

# CANADA'S TOP CREDIT RATING

Even with the economic bumps affecting economies around the globe, Canada continues to be in a stronger economic position than many countries. Of more than 125 countries rated, only 12 currently have an S & P "AAA" designation and Canada is one of them. We're also rated "Triple A" by Moody and by Fitch. And only 6 countries beat our "99" Trading Economics Rating. And looking at the chart, you'll see that over the years many credit ratings have changed for many countries, while Canada's has remained firmly at the top.

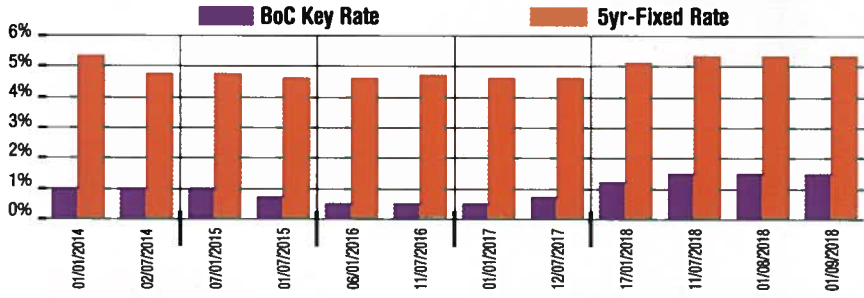
What's it all mean? The world has confidence in us. Our economy is strong, employment is strong and overall, the real estate market continues to be active.

We're also riding on the coattails of the U.S. economy. Their economic optimism is spilling over to much of the world. Central Banks are carefully evaluating interest rate levers as they balance inflationary pressures with economic growth.

Here's a highlight of S & P country ratings and where some countries have changed over the past few years:



## BANK OF CANADA KEY RATE VS. 5-YEAR FIXED RATE MORTGAGE



SOURCE: Bank of Canada, \* Big Bank Posted Rate May 1, 2018

Country	2018*	2015	2011
Australia	AAA	AAA	AAA
<b>Canada</b>	<b>AAA</b>	<b>AAA</b>	<b>AAA</b>
France	AA	AA	AAA
Germany	AAA	AAA	AAA
Hong Kong	AA+	AAA	AAA
Netherlands	AAA	AAA	AAA
Singapore	AAA	AAA	AAA
Switzerland	AAA	AAA	AAA
United Kingdom	AA	AAA	AAA
New Zealand	AA	AA+	AA+
United States	AA+	AA+	AA+
Spain	A-	BBB+	AA
Japan	A+	A+	AA-
Saudi Arabia	A-	A-	AA-
China	A+	AA-	AA-
Italy	BBB	BBB-	A+
Israel	AA-	A+	A
Ireland	A+	A+	BBB+
South Africa	BB	BBB-	BBB+
Mexico	BBB+	BBB+	BBB
Russia	BBB-	BB+	BBB
India	BBB-	BBB-	BBB-
Portugal	BBB-	BB+	BBB-
Brazil	BB-	BB	BBB-
Croatia	BB+	BB	BBB-
Hungary	BBB-	BB+	BBB-
Romania	BBB-	BBB-	BB+
Philippines	BBB	BBB	BB
Serbia	BB	BB-	BB
Turkey	BB-	BB+	BB
Egypt	B	B-	BB
Ukraine	B-	B-	B+
Pakistan	B	B-	B-
Greece	B+	B-	CC

SOURCE: Trading Economics - August 15, 2018

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## THE BAGOGLOO TEAM – YOUR REAL ESTATE CONNECTION



**For Sale**

### Dartmouth

This beautiful bungalow is on a large oversized lot on a quiet cul-de-sac. Features a sunken LVRM, eat-in kitchen, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, large rec room, gym area & has loads of storage. Only \$252,500!



### Middle Sackville

Spacious multi-split home on private fenced lot. Significant reno's, 5 bdrms including full inlaw suite ideal for extended family, built in garage & more. This home has so much value. Only \$359,900!



### Bedford

Spacious 5 bdrm on Papermill Lake. Contemporary openness excellent for entertaining. Games room, 4 baths, rec room, wet bar, multiple decks & lake frontage. Only \$624,900!

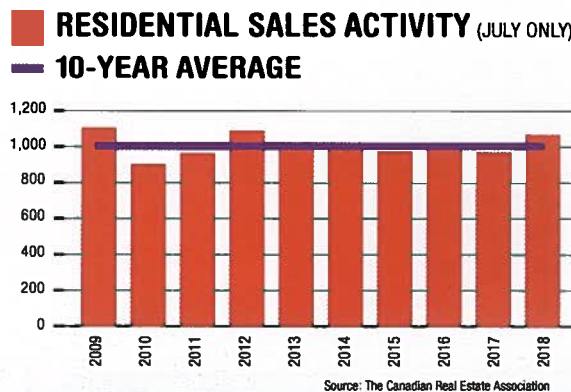
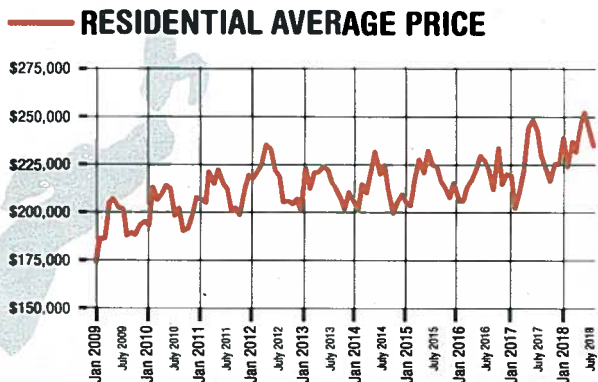
September arrived and everything changed. More activity, school began, and brisk September mornings now inspire us to button-up the home in preparation for cooler days and longer nights.

Sometimes, this change of season is also an inspiration for those looking for a change of scenery – a move. For some, a school nearby makes for an ideal neighbourhood. Others look to be close to restaurants, shopping and nightlife. Everyone has an idea of the type of lifestyle they're looking for... and we help our clients find it.

Know someone discussing plans for a new place? Please introduce us. We'd be honoured to put the buying and selling pieces in place and negotiate deals that "win"!

*The Bagogloo Team*  
**Experience Pays**

## NOVA SCOTIA



Source: The Canadian Real Estate Association

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**Realtyinsights**



## AN EASY SOLUTION FOR CRANKY WINDOWS

If you have crank-out windows, you likely have one that's difficult to crank-close properly. It could be caused by age – a sagging window that no longer properly fits the frame, or hardware that's damaged.

One way to close the window is to have someone on the outside push on the window, and someone on the inside crank the window and lock it.

But there's another way - use a glass suction cup. They're available online or at many home improvement centres. And you don't have to spend a fortune. For under \$20 you can make closing "cranky" windows a breeze.

## PATCH & SEAL BEFORE THE FREEZE

- Caulk around windows & replace weather stripping around doors.
- Have a bay window? Even if it's covered with shingles, make sure the steel cap & flashing is tared and caulked.
- Seal "drafty" electrical outlets and ceiling pot lights.
- Plug cracks in concrete walkways, patios & stairs and fill driveway potholes to keep water from doing more damage as it freezes.



## LESS LINT = LESS CHANCE OF DRYER FIRE

The dryer exhaust hose can fill with lint. A bigger issue is that your outside dryer exhaust vent may be plugged with lint. Check it and clean it! And if you do still have the screen type of exhaust vent, replace it with a cover that has vent flaps instead of a screen. The screen restricts air flow and that means more lint in the hose. **Lint build-up can make the dryer less efficient. Worse – it's a fire hazard!**

### Every few months:

1. Disconnect the vent hose from the dryer and vacuum the inside of the dryer.
2. Put a nylon stocking on the inside end of the vent hose. Then, from the outside using a vent cleaning brush, clean the vent. You'll be amazed how much lint comes out. The stockings catch the lint and keep the mess inside the home somewhat contained.

It's especially important during the cooler weather, as heavier clothing tends to shed more lint.



## CHILDPROOFING 101

Even if you feel pretty confident that you've done a thorough job of childproofing, chances are you've missed something. Here's a room-by-room checklist.

### Living Room

- **Photo frames** – if they're glass, keep them out of reach.
- **TV** – securely attach to a stand or better still, mount out-of-reach to the wall.
- **Fireplace** – Install heat-resistant gates. If it's an artificial fireplace, remove small rocks or fire-glass that are a choking hazard.
- **Power strip** – buy one with a cover.
- **Small toys** – objects smaller than 1 inch are a choking hazard.
- **Coffee & end tables** – get corner protectors.

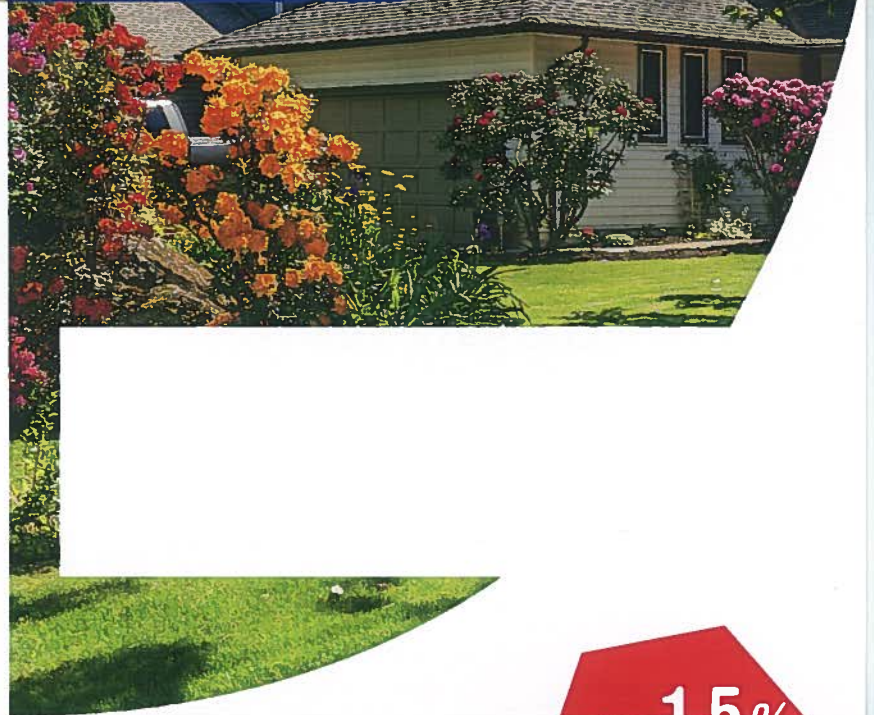
### Bedroom

- **Replace a drop-side crib**
- **Stuffed animals** – keep them out of the crib. They make great "step-stools" and also pose a suffocation risk.
- **Windows** – should open no wider than 3 inches (about the size of an adult fist).
- **Window blinds** – remove the cords.
- **Furniture** – attach everything securely to the wall to prevent tip-overs.
- **Breakables** – if it can fall and break, keep it away.

### Kitchen

- Keep toxic household chemicals locked up, preferably in a high cabinet. Consider switching to non-chlorine bleach, and vinegar.
- Store plastic bags, cling wrap and aluminum foil out of reach.
- Store knives and kitchen utensils in latched drawers or high cabinets.
- Move electrical appliances out of a child's reach. Unplug them and hide cords when they're not in use.
- Child-resistant doesn't mean childproof. If you store medication in the kitchen, keep drugs locked up and out of sight.

There are childproofing kits available at your local home improvement centre.



## CANADA: ECONOMICALLY RESILIENT

Economies around the world are expanding, and our economy continues to steam ahead as well. According to the Bank of Canada, even with trade issues, our economy is on solid ground, meeting and even exceeding expectations in many areas.

While July inflation, coming in at 3 per cent, surprised many economists, the BoC attributed this to "temporary factors" such as gasoline prices, rather than pressure from hyper-invigorated demand. Trim inflation (the measure that filters out extreme price movements) is 2.1 per cent - well within the Bank's inflation target. With a strong second-quarter performance, and indications that Q3 numbers will meet expectations, the BoC forecasts that GDP growth will average around 2 per cent.

With everything "on track" the Bank of Canada chose to hold the Key Rate at 1.5 per cent on September 5<sup>th</sup>. However, many economists see the Bank's announcement as a pause, with most expecting the Key Rate to continue climbing higher in October. Of course, any decision is likely to be influenced by NAFTA negotiations and other trade policy developments, and what the impact is on the inflation outlook.

The next meeting of the BoC is October 24<sup>th</sup>.

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