

# Real Estate Monthly Grace Glastonbury

Sales Representative



Office: (613) 725-1171 Fax: 725-3323  
graceglastonbury@royallepage.ca

## Royal LePage Shelter Foundation: \$1.8 Million Raised in 2010 to Stop the Cycle of Family Violence

The Royal LePage Shelter Foundation announced its fundraising total for 2010 - a record-breaking \$1.8 million to support abused women and their children across Canada.

Now in its 13th year, the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation supports close to 200 shelters across the country, helping more than 30,000 women and children every year. It is also committed to funding violence prevention and education programs. Since its inception, the Shelter Foundation has raised \$12 million with the help and support of generous Royal LePage agents, brokers, managers and administrative staff, along with members of the communities in which they live and work.

"Violence against women occurs across all ethnic, racial, social and economic groups and in all communities," says Shanan Spencer-Brown, Executive Director of the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation. "In Canada, half of all women will experience abuse during their lifetime, and every year, 360,000 children are exposed to their mother being abused. That's why the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation remains committed to raising funds to stop the cycle of family violence."

The Shelter Foundation's signature event is the National Garage Sale for Shelter, a one-day charitable garage sale taking place on May 14, 2011, at Royal LePage offices across Canada. Members of the community are encouraged to join in and de-clutter for a cause. Donate gently used items at any participating Royal LePage office by Friday, May 13, 2011, and visit your local Garage Sale on Saturday, May 14, 2011. For more information, please contact your local Royal LePage office or visit: [www.royallepage.ca/shelter](http://www.royallepage.ca/shelter).

With each year that passes, the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation grows in size and impact, bringing safety and restoring hope to thousands of women and children who have experienced family violence.

"Helping You Is What We Do™ is not just a tagline, it is our corporate philosophy and it translates into

a collective commitment to giving back to the community," said Phil Soper, President and Chief Executive of Royal LePage. "Royal LePage professionals are tireless in their efforts to create safer homes and safer communities through the Shelter Foundation."

Royal LePage is the only Canadian real estate company with its own charity, empowering sales representatives to make a tangible difference on both local and national levels.



### About the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation

The Royal LePage Shelter Foundation is Canada's largest public foundation dedicated exclusively to supporting shelters and ending violence against women and children. Through agent commission contributions and the fundraising activities of the Royal LePage network, we have raised \$12 million to help provide a safe haven and new beginnings to more than 30,000 women and children each year. To break the cycle of violence, the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation also supports long-term violence prevention and education programs. All funds raised by Royal LePage offices remain in their local community and because Royal LePage pays the costs of administration, 100 percent of all money and effort goes toward this important cause.

### March sales back to normal after HST-fueled 2010

Members of the Ottawa Real Estate Board (OREB) sold 1,232 residential properties in March 2011 compared with 1,495 in March 2010, a decrease of 17.6 percent. There were 936 sales in February 2011.

"As you can see, last month was an extremely average one in terms of resale home sales, in a way that 2010 was certainly not. The effects of the introduction of the Harmonized Sales Tax in July were already being felt in March as buyers leapt into the market to try to avoid taxes on the services associated with a real estate transaction," said OREB's President. "Years in which there are unusual market forces, such as the HST in 2010, tend to create skewed comparisons with subsequent years. Ottawa's housing market is ticking along much as it usually does in early spring", she added.

The average sale price of residential properties, including condominiums, sold in March in the Ottawa area was \$346,148, an increase of 4.9 percent over March 2010.

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# REAL ESTATE NEWS

## Remodeling Pricing Guide

For most homeowners, renovations offer a relatively affordable means to boost the value of a property in today's competitive real estate market. From simple aesthetic changes to complete kitchen makeovers, Royal LePage shows you the investment typically required for remodeling projects that could make your house more appealing to buyers.

The prices listed below are intended to give homeowners a rough idea of the budget required for common home improvement projects. These estimates are approximations intended for informational purposes only - and do change regularly.

### Top do-it-yourself renovations with best return on investment

RENOVATION PROJECT	APPROXIMATE COST*	APPROXIMATE ROI**
Paint the interior	\$1,000	50-100%
Replace carpeting with affordable laminate	\$2,000 (for 1,000 square-foot space)	50-75%
Install new light fixtures	\$2,000	60-70%
Groom the exterior landscape	\$2,000	25-50%
Replace knobs and hardware	\$2,000	75-100%
Update the entryway	\$3,000	50-75%
Replace carpeting and laminate floors with hardwood	\$5,000 (for 1,000 square-foot space)	50-75%
Build a fence/deck	\$5,000	50-75%

### Renovations with best return on investment; professional help may be required

RENOVATION PROJECT	APPROXIMATE COST*	APPROXIMATE ROI**
Install an additional bathroom on main floor	Under \$5,000	80-100%
Renovate bathrooms	\$5,000 - \$8,000	75-100%
Renovate kitchen	\$12,000 - \$15,000	75-100%

\*Assumes mid-grade quality finishes, labour excluded.  
 \*\* Source: Appraisal Institute of Canada RENOVA, Royal LePage

### Interior remodeling costs (est.)†

KITCHEN	COST
sink & faucets	\$600+ ea.
dishwasher connection	\$275 ea.
garberator	\$600+ ea.
BATHROOMS	COST
whirlpool bath/faucets	\$2,200+
bathtub/faucets	\$900+
shower connection with shower head	\$200+
toilet	\$400+
wash basin/faucets	\$350+
pedestal sinks/faucets	\$400+
pre-formed shower enclosure	\$1,400 - \$1,900
ceramic tiles to existing tub enclosure	\$1,500+



†Estimates include the supply and installation of average-quality building materials using professional workmanship.  
 Source: Estimating & Budgeting Guide: Typical Costs of Residential Construction and Home Remodeling. The Canadian Building Consulting Group Inc., 2007.