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"The Unusual World of Pandemic Economics" – Why BC's Housing Market Remains Strong Despite COVID-19

Sep 09, 2020

CATEGORY: <u>Economics</u>

TAGS: Market Intelligence News Release



Posted by Brendon Ogmundson Chief Economist

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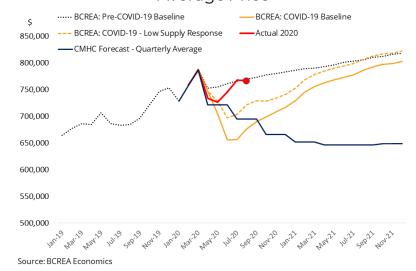




Vancouver, BC - September 9, 2020. The

British Columbia Real Estate Association's (BCREA) latest Market Intelligence report, *The Unusual World of Pandemic Economics*, points to uneven job losses across sectors, an increase in many households' rate of savings, swift government aid, a tighter-than-ever housing supply and low interest rates as the drivers behind BC's recent housing market highs.

COVID-19 Forecasts vs Actuals: BC MLS® Average Price



"The COVID-19 recession has battered many sectors of the BC economy. However, looking at recent data in the housing market, it would be difficult to tell there was a recession at all," says BCREA Chief Economist Brendon Ogmundson. "In a typical recession, we would see falling demand and rising supply, but this recession is anything but typical."

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Previous BCREA forecasts anticipated housing prices would return to the pre-COVID-19 baseline in early 2021. However, a surge of pentup demand into an undersupplied market has prices at pre-COVID-19 levels well ahead of schedule.

"Pandemic economics are proving to be very unusual. Many of the trends we are seeing are without precedent and significant uncertainty remains, but we are cautiously optimistic that this housing recovery will continue," notes Ogmundson.

To read the full report, click **here**.

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For the PDF of this news release click here.

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