thank Amanda for Offering our clients a **COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION** valid until April 30, 2008! Call Amanda for booking info

Simplify-Amanda Holt

Professional Organizer

613-885-1111

Amanda@simplylife.ca

Thank You For The February Referrals...



Don D.
Tom G.
Lynn M.

We want to extend our thanks for thinking of us, as you know referrals are the "Life Line" of our business.!

Please Call Us Today for your

Complimentary Home Evaluation



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