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Yikes! Only two weeks till showtime!

Prima Dance Academy students rehearse for their upcoming production of The Nutcracker. See the feature on page 3.

Highlights of this BTC

How to herd grasshopperspage 2	New local clinicianpage 4
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Less than Half the Picture: *By Richard Bercuson*

How to herd grasshoppers



Here's one of those things you didn't really need to know but I'll tell you anyway: The longest period of time in the universe is the supereon, so called because it is comprised of many eons. These in turn are made up of eras, then periods, then epochs, then millenia. So there.

For a truer perspective, it may take a millisecond for an adult's directorial gestures to travel through the time-space continuum and reach a child's eyes. However, as said child processes the visual and decides if it's worthwhile following, it can take at least one supereon for the right movement to occur.

Such are the challenges of working with children. Ask anyone who's coached, directed, or even tried to arrange them at a birthday party table.

It's what I expected from watching the Prima Dance Academy's rehearsal of the ballet The Nutcracker,

which has a three performance run on the weekend of Dec. 16-17. However, It's not at all what I saw. Like the ballet itself, the Prima rehearsal was somewhat magical. Indeed, it seems even grasshoppers can be herded.

Brooklin's old Community Centre, where I interviewed the show's artistic director Catherine Kourkounakis, quietly filled with children that evening. The only event, so to speak, involved a toy car appearing from a boy's bag and being pushed across the floor. What's a gathering of kids without a moving toy?

I remain in awe of those who work with children in any capacity and manage to draw from them skills and coordinated efforts which normal humans couldn't possibly manage. Coincidentally, the following day, I taught a national coaching program clinic. Part of the ice session at the end of the day included a bunch of six year olds I had to demonstrate activities with as 20 coaches looked on. I summoned

every bit of my inner kid and for 40 minutes led them, like a chilled Pied Piper, through some games and exercises.

Through it all I was replaying the professional direction exhibited by Kourkounakis the night before as she got her little ballet proteges to do, well, just about anything she asked. Even though I've done the on-ice thing hundreds of times myself, I'm still bent on stealing from the likes of her.

They lined up when she asked; posed when she wanted a pose; hopped like mice when called upon; or marched like soldiers as the scene called for it. There were a couple of instances of supereon time between request and action, but not many. This just three weeks before the show with parents invit-

ed to watch and other performers warming up in the background for their scenes. Enough distractions for any little one.

The Nutcracker is a seasonal joy and the music stunning. Watching the grasshoppers hop to Tchaikovsky will be the fun part.

For more about Prima Dance Academy's production of The Nutcracker, see the feature on page 3.

**Watch for Local
Holiday Greetings
in the December 15th
Brooklin Town Crier.**
Call today to place your greeting.



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Town of Whitby

December 1, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 1, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Celebration Square, Whitby Central Library.

Santa Claus Parade

Saturday, December 2, from 10 a.m. to noon in Downtown Whitby. Hosted by JCI Durham. whitbysantaclausparade.ca

Storm Chasing in Ontario Presentation

Tuesday, December 5, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Whitby Central Library Wednesday, December 6, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Brooklin Library. Space is limited. whitbylibrary.ca/events

New Year's Eve Family Skate

Sunday, December 31, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Iroquois Park Sports Centre.

whitby.ca/calendar

Council Meetings

Operations Committee
December 4 at 7 p.m.

Council
December 11 at 7 p.m.
These meetings take place at Town Hall, 575 Rossland Road East.
Meetings will resume January 15, 2018. For a full listing visit whitby.ca/civicweb

Notices

Update: Henry Street Bridge
The Henry Street Bridge is now open to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. mto.gov.on.ca

Anne Ottenbrite Pool Closed for Annual Maintenance
The Anne Ottenbrite Pool at Iroquois Park Sports Centre will be closed for annual maintenance from December 12 to December 26 and will reopen on December 27.

News

Corporate Rebrand Project to Enter Phase Two

This fall, more than one third of residents participated in the Town's corporate rebrand project by sharing what Whitby means to them. Feedback was collected through an online survey, community open house, social media and at pop-up tents held at Town events. Based on this research, seven core brand attributes emerged: growth and innovation, community, heritage, active spaces, sincere, welcoming and vibrant. The attributes will form the basis from which Whitby's new corporate brand will be developed.
whitby.ca/news



WHITBY NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY SKATE

Sunday, December 31

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Iroquois Park Sports Centre
500 Victoria Street

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A Special BTC Feature Prepping for The Nutcracker

By Richard Bercuson



There are a number of givens in theatre productions. One is that no matter how often you've done a production, it's always different. Another is that if it involves children, those differences will never cease to surprise.

Neither worries Prima Dance Academy's artistic director Catherine Kourkounakis who has spent a lifetime in the theatre. Now, with the academy's eighth annual production of the holiday staple *The Nutcracker* less than two weeks away, she's working at exacting from the child dancers just the right execution of movements. This is no simple task given that the range of ages in the show are ages five to adult.

There are over 50 in this year's production comprising about 75% of the dance academy's registration. Not everyone wanted to be in the show, however, unlike past years, this one is made up entirely of Prima students.

Began in the summer

Planning for the show begun six months ago. In fact, Prima director Angie Stone says she's already begun looking at the 2018 production in addition to her current jobs handling marketing, advertising and being the show's stage manager.

Kourkounakis, in her multi-faceted role, has had to manage the soup to nuts of a ballet: making the rehearsal schedule, directing the students, even adjusting recordings of the score to match the dancers' abilities. For that, she's spliced and tinkered with various Tchaikovsky versions to identify which parts of which ones will work best with young children versus the older, more experienced dancers.

"There haven't been any major challenges," she says. "We do try to point out the importance of the commitment required for a production like this. In that way, the parents are really valuable."

Extensive rehearsing

Rehearsals have been on Fridays from 5:30-9 pm and Sundays 10 am to 5 pm. This is all in addition to the dancers' regular Prima class schedules.

“The production really does charge them up,” she adds. “We’ve set it so that every child who wanted to be in it got a role and then I matched the roles to their skills. Basically, it’s our philosophy to make everyone’s wish come true. While some dance schools offer competition, our choice is to offer training and be involved in

continued on page 5



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- **Whitby** | 604 Garden Street | Call Karla at 1-888-698-3550



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Students: “Think of Me” Anti-Drinking/Driving Campaign

The launch of Whitby’s second annual “Think of Me” bag campaign, a partnership between the DRPS, the LCBO and local school boards, will take place on Dec. 6

The program has students from across Durham Region decorating brown paper bags with powerful anti-drinking and driving messages. LCBO customers will see their holiday purchases wrapped in these powerful messages in hopes they think twice about getting behind the wheels of a car while intoxicated.

This year, every school in Durham was invited to participate. With the theme “Think of Me,” more than 25,000 students decorated bags.

Each school picked its favourite bag and the best five bags were chosen by DRPS and the LCBO for display at the launch. One of the finalists will be chosen as the winning entry and that school will win prizes and be the host school for next year’s launch.

The “Think of Me” bag campaign is also running at schools across Ontario. The LCBO will announce the top five province-wide winning bag designs in early December, followed by the selection of one student’s bag that will be printed on 60,000 single-bottle bags and distributed to all LCBO stores across the province in advance of the 2018 May long-weekend.

New Clinician At Health Centre

Vanessa Robson has joined the Brooklin Natural Health Centre. She is a clinical Social Work/Therapist MSW, RSW, and is available at the clinic on Saturdays between 9 am - 1 pm.

Robson states on the Psychology Today web site, “Since 2007, I have had the pleasure of working with children, adolescents, adults, and families to facilitate positive change within their lives. My professional experience includes providing therapy in the culturally-diverse communities of Fort Lauderdale and Toronto. With empathy and a respect for self-determination, I am committed to building a trusting relationship with my clients so that they feel safe to share their experiences, identify patterns in their lives, and explore opportunities for personal growth. “Using evidence-based practice to help my clients achieve a wide variety of goals, I specialize in: emotion-

al regulation, school-related issues, anxiety, trauma, behaviour management, and effective parenting strategies. I also have extensive experience working with individuals and families who have experienced domestic violence and trauma.”



To book an appointment, call The Brooklin Natural Health Centre at **905-655-075 (brooklinnaturalhealth.ca)**. Her fee, which is usually covered by most insurance plans, is \$180 for 50 mins.

Brooklin Natural Health Centre is located at 2 Princess St., at the corner of Winchester Rd.

Cassels Road Development Update



Whitby’s Planning and Development Department has been submitted a zoning by-law amendment application from Lynmarsh Enterprises Ltd for the development of the site at 1,3 and 5 Cassels Road West, on the west side of Baldwin.

The summary report states, “The applications are...to permit the development of a three (3) storey mixed use building within the vacant (easterly) portion of the subject land.



southwest corner of the site is to be retained.”

“The building will be comprised of 93 square metres of commercial space at grade with four (4) parking spaces within a garage at the rear of the building, 201 square metres of office space on the second floor, and two (2) residential units on the third floor...The existing parking configuration will be reconfigured to provide eight (8) parking spaces on the west side of the lot, and ten (10) parking spaces on the east side, including four (4) spaces within the rear garage of the proposed building. In consideration of the composition of residential units and commercial space, a minimum of 18 parking spaces are required....The existing 188.46 m² (2,028.6 ft²) of outdoor play area located within the

Other report highlights:
- The proposed development is within the maximum building height (3 storeys), includes a mix of uses and is in conformity with the Town’s Official Plan policies.
- An amendment to the Zoning By-law is required to permit new uses within a new building, and to allow apartment dwelling units above the commercial uses.
- The new building will be required to conform to the Brooklin Heritage Conservation District Guidelines.

Any person may make written submissions at any time before Council makes a decision. Email **clerks@whitby.ca**. Report PL95-17 can be found at **www.whitby.ca**.

Community Calendar

If you have a community not-for-profit event you would like included in the calendar, please email it to **editorofBTC@gmail.com** with the subject line “calendar.” Priority will be given to Brooklin events. Some editing may occur.

Brooklin United Church
19 Cassels Rd. E.
Christmas Services
December 3 Advent 2
December 10 Advent 3-White Gift, Nativity Displays
December 17 Advent 4-Service of Music
December 24 Christmas Eve
Communion & Candles 10:30 am
Family Services 5:00 and 7:00 pm
www.brooklinunited.ca
905-655-4141

Fri., Dec. 22: 4:00 - 5:00 pm
(4th Friday of each month)
Teen Leadership Council at Brooklin Library
Whitby Library’s Brooklin Branch seeks Teen Leadership Council members to share ideas & assist with special events and programs. Grade 9-12 students earn community service hours. Snacks provided. No registration required.
For information, email **teenservices@whitbylibrary.ca**.

Mondays: 6:30-7 pm:
French Family Storytime: Children and their caregivers can join Madame Sue for weekly French Family Storytime! A half hour of French stories and songs, with a dash of English! Drop in at Central Library’s Children’s Program Room

Tuesdays: 7:25 pm:
Brooklin Toastmasters Club
Practice public speaking at Brooklin Community Centre & Library. Contact John Johnstone at **jajhj@sympatico.ca** or phone **905-683-4439** or Patricia Romano at **promano257@outlook.com** or phone **905-626-7055**.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Community Care Durham (CCD) Basic Foot Care at St. Thomas’ Anglican Church. **905-668-6779**

Mon.-Fri.
CCD delivers hot or frozen meals.
To order: Karen Andrews **905-668-6779**



WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Burns Presbyterian Church
765 Myrtle Rd West
(just 4 minutes north of Brooklin)
10am Worship, Kids Zone Fun & Nursery Care
“Discovering God, Sharing God’s Love”
905.655.8509 www.Burnschurch.org

St. Thomas’ Anglican Church
101 Winchester Road East
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:30 am
Sunday School & Nursery Program (10:30am)
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
Communion and Healing Service
905-655-3883
www.stthomasbrooklin.ca

Brooklin United Church
19 Cassels Rd. E.
Sunday Services at 10:30 am
Sunday School & Nursery Care
www.brooklinunited.ca 905-655-4141
Come catch the Spirit!

Renaissance Baptist Church of Brooklin
40 Vipond Road (Just West Of Library)
Sunday Worship & Kids Program 10:30 a.m.
905-655-4554 www.brooklinrbc.ca
We’re here for Brooklin!

continued from page 3

productions like this. It becomes a valuable learning lesson for them.”

Kourkounakis herself has a had a lifetime of such wonderful lessons. She grew up in Whitby and Kingston around parents who were heavily involved in summer theatre and music. Her own turning point came at age 17 when her high school math teacher saw her in a production of Oklahoma, something her classmates knew nothing about. He shared it with the class and from that point on, she was on top of the world.

Dance as a gift
A classically trained dancer with experience as an actress and singer, Kourkounakis has spent her entire adult life sharing these gifts with youngsters.

“Dance was always a connection to myself,” she says. “Now I try to get the kids to realize it for themselves.”

As to this show, The Nutcracker has many moving parts. The choreography requires getting children as young as 5-6 to move from point A to point B in something resembling coordinated timing. “Certainly the staging and choreography are more intricate,” she says, understating the challenge.

Community dance
When not preparing this show or teaching, Kourkounakis has more recently immersed herself in a new project, introducing dance as a therapeutic approach for dementia and Parkinson’s patients. “It’s a collaboration between the medical professionals and wellness trainers and has been so very rewarding.”



The Nutcracker’s three show run is just enough. However, she admits that by the end of it, the kids are probably ready to do more since they’ve then developed confidence in their performances. They won’t have long to wait though. Prima plans to put on “Peter Pan” in the spring

About the performances
Prima Dance Academy’s The Nutcracker will be performed at Oshawa Little Theatre with three shows: on Sat., Dec. 16 at 2 pm and 7 pm and Sun., Dec. 17 at 2 pm. Tickets are on sale from onstagedirect.com. Click on Oshawa to view seating options. Adults \$29.50 and children 12 and under \$21. (Note: Online sales for a performance close at midnight the night before.)

If a show is not sold out, individual tickets can be purchased at the door for \$35 cash.

Reminder: The end of the year is fast approaching.

2018

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Welcome to Brooklin's new businesses

Brooklin Juice Junction and Health Shop

Where: 93 Winchester Rd.
(Around the back of Michael Kelly's Eatery and adjacent to the C-store)
Web site: brooklinjuicejunction.com
Phone: 905-655-8155
Owner: Paul Fowler

A Brooklin resident for 38 years, Paul Fowler has parlayed his own experiences in the hotel and cooking industries with his daughter Amy's yoga expertise in offering Brooklin a unique juice experience.

From dream stage to its official opening (on Dec. 1, if you're nearby) has been a seven-year journey. Fowler has connected the store to a brand from Florida that provides its health products and, given the response to date, business has been good.

"Clients are cheering us on," he says as he mixes up a delicious Warrior 1 smoothie for the BTC editor. "It seems this style of business suits their needs."

Within a couple of months, the plan will include yoga classes taught by his daughter right in the store. If participants are smart, those should segue nicely into trying out the delicious smoothies, many of which borrow from yoga terminology (eg. Savasana, Chaturanga, Sun Salutation) and whose recipes came from Amy herself after months of testing.

The menu includes health products and juices while the slightly more expensive Premium liquid refreshments include a dose of protein.

Between Fowler's friendly and helpful approach and the array of yummy choices, this is a shop that needs to be on everyone's visit list.



Alleyne's Gentleman's Grooming Centre

Where: 17 Baldwin St.
Web site: alleynes.ca
or alleynesgrooming.com
Email: groomed@alleynes.ca
Phone: 905-239-8946
Owner: Brenton Alleyne

Men no longer just go for a haircut or trim. They get barbered. Gone are the days when a fellow didn't feel right about grooming. Now he can pamper himself. In other words, Brooklin: We're growing up.

Brenton Alleyne opened his first men's grooming establishment in Ajax in 2010. When searching for a second location, he'd signed a lease in Port Perry. But after driving through downtown Brooklin and with 25% of his Ajax clientele from here anyway, he decided to (painfully) break that lease and opt in for the new site. He fell in love with Brooklin's "feel."

Alleyne's provides men with a truly unique experience "aimed at revealing who you are and incorporating your character into your everyday reality" (from the brochure). Not only can men get barbered but they can also receive a massage, facial, beard detailing (best to first have a beard), shave, etc. There's an extensive list of packages and services. To simplify the process, clients can book online through its website. Meanwhile, the relatively



small site (just 580 sq. ft.) features welcoming appointments highlighted by two magnificent red cushioned refurbished barber chairs from 1874 and 1927, both in fine

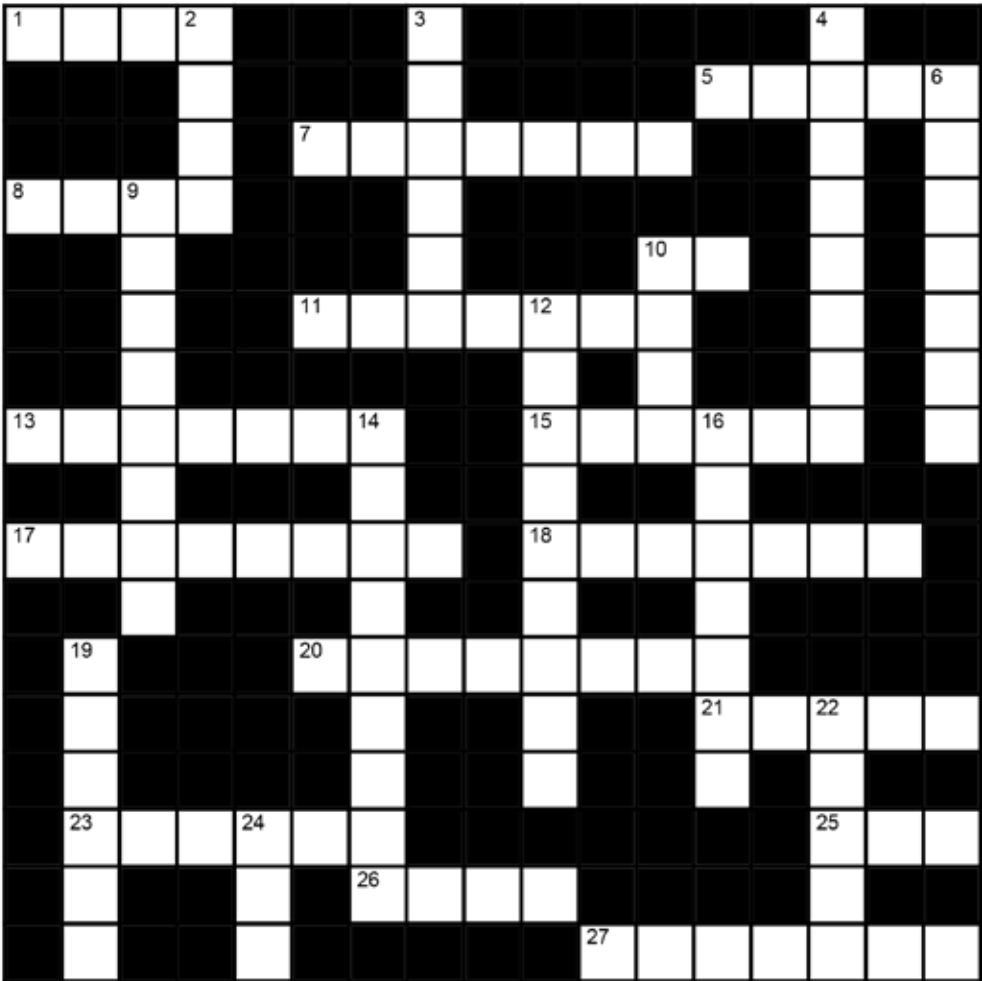
working order.

Then there's the effervescent Brenton himself who got his start in junior high in Ajax tending to the hair of teammates on his school teams. He honed his business skills from Seneca College's international business and marketing program and from the process of creating the two stores.

Brooklin's men now have a place to treat themselves. Guys, you need to walk in. Just walk in.

Brooklin Bafflers: On This Day by Liz Lowe

Crossword



Across

- 1 1292 (O.S.) John Balliol becomes _____ of Scots. (4)
- 5 1970 Douglas Engelbart receives patent for the first computer _____. (5)
- 7 1980 John Lennon releases "Double _____" album (7)
- 8 1928 Notre _____ finally

- loses a home game after 23 years (4)
- 10 1977 Miss World Contest - Miss _____ wears \$9,500 platinum bikini (2)
- 11 1967 _____ Ltd & Apple Music Ltd swap names (7)
- 13 1922 Sultan of the Ottoman Empire is expelled to Malta

- on British _____. (7)
- 15 1918 _____ troops evacuate Brussels (6)
- 17 1894 Serial killer _____ is arrested (8)
- 18 1927 _____ hits Washington, D.C. (7)
- 20 1855 David Livingstone becomes the first European to see Falls. (8)
- 21 1967 Jones of the Monkees opens boutique in Greenwich Village (5)
- 23 1555 William of _____ becomes member of Council of State (6)
- 25 1869 Suez Canal opens, linking Mediterranean and _____ seas. (3)
- 26 1869 _____ Canal in Egypt opens, linking Mediterranean and Red seas (4)
- 27 1603 Sir Walter _____ goes on trial for treason. (7)

Down

- 2 1926 NHL's Chicago Black Hawks play their 1st . (4)
- 3 1913 The first ship sails through the _____ Canal (6)
- 4 1884 Cops arrest boxer John L. _____ in 2nd round for being "cruel" (8)
- 6 1558 The Church of _____ is re-established (7)
- 9 1936 Edgar Bergen & Charlie _____ become overnight success. (8)
- 10 1956 _____ performs atmospheric nuclear test (4)
- 12 1938 Gordon _____, Canadian singer born in Orillia, Ontario (9)
- 14 1888 Tchaikovsky's 5th

- Symphony _____ in St Petersburg (9)
- 16 1967 Surveyor 6 becomes 1st _____ object to lift off Moon (3,4)
- 19 1558 Elizabeth I ascends English throne upon death of Queen _____ Mary (6)
- 22 1839 Giuseppe _____ opera "Oberte Conti Di" premieres in Milan (5)
- 24 1940 Green Bay Packers become 1st _____ team to travel by plane (3)

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Louis Bradica

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Meet Louis Bradica, a full time Real Estate Sales Representative with Keller Williams Energy who currently lives in Brooklin with his wife and two sons. Louis is inspired by the community and the village's 19th century charm and enjoys helping his clients find their first home or selling to move up to their dream homes.

Louis understands his client's need for information when it comes to important issues like local real estate values, taxes, and utility costs and assists you with the process of planning for a worry free move from the pre-listing preparation to creating a marketing plan to promote your home to putting the sold sign up. "Whether you are buying or selling, a home is one of the biggest investment decisions people make," says Louis.

Want your next home to be in an ideal location with great access to parks, schools and activities?

Louis works with his client's wishlist to find them the perfect property based on their family's need for the best value.

Give Where You Live

On December 9th Louis will personally contribute to the Keller Williams Energy annual Turkey Drive by helping to prepare and handout turkey dinners with all the fixings to families in need. "It's great to have the community behind us," says Louis, who, along with neighbours, clients and preferred vendors hopes to raise \$70,000 and help feed 2,000 families.

"Family and friends contribute and volunteer to help pack and handout the dinners which is fantastic. I like knowing I'm help-

ing people. I talk to my kids about it and the reasons why we do this. I really believe in giving where you live."

Investing in the Future

Looking for investment opportunities? In addition to residential properties, Bradica also specializes in helping investors and first time landlords buy their first rental property. He will also help find the right tenant for your property.

Your story begins here. Call Louis Bradica today at (905) 925-7767 for a free, no obligation chat! More information and local listings can be found on his website at www.louisbradica.com.





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Toronto House Prices Set to Rise

The housing markets in Toronto and Vancouver could resume their previous upward trajectories amid conditions of tight supply and burgeoning demand, according to a new report from CIBC World Markets. "When the fog clears it will become evident that the long-term trajectory of the market will show even tighter conditions," economist Benjamin Tal said. "The supply issues facing centres such as Toronto and Vancouver will worsen and demand is routinely understated." "Short of a significant change in housing policies and preferences, there is nothing in the pipeline to alleviate the pressure," he wrote.

A recovery in the Vancouver market is now underway. In Toronto, the market is already showing a rebound following a slowdown in the wake of the introduction of the Ontario government's Fair Housing Plan. Tal pointed out that Canada's annual immigration quota is slated to rise from 250,000 to 300,000, and eventually 450,000. "Actual demand is much stronger than official numbers often used to determine the extent to which we overbuild relative to household formation," Tal said.

Finally, the growing percentage of young adults living at home translates into pent-up demand of roughly 9,000 household, including about 6,500 in the Greater Toronto Area. "That army of potential buyers can be seen as an insurance against long-lasting significant price decline," said Tal.

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