

Young single female buyers outnumber men

They are entering home market in droves

MARTHA WORBOY
CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

More young Canadian women are buying houses or condos than men, says a recent survey in the Royal LePage Female Buyers Report.

Single women are entering the homebuyers market in droves.

Never-before married women are choosing to spend their hard-earned cash on a down payment rather than on a winter vacation.

The survey shows that 30 per cent of single, unmarried women own their own home and 45 per cent of divorced, separated women are homeowners.

The surge has occurred over the past five years in cities across Canada, including Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Halifax. First-time buyers are favouring properties in the \$200,000 to \$400,000 range.

Yvonne Huh, a sales representative with Royal LePage Real Estate Service Ltd., says the numbers reflect that more women are focusing on careers and putting a delay on marriage and having kids.

"Women are getting married later and later," says Huh. "It doesn't make sense for them to wait around for Mr. Right anymore."

Out of the unmarried women who are currently not home owners, 31 per cent say they will possibly buy a home within three years.



Calgary Herald Archive

The surge of single female buyers has occurred during the past five years, says a survey.

Huh says single women crave the stability of a home that is theirs. "It's more about lifestyle — there's a safety and stability that comes with owning a home."

Huh says young men, no matter how much they earn, seem more inclined towards the freedom and flexibility of the renters market.

Of women who own property, when asked: "Which one of the following motivations most influenced your decision to purchase your home?" the top three responses included:

- It makes more sense than renting (36 per cent);

- Want to put money into a good investment (22 per cent);

- Pride of ownership (13 per cent).

Huh says it has also become less of a social stigma for young women to go out and buy their own place as compared to 10 years ago when she started out in the real estate business.

"It's OK now. It's acceptable. This is a great trend."

The nationwide phone survey of 1,002 women was conducted Feb. 15 to Feb. 20 by Maritz Research and had a margin of error of plus or minus three per cent.

FINAL STAGE
NOW SELLING

A legacy lasts forever

YOUR CHANCE TO BE PART OF ONE DOES NOT

GARRISON GREEN
 Visit us online at garrisongreen.com

Amidst the timeless tributes, and towering boulevard trees of Garrison Green are Calgary's most exquisite homes. Classic designs in harmony with the neighbourhood's rich legacy and mature mid-town character, are a gift to be enjoyed and shared for generations.

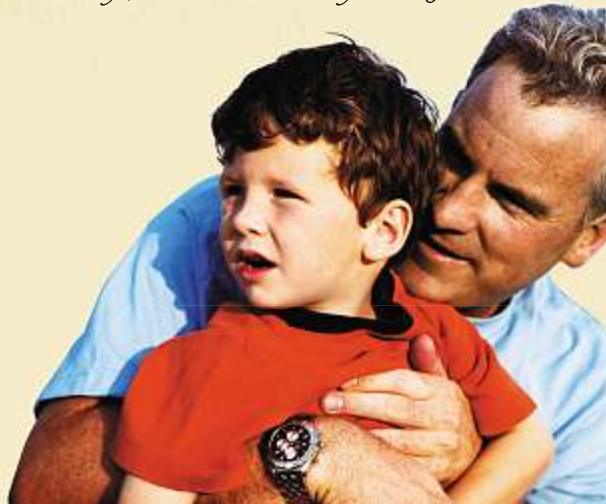
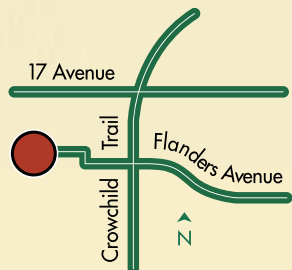
Tour Garrison Green's final showhomes today and see for yourself how wonderful your legacy can be.

FEATURED BUILDERS

Albi Homes	249-0924
Artisan Homes	217-3590
Aspire Condo Living	723-7640
Forte Carriage Homes	240-7833
Homes by Avi	246-4979
Sandlewood Developments	249-9958

PRESENTATION CENTRE

Telephone: 217-8380
Monday - Thursday 2 - 8
Fridays, Weekends & Holidays 12 - 5



CANADA LANDS COMPANY
SOCIÉTÉ IMMOBILIÈRE DU CANADA
Canada

AA623469

NEW SHOW HOMES!

WIDE OPEN SPACES

Experience our unique and vibrant communities in High River. Surrounded by wide open spaces — within reach of the big city.

High River

Highwood Lake

NEW LOTS now AVAILABLE

Visit our Show Home at 1807 High Park Boulevard
1350-3000 sq. ft.
Bungalows from the \$390's
2-storeys from the \$410's
Call Randy at 403-652-3699

The Villas at Highwood Lake

Visit our Show Homes at 1901 & 1903 Riverside Drive
1260-1500 sq. ft.
Maintenance-free bungalows from the \$380's (incl. lot and GST)

\$10,000 BONUS: Receive a 2-year gold membership to Highwood Golf & Country Club when you purchase a Highwood Lake Villa before May 31.
Call Nicole at 403-652-7150

WWW.WESTVIEWBUILDERS.COM

WESTVIEW BUILDERS
A WESTERN CANADIAN COMPANY

CRHBA
SAM AWARDS
FINALIST
2006

Show Home Hours
MON-THURS: 2PM-8PM FRI: CLOSED
WEEKENDS / HOLIDAYS: NOON-5PM

AA624346

WHEN PICKING A HOMEBUILDER IT'S IMPORTANT TO:

- Make sure he looks like Mike Holmes
- Really like the sales person
- Get a nice, shiny brochure
- Go by the look of their showhome
- ✓ Get the answers at www.albertanewhomewarranty.com

**IT'S THE HOME SMART ADVANTAGE.
WE'RE BUILDING ON IT EVERYDAY.**

AA623674

Precious Memories.

It's about what is important in life.

Experience Montrose, High River's only master planned community, just 20 minutes south of Calgary. Offering walkout lots backing onto a 16 acre pond, with small town stress-free living. Here you are free to relax and do whatever your heart desires. Montrose, where you can hold your fondest memories close while creating new ones.

Phase 1 Plan

Bringing your memories home
(403) 245-3515

DUNDEE DEVELOPMENTS

montrose-highriver.com

AA597024