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**Call Now for a Free Market Evaluation**

At CIR REALTY meeting all of your real estate needs is our goal. We look forward to hearing from you as we are happy to answer ANY questions you may have.

*Inspiration of the Month*

**Practice The 10 Minutes Burst.**

Focus on the task 100% for just 10 minutes—no distractions, no interruptions, no daydreaming.

Gradually start increasing the time limit. You'll be amazed at how much you accomplish.



## What's Happening in Calgary (and area)...

**Calgary, May 1, 2013** - According to CREB (referencing metro Calgary stats only)... The benchmark price of single-family homes reached a new high of \$452,900 in April, as market conditions that favour the seller finally drove prices above the unadjusted peak in 2007.

**Active Listings as of May 1, 2013\***

	Count	Average Price	Ave. DOM
Single Family	5,051	\$624,635	65
Condominium	1,987	\$385,933	65
<b>Combined Residential Active Listings</b>	<b>7,038</b>		
Rural With Home	1,104	\$1,162,893	113
Rural Land	558	\$644,282	200
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>1,662</b>		
<b>Total MLS Active Listings</b>	<b>8,700</b>		

**Sales for April 2013\***

	Count	Average Price	Ave. DOM
Single Family	2,101	\$484,138	39
Condominium	887	\$306,773	43
<b>Combined Residential Sales</b>	<b>2,988</b>		
Rural With Home	89	\$795,529	118
Rural Land	26	\$362,803	118
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>115</b>		
<b>Total MLS Sales</b>	<b>3,103</b>		

\* All numbers gathered for the Listings and Sales stats are compiled from metro Calgary and rural southern Alberta areas

### Calgary can be a challenging environment for growing fruits and vegetables.

A short growing season, semi-arid conditions and the potential for frost at virtually any time of year seem to stack the deck against growing anything but weeds in your backyard. Here are 4 tips to beat the odds!

- 1. Location:** Choosing the right place for your garden can save you a lot of trouble down the road. Pick a site that slopes to the south or southwest to receive the most sunlight and protect your plants from cold prairie winds. Shelter plants that would suffer the most damage from hail.
- 2. Choose your neighbours wisely:** Companion planting means placing crops where they will benefit their neighbours. Onions, garlic and marigolds repel pests, while flowering plants attract pollinators. Avoid planting crops from the same family next to one another (peas, beans and lentils, for example) or they will compete for the same nutrients.
- 3. Know your dirt:** Most plants prefer slightly acidic soil, while soil and water in Calgary tends to be more alkaline. A soil mixture with lots of compost will help balance the pH level in your garden.
- 4. Back to your roots:** Carrots, parsnips, beets and tubers like potatoes do well in Calgary because much of their growth is underground. In fact, frost often sweetens root crops so that they taste even better.

**CIR REALTY TIPS**

### Renovating Your Home? Tell Your Insurance Company

If you plan on doing any major renovations this spring, make sure that your insurance covers you. According to research from TD Insurance, most homeowners don't check their policy before embarking on renovations. Only a handful more discloses the renovations to their insurer after they are done, even though it could mean a reduction in your premiums. A good rule of thumb is that anything that could affect the value of your home should be disclosed. If you have any questions, contact your insurance provider and they will be able to help you out.

\* Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. If you do not wish to receive this publication, please contact the email sender to be removed from the mail list. Thank you, CIR REALTY®