

If you have a listing on the PropTx MLS® System, you are required to follow the PropTx MLS® Rules and Policies.

Please note, PropTx is working on revisions which will be released near the end of June 2024.

References to TRREB and Toronto Regional Real Estate Board will be replaced with PropTx and further changes will be made to the rules and policies. These changes are to further enhance the PropTx partnership with other Associations.





EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2006 AND AMENDED EFFECTIVE APRIL 17, 2023 AND ALL PRIOR MLS® RULES AND POLICIES ARE THEREFORE REVOKED

VIRTUAL OFFICE WEBSITE (VOW) RULES AND POLICIES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 15, 2011 AND AMENDED EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

THE MLS® RULES AND POLICIES ARE PUBLISHED
ALONGSIDE CREA RULE 11 AND RECO CODE OF ETHICS FOR
ALL MEMBERS OF THE TORONTO REGIONAL REAL ESTATE BOARD





Pledge of Competition



Member Boards and Associations of the Canadian Real Estate Association support free and open competition. We believe in the principles embodied in the Competition Act of Canada. Therefore, we adhere to a Code of Conduct which includes the following standards:

- Commission rates or fees members charge for services offered to the public, and the division of those fees among cooperating members, are solely the choice of those providing the services.
- A brokerage may offer any variety of services e.g. exclusive, open, MLS® listings etc. Boards and Real Estate Associations accept MLS® listings regardless of the price, commission rates or fees, or the division thereof.
- Advertising by members and non-members is subject to the discretion of the individual, as long as it
 is honest and lawful. We encourage creative, competitive choice in the services advertised to the
 public.
- The business relationships between broker members, their salespersons and non-members is theirs
 to determine. With regard to Board and Association membership, members may choose for
 themselves to work full or part time, as long as they remain available to serve the public on a regular
 basis and provided provincial enabling legislation does not otherwise authorize a limitation of such
 choice.
- All members are required to meet uniform and reasonable financial and educational standards. They are required to demonstrate integrity and character necessary to protect the public.

By using the MLS® and REALTOR trademarks, all member Boards and Associations of the Canadian Real Estate Association proclaim our adherence to these principles, designed to preserve free and open competition.





MLS® RULES AND POLICIES

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of TRREB MLS® Rules and Policies (the "MLS® Rules and Policies") is to set out the requirements for the orderly, competitive and efficient operation of TRREB's MLS® System.

They are designed to reflect a high standard of practice and all Members are expected to understand and abide by the RECO Rules, the CREA Rules, the MLS® Rules and Policies, and by all applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

The authority of the Board and the requirement for all Members to comply is contained in the TRREB By-law. Any breach of the MLS® Rules and Policies is a breach of the TRREB By-law.

Breach of a MLS® "Rule" by a Member may result in the conduct being reported to the Professional Standards Committee.

The "Policies" section is intended to assist Members in their understanding of the processes to be followed in the administration and operation of TRREB's MLS® System. The "Policies" section was previously referred to as the "Regulations". From and after the effective date of these MLS® Rules and Policies, any reference to "Regulations" in any TRREB form or publication will be read as a reference to "Policies".

The "Glossary" defines certain words or phrases as an aid to interpretation of these MLS® Rules and Policies in addition to any terms defined elsewhere in these MLS® Rules and Policies.

Words importing the singular number or the masculine gender shall include the plural number or feminine gender and vice versa.

RULES

R-100 - GENERAL

R-100 The MLS® Rules and Policies shall be interpreted in accordance with RECO Rules, the CREA Rules, and all applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

If any MLS® Rules or Policies or CREA Rules conflict with the RECO Rules or any applicable laws or regulatory requirements, the conflicting MLS® Rules or Policies or CREA Rules will be considered inoperative to the extent of such conflict.

- R-101 Use of TRREB's MLS® System is subject to the provisions of the Authorized User Agreement as amended, restated or replaced from time to time.
- R-105 Information published on TRREB's MLS® System shall relate directly to the listed real estate and the MLS® Listing Agreement, and no field other than the brokerage remarks field shall include language that would encourage solicitation to contact a salesperson and/or listing brokerage.

The Brokerage Remarks field may include the name, address, telephone and/or facsimile number and/or e-mail address (but not a link to that e-mail address) of Member(s) to be contacted for more information concerning the property.

- R-106 Information published on TRREB's MLS® System and Virtual Tour shall only contain information pertaining to the property to which the MLS® Listing Agreement pertains and shall not include:
 - a) any internet links, e-mail links or references to any internet links not directly related to the specific property to which the MLS® Listing Agreement pertains; or
 - b) any information that promotes goods or services of any kind.

All Virtual Tours are subject to RECO Rules, including but not limited to, advertising.

R-108 All Members shall abide by the RECO Rules, the CREA Rules, the MLS® Rules and Policies, and by all applicable laws and regulatory requirements. No Member shall act in a manner so as to attempt to avoid or circumvent TRREB's MLS® System, the RECO Rules, the CREA Rules or these MLS® Rules and Policies, or any applicable laws or regulatory requirements.

R-200 - MLS® FORMS

- R-205 Current approved TRREB or TRREB/OREA MLS® Data Information Forms are required for all MLS® Listings.
- R-206 No Member shall use any MLS® Listing Form after TRREB has issued a specific date for discontinuance to Members.

R-300 - MLS® LISTINGS

R-301 The Listing Brokerage is responsible for the accuracy of all information submitted by the Listing Brokerage to TRREB's MLS® System. TRREB is not obligated to or responsible for reviewing the accuracy or propriety of any MLS® Data Information Form, MLS® Listing Agreement or Document Attachments. It is the Listing Brokerage's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the photograph, information and documentation and to

correct any inaccuracy or notify TRREB of any inaccuracy immediately of same as may be necessary in the circumstances.

- R-302 By submitting a MLS® Listing to TRREB's MLS® System, the Listing Brokerage represents and warrants to TRREB and to all Members that a valid, complete and accurate MLS® Listing Agreement and Document Attachments that comply with the applicable requirements of the MLS® Rules and Policies is in effect between the Seller and the Listing Brokerage. The submission of a listing to TRREB's MLS® System that otherwise complies with the MLS® Rules and Policies shall not affect the Listing Brokerage's ownership rights in the Listing Brokerage's MLS® Listing Agreement and Document Attachments with the Seller including the Listing Brokerage's. right to market the property in accordance with the MLS® Listing Agreement and Document Attachments.
- R-304

 a) No Member shall submit a MLS® Listing to TRREB's MLS® System that contravenes the TRREB MLS® Rules or Policies and/or the TRREB By-Law. TRREB may, in its sole discretion, deem any such MLS® Listing to be invalid and either remove it from TRREB's MLS® System or refuse to publish such MLS® Listing.
 - b) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing and the other provisions of the MLS® Rules or Policies, any such MLS® Listing shall not be accepted by TRREB as a MLS® Listing:
 - i) if it excludes any Members from showing the property;
 - ii) if it excludes any Members from acting as a Co-operating Brokerage; or
 - iii) if all Mandatory Fields have not been completed.

If a submitted MLS® Listing is deemed invalid as hereinbefore provided, TRREB shall send notice to the Listing Brokerage who shall, within two (2) TRREB business days, remedy the information.

- R-305 When requested in writing by TRREB, the Listing Brokerage shall forward to TRREB a copy of any documentation pertaining to a MLS® Listing Agreement within ten (10) days.
- R-306 A Member submitting a MLS® Listing or Cancellation or a suspension of a MLS® Listing to TRREB's MLS® System represents and warrants to TRREB that the Member had been so authorized by the person legally entitled to sell the property and agrees to indemnify and hold TRREB harmless from all claims of third parties if this is not the case.
- R-307 The information relating to a MLS® Listing which has commenced but has yet to be processed or published by TRREB shall be given by the Listing Brokerage to any Co-operating Brokerage, upon request.
- R-310 All property to be traded separately shall be listed separately. A Listing Brokerage may publish a property as both residential and commercial types.
- R-312 Only one MLS® Listing for any one Trade function signed by the same Seller may be placed on TRREB's MLS® System at any one time.
- R-320 A MLS® Listing shall show the name of all Brokerage Members that are party to the MLS® Listing Agreement.
- R-325 A MLS® Listing Agreement shall run for a period of not less than sixty (60) days from the commencement date.
- R-330 The term of a MLS® Listing shall not be reduced to fewer than sixty (60) days, calculated from the commencement date.

R-340 Any exclusion shall be in writing and shall not be binding on a Co-operating Brokerage unless notice of the existence of the exclusion is published on TRREB's MLS® System. A MLS® Listing Agreement and Document Attachments that includes an exclusion that has the effect of limiting a Listing Brokerage's obligations that otherwise would exist under the MLS® Rules or Policies shall be subject to refusal or removal from TRREB's MLS® System.

The provisions of the MLS® Listing Agreement set out under the headings:

- a) Warranties:
- b) Family Law Act;
- c) Verification of Information;
- d) Use and Distribution of Information;
- e) Successors and Assigns; and
- f) Conflict or Discrepancy

are necessary for the orderly operation of TRREB's MLS® System and notwithstanding any other provisions of the MLS® Rules or Policies shall not be amended or deleted.

R-345 MLS® Listings appearing on TRREB's MLS® System shall be immediately available (subject to applicable legislation, the rights of and reasonable accommodation to the occupancy) for showings, inspections and registration of Offers.

In the event an existing listing becomes unavailable for showings, inspections or registration of Offers, the listing shall be suspended.

While under suspension a record of all requests by Co-operating Brokerages for showings, inspections and registration of Offers shall be kept by the Listing Brokerage.

Upon the Seller rescinding the suspension the Listing Brokerage shall immediately notify all Co-operating Brokerages who have requested showings, inspections or registration of Offers.

- R-360 MLS® Listings on TRREB's MLS® System shall contain all information necessary for preparing an Offer for Sale, Lease or Sub-Lease.
- R-365 In all instances when a MLS® Listing Agreement commences, the Listing Brokerage shall process the MLS® Listing through TRREB's MLS® System within two (2) TRREB business days following the commencement date of the MLS® Listing Agreement.
- R-370 In the event a listing salesperson is no longer associated with the listing brokerage, the listing brokerage shall ensure that the Listing Salesperson field contains the Broker of Record/Manager's name or the name of a Member who is familiar with the property shall also appear after the word "Office".
- R-375 If the Seller directs that the Co-operating Brokerage not be in attendance during an Offer presentation, the Listing Brokerage shall indicate such requirement as an exclusion on TRREB's MLS® System and provide written direction from the Seller upon request of the Co-operating Brokerage.
- R-380 Where the lot size of a residential property is irregular, the Listing Brokerage shall report the frontage and the smaller dimension of the depth, and include the words "lot size irregular" on TRREB's MLS® System.

- R-381 The Listing Brokerage shall update TRREB's MLS® System as soon as possible and no later than one (1) TRREB Business Day following any change to the listing agreement.
- R-385 Photographs or other graphic images of a property, with wording or other embellishments shall not be accepted for an MLS® Listing to be serviced through TRREB's MLS® System.
- R-390 Where realty taxes are required to appear on TRREB's MLS® System, the amount to be shown shall be the current year's annual taxes or if not available the prior year's annual taxes. In instances when the current or prior year's annual taxes are not available, a MLS System field selection indicating "taxes not yet assessed" will be chosen, if available, or the Brokerage Remarks shall be updated to read "taxes not yet assessed".

R-400 - ADVERTISING

- R-410 The Listing Brokerage shall ensure that any sign placed on property listed through TRREB's MLS® System shall, subject to the terms of the MLS® Listing Agreement, be the Listing Brokerage's sign and shall have MLS® identification attached to it during the currency of the MLS® Listing Agreement. If such real estate is situated outside MLS® Districts N, W, C, E, then the MLS® identification shall also indicate that the property is listed through TRREB's MLS® System.
- R-411 No Member's MLS® sign shall be placed on the property until the commencement date of the Member's MLS® Listing Agreement.
- R-415 On expiry, suspension or cancellation of a MLS® Listing Agreement, the Listing Brokerage shall remove any MLS® sign placed on the property by the Listing Brokerage as soon as possible and no later than one (1) TRREB business day.
- R-420 No "Sold" sign other than that of the Listing Brokerage shall be placed on real estate listed through TRREB's MLS® System prior to closing, without the written permission of the Listing Brokerage.
- R-421 When a property with a MLS® sign has been Reported sold firm, a Member shall, within two (2) TRREB business days, place a "sold" sign on the property or remove the "for sale" sign.
- R-425 A Member shall promptly remove his sign from property that becomes listed by another Member for the same Trade function.
- R-430 Members other than the Listing Brokerage may advertise a MLS® Listing only when a MLS® Listing Agreement so indicates and Members have received specific written permission from the Listing Brokerage prior to each occasion of advertising.
- R-431 Members shall not use any marketing materials prepared by or created for another Member, including but not limited to, photographs, floor plans, virtual tours, personal marketing materials or feature sheets without the written consent of that Member who created or purchased the material.

R-500 - APPOINTMENTS, SHOWINGS, KEYS AND LOCK BOXES

- R-501 Under no circumstances shall TRREB be responsible for any loss suffered by any person arising out of the use of a lock box, key or security card. A Member utilizing a lock box, key or security card thereby indemnifies and saves TRREB harmless from any loss suffered by TRREB arising out of any claim by any person(s) arising from the use of a lock box, key or security card.
- R-505 Subject to the terms of the MLS® Listing Agreement, all appointments with the Seller to show or inspect a MLS® Listing shall be made through the Listing Brokerage, provided however that a Seller may confirm an

appointment with a Member directly.

- R-510 Subject to the terms of the MLS® Listing Agreement, the Listing Brokerage shall (i) make appointments and confirm them without delay; and (ii) if an appointment cannot be made, the Listing Brokerage shall immediately advise the Co-operating Brokerage requesting the appointment and continue to attempt to arrange an appointment for a time suitable to all parties if requested.
- R-515 Subject to the terms of the MLS® Listing Agreement, a Member, who is unable to keep an appointment to show or inspect a MLS® Listing, shall immediately advise the Listing Brokerage prior to the appointment, who shall in turn immediately advise the Seller or occupant.
- R-520 The Co-operating Brokerage or Broker or a Salesperson of the Co-operating Brokerage shall be in continuous attendance during any showing of the property, Buyer visits or inspections necessary to fulfill conditions and only during the agreed upon showing period.
- R-535 When a Listing Brokerage utilizes a Courtesy Office to hold keys or security cards, the Listing Brokerage remains responsible for all keys and security cards provided to the Courtesy Office.
- R-545 A Member shall not interfere or tamper with a lock box of another Member.
- R-550 A Member who is in receipt of a lock box combination shall not disclose the combination to any other person without the consent of the Seller.
- R-551 Keys shall be re-deposited in a lock box immediately upon exiting the property and the lock box shall be properly secured.

R-600 - REPORTING OF TRANSACTIONS

- R-605 When a MLS® Listing is processed as both a residential and commercial MLS® Listing on TRREB's MLS® System, the trade shall be reported for both MLS® Listing numbers.
- R-610 The sale, lease or sub-lease of a residential or commercial MLS® Listing shall be reported by the Listing Brokerage through TRREB's MLS® System, whether conditional or firm, to TRREB within two (2) TRREB business days following acceptance of an Offer.

Reporting by the Listing Brokerage of a commercial sale/lease price shall contain the unit of measurement in which the original listing was posted. All changes in the status of a previously Reported conditional sale shall be Reported to TRREB within two (2) TRREB business days of the change.

- a) The residential sale price shall be Reported to TRREB within two (2) TRREB business days of either:
 - i) reporting of a firm transaction; or
 - ii) removal of all condition(s)
- b) A commercial sale price shall be Reported either:
 - i) at the time of Reporting a firm transaction; or
 - ii) at the same time as Reporting a firm transaction, and request that the price be suppressed until after closing; or
 - iii) within five (5) TRREB business days of closing of the transaction.
- R-615 Any sale during the holdover period shall be Reported to TRREB within two (2) TRREB business days.

R-616 If a firm sale falls through, or a conditional Offer does not become a firm sale, the Listing Brokerage shall Report such event to TRREB within two (2) TRREB business days of the happening of the event.

R-700 - COMMISSIONS

- R-705 The commission offered by the Listing Brokerage to a Co-operating Brokerage including any exclusions, incentives and/or adjustments shall be disclosed on TRREB's MLS® System and be clearly and fully stated in the "Commission to Co-operating Brokerage" field. Where necessary these remarks may be continued in the "Remarks for Brokerage" field.
- R-706 The Listing Brokerage shall ensure that the commission offered to the Co-operating Brokerage on TRREB's MLS® System, including any incentive and/or adjustment is in accordance with the MLS® Listing Agreement.
- R-710 The publication of a MLS® Listing on TRREB's MLS® System constitutes an offer by the Listing Brokerage to any Co-operating Brokerage that upon obtaining an Offer that is accepted for the MLS Listing the Co-operating Brokerage shall be entitled to earn the commission on TRREB's MLS® System, subject to the arbitration provisions of the TRREB By-law and MLS® Rules or Policies. Publication does not constitute an offer by such Listing Brokerage to pay commission as principal except as set out in Rules R-711, R-712 and R-713.
- R-711 A Member who has a Co-brokerage Agreement with a non-Member to place a listing on TRREB's MLS® System shall be acting as principal and shall, notwithstanding Rule R-710, be deemed to be making an offer as principal regarding commission to all Members.
- R-712 When a MLS® Listing Agreement is taken for real estate located outside the Province of Ontario, the Listing Brokerage shall be acting as principal and shall, notwithstanding Rule R-710, be deemed to be making an Offer as principal regarding commission to all Members.
- R-713 Where a MLS® Listing is taken for real estate in which a Member has an interest, the Member, notwithstanding Rule R-710, shall be deemed to be making an offer as principal regarding commission to all Members.
- R-715 HST shall be in addition to the amount of commission payable unless otherwise noted in the "Commission to Co-operating Brokerage" field.
- R-720 If HST applies to a sale then commission to the Co-operating Brokerage shall be based on the sale price less HST, unless otherwise stated on TRREB's MLS® System.
- R-725 For a commercial lease or sub-lease transaction, the commission offered to the Co-operating Brokerage shall indicate whether commission is calculated on gross, semi-gross or net basis, and whether based on usable or rentable area.
- R-730 If a Member is unwilling to accept the commission offered on TRREB's MLS® System, such Member may request a change before an Offer is signed, and shall not use the terms of an Offer or an Agreement of Purchase and Sale to include or modify such commission. Any agreed upon change shall be separate and in writing. A Listing Brokerage may unilaterally refuse to change such commission.
- R-740 Commission offered to a Co-operating Brokerage on TRREB's MLS® System shall not be altered between the time of registration of an Offer and final acceptance of that Offer.
- R-745 If a full commission otherwise earned by a Member is not received within ten (10) days of the completion of the transaction, and where the deposit holder is a Member, the deposit shall be disbursed proportionately,

forthwith unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Co-operating Brokerage. At the time of such payment the Listing Brokerage shall fully disclose in writing to the Co-operating Brokerage the total commission provided for in the Listing Agreement and all facts and circumstances relating to non-payment of the full commission.

- R-750 The commission earned by a Co-operating Brokerage is due and payable within ten (10) days of receipt of funds by a Listing Brokerage.
- R-755 Unless a Co-Operating Brokerage is pursuing a Claim as defined in Rule R-760, a Co-operating Brokerage shall not, subject to the terms of the MLS® Listing Agreement, communicate directly or indirectly with the Seller or the Seller's solicitor with respect to collecting a commission without the written permission of the Listing Brokerage.
- R-760 When the full commission is not paid to the Listing Brokerage in accordance with the amount stated on the MLS® Listing Agreement (or as amended, if applicable), the Listing Brokerage and the Co-operating Brokerage shall decide whether to pursue legal or other action against the Seller and/or others in connection with the collection of the balance of the commission. If they agree to pursue a claim they will share costs of the claim on a basis proportionate to the sharing of commission unless they otherwise agree in writing.

If the Listing Brokerage does not agree to pursue a claim as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, the Co-operating Brokerage may, within thirty (30) days of the closing of the transaction, by written notice (the "Notice") to the Listing Brokerage requiring the Listing Brokerage to either (a) make immediate payment to the Co-operating Brokerage of the full amount of the commission payable to the Co-operating Brokerage indicated on TRREB's MLS® System (the "Co-operating Brokerage's Commission") or (b) take such steps as are necessary for the Co-operating Brokerage to pursue a claim (a "Claim") for the commission provided for in TRREB's MLS® Listing Agreement (the "Full Commission").

The Listing Brokerage shall, within ten (10) days following receipt of the Notice (the "Notice Period") (a) either pay the Co-operating Brokerage's Commission or (b) take the necessary steps in writing in all circumstances for the Co-operating Brokerage to pursue a Claim. Such steps may include but shall not necessarily be limited to permitting the Co-operating Brokerage to sue in the name of the Listing Brokerage and/or an assignment for nominal consideration by the Listing Brokerage to the Co-operating Brokerage of the debt represented by the unpaid commission provided for in TRREB's MLS® Listing Agreement.

If the Listing Brokerage fails to respond to the Notice within the Notice Period or if the Listing Brokerage elects to take steps to enable the Co-operating Brokerage to pursue a Claim but thereafter fails to take all steps reasonably necessary to facilitate the Claim, the Listing Brokerage shall be deemed to have elected to pay the Co-operating Brokerage's Commission to Co-operating Brokerage and shall forthwith make such payment.

If Co-operating Brokerage pursues a Claim, it shall have sole carriage of the Claim, including, without limitation, the right to select and instruct counsel, to accept any settlement and compromise of the claim and to discontinue the claim at any time. All costs incurred by Co-operating Brokerage in connection with pursuing a Claim shall be solely for the account of the Co-operating Brokerage. Any costs incurred by the Listing Brokerage in facilitating the Claim will be solely for the account of the Listing Brokerage.

All amounts actually received by the Co-operating Brokerage as result of pursuing a Claim shall be applied to the extent available first to the Co-operating Brokerage's costs of pursuing the Claim, second to the satisfaction of the Co-operating Brokerage's Commission (including any HST thereon) with any amount remaining thereafter to be shared 50% to the Co-operating Brokerage as compensation for having carriage of the claim and 50% to the Listing Brokerage.

R-765 If the holdover clause in a MLS® Listing Agreement is enforced and commission is paid, such commission, after deduction of legal and collection costs, shall be divided between the Brokerages involved in the

R-800 - VIRTUAL OFFICE WEBSITES

- R-801 Unless defined herein, all capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Glossary contained in the MLS® Rules and Policies.
 - A "Virtual Office Website" or "VOW" is a Member's secure password-protected internet website, or a feature of a Member's internet website, through which the Member is capable of providing real estate brokerage services to consumers with whom the Member has first established a broker-consumer relationship (as may be designated by provincial and/or federal law) where the consumer has the opportunity to search Listing Information, subject to the Member's oversight, supervision, and accountability. A broker or salesperson registered with a Member may, with his broker of record's consent, operate a VOW. Any VOW of a broker or salesperson is subject to the Member's oversight, supervision, and accountability.
 - "Member" shall have the meaning designated in Article 2 of the By-laws and shall also include a Member's brokers and salespersons (with the exception of references to "Member's consent", and "Member's oversight, supervision, and accountability"). References to "VOW" and "VOWs" include all VOWs, whether operated by a Member, by a Member's broker or salesperson, or by an AVP on behalf of a Member.
 - "Affiliated VOW Partner" or "AVP" refers to an entity or person designated by a Member to operate a VOW on behalf of the Member, subject to the Member's supervision, accountability and compliance with the VOW Policy. No AVP has independent participation rights in the TRREB MLS® by virtue of its right to receive information on behalf of a Member. No AVP has the right to use Listing Information except in connection with operation of a VOW on behalf of one or more Members. Access by an AVP to Listing Information is derivative of the rights of the Member on whose behalf the AVP operates a VOW.
- R-802 The right of a Member's VOW to display Listing Information in response to Consumer searches is limited to the display of MLS® data supplied by TRREB in which MLS® data the Member has member rights, in accordance with the VOW Policy and VOW Rules and VOW DataFeed Agreement. However, a Member with offices participating in different real estate boards or associations may operate a master website with links to the VOWs of its other offices.
- R-803 Subject to the provisions of the VOW Policy and these VOW Rules, a Member's VOW, including any VOW operated on behalf of a Member by an AVP, may provide other features, information, or functions in addition to VOWs including the Internet Data Exchange ("IDX") function.
- R-804 Except as otherwise provided in the VOW Policy or in these VOW Rules, a Member need not obtain separate permission from other TRREB Members whose Listings will be displayed on the Member's VOW.
- R-805 Before permitting any Consumer to search for or retrieve any Listing Information on a Member's VOW, the Member must take each of the following steps:
 - a) The Member must first establish with that Consumer a lawful broker-consumer relationship (as may be designated by provincial and/or federal law), including, where necessary, completion of any actions required by provincial and/or federal law in connection with providing real estate brokerage services to clients and customers ("Consumer" or "Consumers"). Such actions may include, but are not limited to, satisfying all applicable agency, non-agency, and other disclosure obligations, and execution of any required agreements.
 - b) The Member must obtain the name of, and a valid email address for, each Consumer. The Member must send an email to the address provided by the Consumer confirming that the Consumer has agreed to the Terms of Use (described in Rule 809 below). The Member must verify that the email

- address provided by the Consumer is valid and that the Consumer has agreed to the Terms of Use.
- c) The Member must require each Consumer to have a username and a password, the combination of which is different from those of all other Consumers on the VOW. The Member may, at the Member's option, supply the username. and password or may allow Consumers to establish their username and password. The Member must also assure that any email address is associated with only one username and password.
- R-806 The Member must ensure that each Consumer's password is valid for no more than 90 days but may provide for renewal of the password. The Member must, at all times, maintain a record of the name, email address, username, and current password of each Consumer. The Member must keep such records for not less than 180 days after the expiration of the validity of the Consumer's password.
- R-807 A Member's VOW shall include any copyright notice as may be provided by TRREB from time to time regarding TRREB's copyright in MLS® data.
- R-808 If TRREB has reason to believe that a Member's VOW has been the cause of, or permitted a breach in, the security of Listing Information or a violation of MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules), the Member shall, upon request of TRREB, provide the name, email address, username, and current password, of any Consumer suspected of involvement in the breach or violation. The Member shall also, if requested by TRREB, provide an audit trail of activity by any such Consumer.
- R-809 The Member shall require each Consumer to review, and to affirmatively express agreement (by mouse click or otherwise) to, a "Terms of Use" agreement that provides at least the following:
 - a) That the Consumer acknowledges entering into a lawful broker-consumer relationship with the Member.
 - b) That all Listing Information obtained by the Consumer from the VOW is intended only for the Consumer's personal, non-commercial use.
 - c) That the Consumer has a bona fide interest in the purchase, sale, or lease of real estate of the type being offered through the VOW.
 - d) That the Consumer will not copy, redistribute, retransmit, or otherwise use any of the data or Listing Information provided, except in connection with the Consumer's consideration of the purchase or sale of an individual property.
 - e) That the Consumer will not, directly or indirectly, display, post, disseminate, distribute, publish, broadcast, transfer, sell or sublicense any Listing Information to another individual or entity. The prohibited uses expressly include "scraping" (including "screen scraping" and "database scraping"), "data mining" or any other activity intended to collect, store, re- organize, summarize or manipulate any Listing Information or any related data.
 - f) That the Consumer acknowledges TRREB's ownership of, and the validity of TRREB's proprietary rights and copyright in, the MLS® database, TRREB's MLS® System, Listing Information and any related information.
- R-810 The Terms of Use agreement may not impose a financial obligation on the Consumer or create any representation agreement between the Consumer and the Member. Any agreement entered into at any time between the Member and Consumer imposing a financial obligation on the Consumer or creating representation of the Consumer by the Member must be established separately from the Terms of Use, must

be prominently labeled as such, and may not be accepted solely by mouse click.

- R-811 The Terms of Use agreement shall also expressly authorize TRREB, and other Members of TRREB or their duly authorized representatives, to access the VOW for the purposes of verifying compliance with MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules) and monitoring the display of Members' Listings by the VOW. The Terms of Use agreement may also include such other provisions as may be agreed to between the Member and the Consumer.
- R-812 A Member's VOW must prominently display an email address, telephone number, or specific identification of another mode of communication (e.g., live chat) by which a Consumer can contact the Member to ask questions, or get more information, about any property displayed on the VOW. The Member, or a broker or salesperson registered with the Member, must be willing and able to respond knowledgeably to inquiries from Consumers about Listings within the market area served by that Member and displayed on the VOW.
- R-813 A Member's VOW must employ reasonable efforts to monitor for, and prevent, misappropriation, "scraping", "data mining" and other unauthorized, access, reproduction, or use of Listing Information, the MLS® database, MLS® data and any related information. A Member's VOW shall utilize appropriate security protection such as firewalls as long as this requirement does not impose security obligations greater than those employed concurrently by TRREB; and shall maintain an audit trail of Consumers' activity on the VOW and make that information available to TRREB if TRREB has reason to believe that any VOW has been the cause of, or permitted a breach in, the security of the MLS® data or a violation of applicable MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules).
- R-814 a) A Member's VOW shall not display Listings or property addresses of any seller who has affirmatively directed the listing brokerage to withhold the seller's Listing or property address from display on the internet. The listing brokerage shall communicate to TRREB that the seller has elected not to permit display of the Listing or property address on the internet. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Member who operates a VOW may provide to Consumers via other delivery mechanisms, such as email, fax, or otherwise, the Listings or property addresses of sellers who have determined not to have the Listing or property address displayed on the internet.
 - b) A Member who lists a property for a seller who has elected not to have the Listing or the property address displayed on the internet shall cause the seller to execute a document that so indicates.
 - c) The Member shall retain such documents for at least one year from the date they are signed, or one year from the date. the Listing expires or is terminated, whichever is later.
- R-815 a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c), a Member's VOW may allow third-parties to: (i) write comments or reviews about particular Listings or display a hyperlink to such comments or reviews in immediate conjunction with particular Listings, or (ii) display an automated estimate of the market value of the Listing (or hyperlink to such estimate) in immediate conjunction with the Listing.
 - b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, at the request of a seller, the Member shall disable or discontinue either or both of those features described in subsection (a) as to any Listing of the seller. The listing brokerage or salesperson shall communicate to TRREB that the seller has elected to have one or both of these features disabled or discontinued on all Members' websites. Subject to the foregoing and to Rule 816, a Member's VOW may communicate the Member's professional judgment concerning any Listing. A Member's VOW may notify its Consumers that a particular feature has been disabled "at the request of the seller".
 - c) In the event that a Member's VOW allows third parties to post comments or reviews on its VOW, or to display a hyperlink to such comments or reviews, the Member's Terms of Use shall include the following:

- i) that the Consumer agrees not to assert any ownership rights of any kind in Listing Information or any related data;
- ii) that TRREB shall not be responsible or liable, directly or indirectly, in any way, for any loss or damage of any kind incurred as a result of, or in connection with a Consumer's use of, or reliance on Listing Information, any related data, and/or posted or hyperlinked comments or reviews; and
- iii) that TRREB does not endorse any posted or hyperlinked comments or reviews.
- R-816 A Member's VOW shall maintain a means (e.g., email address, telephone number) to receive comments from the listing brokerage about the accuracy of any information that is added by or on behalf of the Member beyond that supplied by TRREB and that relates to a specific property displayed on the VOW. The Member shall correct or remove any untrue, deceptive or misleading information relating to a specific property within 48 hours following receipt of a communication from TRREB or the listing brokerage explaining why the data or information is untrue, deceptive or misleading. The Member shall not, however, be obligated to correct or remove any data or information that simply reflects good faith opinion, advice, or professional judgment.
- R-817 A Member shall cause the Listing Information available on its VOW to be refreshed at least once every 24 hours.
- R-818 Except as permitted in these VOW Rules, the VOW Policy, any other applicable MLS® Rules and Policies or the VOW Datafeed Agreement, no Member shall distribute, provide, display or make accessible any portion of the MLS® database or Listing Information to any person or entity.
- R-819 A Member's VOW must display the Member's privacy policy boldly informing Consumers of, and obtaining Consumers' consent to, all of the ways in which Personal Information that they provide may be collected, used, or disclosed including the fact that Personal Information may be shared with TRREB for auditing and/or legal purposes.
- R-820 A Member's VOW may exclude Listings from display based only on objective criteria, including, but not limited to, factors such as geography, list price and type of property.
- R-821 A Member who intends to operate a VOW to display Listing Information must notify TRREB in writing of its intention to establish a VOW and must make the VOW readily accessible to TRREB and to all TRREB Members for purposes of verifying compliance with these VOW Rules, the VOW Policy, and any other applicable MLS® Rules and Policies.
- R-822 A Member may operate more than one VOW himself or herself or through an AVP. A Member that operates its own VOW may contract with an AVP to have the AVP operate other VOWs on its behalf. However, any VOW operated on behalf of a Member by an AVP is subject to the Member's oversight, supervision, accountability and the terms of the VOW Policy.
- R-823 A Member, whether through a Member's VOW or by any other means, may not make available for search by, or display to, Consumers the following MLS® data intended exclusively for other Members and their brokers and salespersons, subject to applicable laws, regulations and the RECO Rules:
 - a) The seller's name and contact information, unless otherwise directed by the seller to do so;
 - b) Instructions or remarks intended for cooperating brokers only, such as those regarding showings, security of listed property including instructions for access or when the property will be empty or occupied, the seller's mortgage information and/or personal information about the seller and residents of the property.

- R-824 A Member shall not change the content of any Listing Information that is displayed on a VOW from the content as it is provided in TRREB's MLS® System. The Member may, however, augment Listing Information with additional information not otherwise prohibited from display by these VOW Rules or by other applicable MLS® Rules and Policies as long as the source of such other information is clearly identified. This rule does not restrict the format of display of Listing Information on VOWs or the display on VOWs of fewer than all of the Listings or fewer than all of the authorized information fields.
- R-825 A Member shall cause to be placed on the Member's VOW a notice indicating that the Listing Information displayed on the VOW is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed accurate by TRREB. A Member's VOW shall include other appropriate disclaimers necessary to protect the Member and/or TRREB from liability.
- R-826 A Member shall cause any Listing that is displayed on the Member's VOW to identify the name of the listing brokerage or salesperson in a readily visible color, in a reasonably prominent location, and in typeface not smaller than the typeface used in the display of Listing Information.
- R-827 A Member shall limit the number of Listings that a Consumer may view or retrieve, to not more than 100 Listings in response to any inquiry.
- R-828 A Member shall cause any listing displayed on the Member's VOW that is obtained from other sources to identify the source of the Listing.
- R-829 A Member shall cause any listing displayed on the Member's VOW obtained from other sources to be searched separately from Listings in the MLS® database.
- R-830 Members and the AVPs operating VOWs on their behalf must execute the license agreement required by TRREB.
- R-831 Where a seller affirmatively directs their listing brokerage to withhold either the seller's Listing or the address of the seller's Listing from display on the internet, a copy of the seller's affirmative direction shall be provided to TRREB upon request, within 48 hours.
- R-832 In the event of any conflict between any VOW Rule/VOW Policy and any other MLS® Rules or Policies, the VOW Rule/VOW Policy shall govern, subject to applicable laws, regulations, and the RECO Rules.

POLICIES

P-100 - GENERAL

- P-102 MLS® Listing information will not be deleted from TRREB's MLS® Online System unless TRREB is notified in writing that the address shown on the MLS® Listing Agreement is incorrect and/or the MLS® Listing is invalid.
- P-103 Following the Reported date of closing, any inaccurate information that appeared in the MLS® Listing will be changed upon request.

Before any changes occur a written direction under the signature of the signing authority (Broker of Record/Manager) of the Listing Brokerage must be received with a specific request and reasons for the change. The request will be date stamped, assigned a document number by the TRREB offices and signed off by the CEO or Staff Director responsible for the Department.

On the basis of the signed authority, and under the authorized TRREB signature, staff will edit the data. The edits will be very distinctive and indicate the changed item on the historical listing data. In addition, a

distinction shall be permanently displayed on the listing itemizing the edit and date of the edit (e.g. "price was changed from \$144,000 to \$184,000 on May 14, 2005") and a reference to the numbered document authorizing the edit which will be kept on file at TRREB for no less than seven (7) years. The distinctions made will be in consultation with a MLS® provider as to what is feasible.

No other changes will be made in the historical data

P-200 - MLS® FORMS

P-201 Notice shall be given of any change in or addition to the standard forms by publication in the MLS® Notice Pages. A Sample Standard Forms Binder will also be provided to each Member Office.

P-300 - MLS® LISTINGS

- P-301 Errors made by TRREB in Boardloading a MLS® Listing will be corrected and re-run in the MLS® Daily Listings at no charge.
- P-303 Boardload MLS® Listings may be extended to a new expiry date provided that before the original expiry date, the Board has received a copy of the extension on the form provided for the purpose by the Board, duly signed by the person who signed the MLS® Listing, or by his/her/their lawfully authorized representatives.
- P-304 TRREB will not delay or cancel the processing of a MLS® Listing Agreement, re-run or extension at the request of a Member once the MLS® Data Information Form has been received by TRREB and/or the information has been entered into TRREB's MLS® Online System.
- P-305 Any special edits to be done by TRREB to TRREB's data information for Brokerage loaded MLS® Listings must be submitted in writing to MLS® processing with an explanation and authorization from the Broker of Record/Manager.

P-400 - PHOTOGRAPHS

- P-401 Where available, a photo will be provided from TRREB's photo library. Members may accept this selection or:
 - a) request a new photo be taken provided the property is within the TRREB photo service area. The photo will be taken the next business day and a fee will be applied;
 - b) supply their own photo(s) or sketch;
 - c) select "No Photo For This Listing".
- P-402 Photos will only be re-taken free of charge if the property has undergone exterior renovations or if the wrong property has been photographed or if the wrong photo appears on MLS®.
- P-403 All photographs of the property are taken "as is" when the photographer arrives at the property.
 - a) The photographer may not be instructed to do any of the following:
 - i) photograph at a particular time of day;
 - ii) adjust garage doors, move garbage cans, wait for cars to be moved, etc.;
 - iii) take interior photos of shopping malls.

- b) Photographers are not allowed to enter onto private property except for the purpose of taking split photos;
- c) Split photographs will be taken if requested, unless:
 - i) the gate is locked;
 - ii) there is excess rain, ice or snow in the back yard;
 - iii) there are unattended animals within the yard;
 - iv) there is a ravine (photographer's discretion)
- d) Vertical photographs or specific angles may be requested, but will be taken only at the photographer's discretion.
- P-404 If a Seller stops the photographer from taking a photo, the MLS® Listing will be published with the notation "Photo Not Available".
- P-406 Extra colour prints may be ordered through TorontoMLS® or by submitting a Print Order Form (Form 294) and Photographer's Slip (Form 293).
- P-407 TRREB photographers will only take a virtual tour of a listed property when:
 - a) The Listing Brokerage, Broker, Salesperson of the Listing Brokerage, Representative of the Listing Brokerage or the Sellers are present; or
 - b) If the property is completely vacant of all contents and a lock box is located on the subject property, the photographer will enter the property provided the Listing Brokerage, Broker, Salesperson of the Listing Brokerage or Representative of the Listing Brokerage supplies a combination of the lock box to the photographer.

P-500 - TRREB COMPUTER SYSTEM

- P-501 Any Member wishing to obtain access to any MLS® data (whether for office use or individual use by a Broker or Salesperson registered with a Brokerage) shall enter into a MLS® Access Agreement, or such other agreement as TRREB may require from time to time.
- P-502 One user name and password and use of an Authenticator is issued for each Member accessing TRREB's MLS® Online System.
- P-503 The Broker of Record/Manager of a Brokerage may be issued one or more administrative user names for use by office administrators or support staff to a maximum of one (1) administrative password for every ten (10) salespersons or part thereof, based on the registered Members in that office to a maximum of ten (10) passwords. Upon receipt by TRREB of a properly completed application, the Brokerage shall pay a one-time fee, as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time, for each administrative user name that is issued.
- P-504 The password associated with an administrative user name may be changed only by the Broker of Record/Manager of the Brokerage to which it is issued. Access to TRREB's MLS® System through an administrative user name and/or through the use of an Authenticator shall be restricted, and may be terminated by TRREB at any time without notice if, in the sole opinion of TRREB, such change is necessary to protect the integrity of TRREB's MLS® System.
- P-505 Every password shall be changed from time to time as determined by TRREB.

- P-506 A Member may also elect to change his or her password at any time directly on TRREB's MLS® Online System.
- P-507 Absolutely no double logons to TRREB's MLS® Online System will be permitted.
- P-508 TRREB in its sole discretion, may terminate or suspend a Member's user name and Password code and/or authorized use of an Authenticator in the event of any unauthorized or improper use of TRREB's MLS®
- P-509 When transferring to another Brokerage, a Member may retain the same user name and password.

VIRTUAL OFFICE WEBSITE POLICY (VOW)

I - Definitions and Scope of Vow Policy

- 1. For purposes of this VOW Policy, "Virtual Office Website" ("VOW") refers to a Member's secure, password-protected internet website, or a feature of a Member's internet website, through which the Member is capable of providing real estate brokerage services to consumers with whom the Member has first established a broker-consumer relationship (as may be designated by provincial and/or federal law) where the consumer has the opportunity to search MLS® data, subject to the Member's oversight, supervision, and accountability.
 - a) Member may designate an Affiliated VOW Partner ("AVP") to operate a VOW on behalf of the Member, subject to the Member's oversight, supervision and accountability and the terms of this VOW Policy.
 - b) A broker or salesperson registered with a Member may, with the Member's consent, operate a VOW or have a VOW operated on the Member's behalf by an AVP. Such a VOW is subject to the Member's oversight, supervision and accountability and the terms of this VOW Policy.
 - c) Each use of the term "Member" in this VOW Policy shall have the meaning designated in Article 2. of the By-laws and shall also include a Member's brokers and salespersons (with the exception of references to "Member's consent", "Member's oversight, supervision, and accountability", and in paragraph 22(a), below, to "Member acknowledges"). Each reference to "VOW" or "VOWs" herein refers to all VOWs, whether operated by a Member, by a Member's broker or salesperson, or by an AVP on behalf of a Member.
- 2. The right of a Member's VOW to display Listings in response to Consumer searches is limited to the display of MLS® data supplied by TRREB in which the Member has member rights. This does not preclude a Member with offices participating in different real estate boards or associations from operating a master website with links to the VOWs of its other offices.
- 3. Members' VOWs, including those operated for Members by AVPs, may also provide other features, information, or functions in addition to VOWs (including the Internet Data Exchange ("IDX") function).
- 4. The display of Listing Information on a VOW does not require separate permission from the Member whose Listings will be available on the VOW.
- 5. Any capitalized term used herein shall have the same meaning as contained in the MLS® Rules and Policies Glossary, unless otherwise expressly defined in this VOW Policy.

II - Policies Applicable to Members' VOWs

- 6. A Member may provide brokerage services via a VOW that include making Listing Information available, but only to consumers with whom the Member has first established a lawful broker- consumer relationship, including, where necessary, completion of any actions required by provincial and/or federal law in connection with providing real estate brokerage services to clients and customers ("Consumer" or "Consumers"). Such actions may include, but are not limited to, satisfying all applicable agency, nonagency, and other disclosure obligations, and execution of any required agreement(s).
- 7. A Member's VOW must obtain the identity of each Consumer and obtain each Consumer's agreement to Terms of Use of the VOW, as follows:
 - a) Consumers must provide their name and a valid email address. The Member must send an email to the address provided by the Consumer confirming that the Consumer has agreed to the Terms of Use (described in paragraph 7(c) below). The Consumer may be permitted to access the VOW only after the Member has verified that the email address provided is valid and that the Consumer agreed to the Terms of Use.
 - b) The Consumer must supply a username and a password, the combination of which must be different from those of all other Consumers on the VOW, before being permitted to search and retrieve Listing Information via the VOW. The username and password may be established by the Consumer or may be supplied by the Member, at the option of the Member. An email address may be associated with only one username and password. Consumers' passwords may be valid for up to 90 days, after which such passwords must be renewed or reconfirmed. The Member must, at all times, maintain a record of the name and email address supplied by the Consumer, and the username and current password of each Consumer. Such records must be kept for not less than 180 days after the expiration of the validity of the Consumer's password. If TRREB has reason to believe that a Member's VOW has been the cause of, or permitted a breach in, the security of the MLS® data or a violation of this VOW Policy, or the MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules) related to use by one or more Consumers, the Member shall, upon request of TRREB, provide to TRREB a copy of the record of the name, email address, username, current password, and audit trail, if required, of any Consumer identified by TRREB to be suspected of involvement in the breach or violation.
 - c) The Consumer must be required to affirmatively express agreement to a "Terms of Use" agreement that requires the Consumer to open and review an agreement that provides at least the following:
 - i) That the Consumer acknowledges entering into a lawful broker-consumer relationship with the Member.
 - ii) That all MLS® data obtained from the VOW is intended only for the Consumer's personal, non-commercial use.
 - iii) That the Consumer has a bona fide interest in the purchase, sale, or lease of real estate of the type being offered through the VOW.
 - iv) That the Consumer will not copy, redistribute, retransmit, or otherwise use any of the data or Listing Information provided, except in connection with the Consumer's consideration of the purchase, sale, or lease of an individual property.
 - v) That the Consumer acknowledges TRREB's ownership of, and the validity of TRREB's

- proprietary rights and copyright in the MLS® database, MLS® data, TRREB's MLS® System, and Listing Information.
- vi) That the Consumer will not, directly or indirectly, display, post, disseminate, distribute, publish, broadcast, transfer, sell or sublicense any Listing Information to another individual or entity. The prohibited uses expressly include "scraping" (including "screen scraping" and "database scraping"), "data mining" or any other activity intended to collect, store, reorganize, summarize or manipulate any Listing Information or any related data.
- vii) After the Consumer has opened for viewing the Terms of Use agreement, a "mouse click" is sufficient to acknowledge agreement to those terms. The Terms of Use agreement may not impose a financial obligation on the Consumer or create any representation agreement between the Consumer and the Member.
- viii) The Terms of Use agreement shall also expressly authorize TRREB, and other TRREB Members or their duly authorized representatives, to access the VOW for the purposes of verifying compliance with MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules) and monitoring the display of Members' Listings by the VOW.
- ix) Every VOW must display a privacy policy that boldly informs Consumers of, and obtains Consumers' consent to, all the ways in which Personal Information that they provide may be collected, used or disclosed, including the fact that Personal Information may be shared with TRREB for auditing and/or legal purposes.
- d) An agreement entered into at any time between the Member and Consumer imposing a financial obligation on the Consumer or creating representation of the Consumer by the Member must be established separately from the Terms of Use, must be prominently labeled as such, and may not be accepted solely by mouse click.
- 8. A Member's VOW shall include any copyright notice as may be provided by TRREB from time to time regarding TRREB's copyright in MLS® data.
- 9. A Member's VOW must prominently display an email address, telephone number, or specific identification of another mode of communication (e.g., live chat) by which a Consumer can contact the Member to ask questions, or get more information, about Listings displayed on the VOW. The Member, or such Member's broker or salesperson, must be willing and able to respond knowledgeably to inquiries from Consumers about Listings within the market area served by that Member and displayed on the VOW.
- 10. A Member's VOW must protect the MLS® data from misappropriation by employing reasonable efforts to monitor for and prevent "scraping", data mining, and other unauthorized access, reproduction, or use of the MLS® database, MLS® data and/or any related information.
- 11. A Member's VOW must comply with the following additional requirements:
 - a) No VOW shall display Listing or property address of any seller who has affirmatively directed the listing brokerage to withhold their Listing or property address from display on the internet. The listing brokerage or salesperson shall communicate to TRREB that a seller has elected not to permit display of the Listing or property address on the internet. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Member who operates a VOW may provide to Consumers via other delivery mechanisms, such as email, fax, or otherwise, the Listing or property address of sellers who have determined not to have the Listing or address for their property displayed on the internet.
 - b) A Member who lists a property for a seller who has elected not to have the Listing or the property address displayed on the internet shall cause the seller to execute a document that so indicates.

The Member shall retain such documents for at least one year from the date they are signed, or one year from the date the Listing expires or is terminated, whichever is later.

- c) With respect to any VOW that:
 - i) allows third-parties to write comments or reviews about particular Listings or displays a hyperlink to such comments or reviews in immediate conjunction with particular Listings, or
 - displays an automated estimate of the market value of the Listing (or hyperlink to such estimate) in immediate conjunction with the Listing, the VOW shall disable or discontinue either or both of those features as to the seller's Listing at the request of the seller. The listing brokerage shall communicate to TRREB that the seller has elected to have one or both of these features disabled or discontinued on all Members' websites. Except for the foregoing and subject to subparagraph 11(d), a Member's VOW may communicate the Member's professional judgment concerning any Listing. Nothing shall prevent a VOW from notifying its Consumers that a particular feature has been disabled "at the request of the seller".
- d) A VOW shall maintain a means (e.g., email address, telephone number) to receive comments about the accuracy of any MLS® data or information that is added by or on behalf of the VOW Member beyond that supplied by TRREB and that relates to a specific property displayed on the VOW. The VOW Member shall correct or remove any untrue, deceptive or misleading data or information relating to a specific property within 48 hours of receipt of a communication from TRREB or the listing brokerage for that property explaining why the data or information is untrue, deceptive or misleading. However, the VOW Member shall not be obligated to remove or correct any data or information that simply reflects good faith opinion, advice, or professional judgment.
- e) Each VOW shall refresh MLS® data available on the VOW not less frequently than every 24 hours.
- f) Except as permitted elsewhere in this VOW Policy, other MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules) or the VOW Datafeed Agreement, no portion of the MLS® database or Listing Information may be distributed, provided, displayed or made accessible to any person or entity.
- g) A VOW may exclude Listings from display based only on objective criteria, including, but not limited to, factors such as geography, list price, and type of property.
- 12. A Member who intends to operate a VOW to display Listing Information must notify TRREB in writing of its intention to establish a VOW and must make the VOW readily accessible to TRREB and to all Members for purposes of verifying compliance with this VOW Policy, and any other applicable MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules).
- 13. A Member may operate more than one VOW itself or through an AVP. A Member who operates a VOW itself shall not be precluded from also operating VOWs in conjunction with AVPs.

III - Policies respecting Data Feeds, Security, AVPs and related matters

- 14. TRREB will permit Members to operate VOWs, or to have VOWs operated for them by AVPs, subject to the requirements of all provincial and/or federal laws, including all RECO Rules, PIPEDA and this VOW Policy and the VOW Rules.
- 15. TRREB will, if requested by a Member, provide basic "downloading" of non-confidential MLS® data, including without limitation address fields, listing types, photographs, links to virtual tours, and data in the

MLS® database with respect to sold and Pending Sold properties, withdrawn, expired, suspended or terminated listings, and offers of commission to brokers who represent the purchaser. "Confidential data" includes that which Members are prohibited from providing to Consumers orally and by all other delivery mechanisms, including fields containing the information described in paragraph 24 of this VOW Policy. Notwithstanding the foregoing, archived data in the MLS® database with respect to sold and Pending Sold properties, withdrawn, expired, suspended or terminated listings, and offers of commission to brokers who represent the purchaser, will be made available by TRREB to its Members and Members' AVPs upon special request and need not be included in each and every update of the VOW Datafeed itself.

For purposes of this VOW Policy, "downloading" means electronic transmission of data (i.e., data feed) from TRREB servers to a Member's or AVP's server on a persistent basis via RETS feed, FTP download, or in such format as may be determined by TRREB from time to time. TRREB may also offer a transient download. In such case, it shall also, if requested, provide a persistent download, provided that it may impose on users of such download the approximate additional costs incurred by it to do so.

- 16. This VOW Policy does not require TRREB to establish publicly accessible websites displaying Members' Listings.
- 17. The VOW Datafeed will include all of the non-confidential MLS® data included in the data feed described in paragraph 15 above except for Listings or property addresses of sellers who have elected not to have their Listings or addresses displayed on the internet.
- 18. TRREB may pass on to Members the reasonably estimated costs incurred by TRREB in adding or enhancing its "downloading" capacity to support the operation of VOWs generally.
- TRREB will require that Members (1) utilize appropriate security protection, such as firewalls, as long as such requirement does not impose security obligations greater than those employed concurrently by TRREB; and (2) maintain an audit trail of Consumers' activity on the VOW and make that information available to TRREB if TRREB has reason to believe that any VOW has been the cause of, or permitted a breach in, the security of the MLS® data or a violation of applicable MLS® Rules and Policies (including the VOW Rules).
- 20. Except as provided in this VOW Policy, TRREB will not prohibit Members from enhancing their. VOWs by providing, information obtained from sources other than TRREB, additional technological services (such as mapping functionality), or information derived from non- confidential MLS® data (such as an estimated monthly payment derived from the listed price), or regulating the use or display of such information or technological services on any VOW.
- 21. TRREB will not restrict the format of MLS® data displayed on a VOW or regulate the appearance of VOWs.
- 22. Subject to the provisions below, TRREB will make MLS® data available to an AVP for the exclusive purpose of operating a VOW on behalf of a Member and will make MLS® data available to an AVP under the same terms and conditions as those applicable to Members. No AVP has independent member rights in TRREB or MLS® data by virtue of its right to receive MLS® data on behalf of a Member, or the right to use MLS® data except in connection with operation of a VOW for a Member. AVP access to MLS® data is derivative of the rights of the Member on whose behalf the AVP is downloading MLS® data.
 - a) A Member or AVP may establish the AVP's right to receive and use MLS® data by providing to TRREB a document in which the Member acknowledges its selection of the AVP to operate a VOW on its behalf.
 - b) TRREB will not charge an AVP, or a Member on whose behalf an AVP operates a VOW, more than a Member that chooses to operate a VOW itself (including any fees or costs associated with a license to receive MLS® data, as described in paragraph 22(g), below), except to the extent that

- TRREB incurs greater costs in providing MLS® data to the AVP than TRREB incurs in providing MLS® data to a Member.
- c) TRREB will not place data security requirements or restrictions on use of MLS® data by an AVP that are not also imposed on Members.
- d) TRREB will permit an AVP to download Listing Information in the same manner (e.g., via a RETS feed, FTP download, or in such format as may be determined by TRREB from time to time), at the same times and with the same frequency that TRREB permits Members to download Listing Information to Members' VOWs.
- e) TRREB will deal directly with an AVP in order to resolve technical problems with the VOW Datafeed. However, TRREB may require that the Member on whose behalf the AVP is operating the VOW participate in such communications if TRREB reasonably believes that the involvement of the Member would be helpful in order to resolve the problem.
- f) TRREB will not condition an AVP's access to the VOW Datafeed on the financial terms on which the AVP provides the website for the Member.
- g) TRREB will require Members and AVPs to execute a license or similar agreements sufficient to ensure that Members and AVPs understand and agree that MLS® data provided by TRREB may be used only to establish and operate a VOW on behalf of the Member and not for any other purpose.
- h) TRREB will not (i) prohibit an AVP from operating VOWs on behalf of more than one Member, and several Members may designate an AVP to operate a single VOW for them collectively, (ii) limit the number of entities that Members may designate as AVPs for purposes of operating VOWs, or (iii) prohibit Members from designating particular entities as AVPs except that, if an AVP's access has been suspended or terminated by TRREB, TRREB may prevent an entity from being designated an AVP by another Member during the period of the AVP's suspension or termination.
- i) Except as stated below, TRREB may not suspend or terminate an AVP's access to MLS® data (a) for reasons other than those that would allow TRREB to suspend or terminate a Member's access to MLS® data, or (b) without giving the AVP and the associated Member(s) prior notice and the process set forth in the applicable provisions of the By- laws or MLS® Rules and Policies for suspension or termination of a Member's access. Notwithstanding the foregoing, TRREB will immediately terminate an AVP's access to MLS® data (a) if the AVP is no longer designated to provide VOW services to any Member, (b) if the Member for whom the AVP operates a VOW ceases to maintain its status with TRREB, (c) if the AVP has downloaded MLS® data in a manner not authorized for Members and that hinders the ability of Members to download MLS® data to Members' VOWs, or (d) if the associated Member or AVP has failed to make required payments to TRREB in accordance with TRREB's generally applicable payment policies and practices.
- 23. TRREB will not prohibit, restrict, or impede a Member from referring Consumers to any person or from obtaining a fee for such referral.

IV - Requirements on the Operation of VOWs and Members

- 24. A Member, whether through a Member's VOW or by any other means, may not make available for search by, or display to, Consumers the following MLS® data intended exclusively for other Members and their brokers and salespersons, subject to applicable laws, regulations and the RECO Rules:
 - a) The seller's name and contact information, unless otherwise directed by the seller to do so; and

- b) Instructions or remarks intended for cooperating brokers only, such as those regarding showing, security of the listed property including instructions for access or when the property will be empty or occupied, the seller's mortgage information and/or personal information about the seller and residents of the property.
- 25. The content of MLS® data that is displayed on a VOW may not be changed from the content as it is provided in TRREB's MLS® System. MLS® data may be augmented with additional data or information not otherwise prohibited from display as long as the source of such other data or information is clearly identified. This requirement does not restrict the format of MLS® data displayed on VOWs or the display on VOWs of fewer than all of the Listings or fewer than all of the authorized data fields.
- 26. There shall be a notice on all MLS® data displayed indicating that the data is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed accurate by TRREB. A Member's VOW may also include other appropriate disclaimers necessary to protect the Member and/or TRREB from liability.
- 27. Any Listing displayed on a VOW shall identify the name of the listing brokerage or salesperson in a readily visible color, and reasonably prominent location, and in typeface not smaller than the typeface used in the display of Listing data.
- 28. The number of Listings that Consumers may view or retrieve on or from a VOW in response to an inquiry will be limited to 100 Listings.
- 29. TRREB will not prohibit Members from downloading and displaying or framing listings obtained from other sources, e.g., other real estate boards or associations or from brokers not participating in TRREB, etc., but may require either that (i) such information be searched separately from listings obtained from other sources, including other real estate boards or associations, or (ii) if such other sources are searched in conjunction with searches of the Listings available on the VOW, require that any display of listings from other sources identify such other source.

GLOSSARY

In these MLS® Rules and Policies and this Glossary unless the context requires otherwise words or terms having a commonly understood meaning in the real estate brokerage industry and not otherwise defined herein shall be given that meaning provided that the terms set out below shall have the following meanings:

- "Act" means the *Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002*, S.O. 2002, Chapter 30, as amended, or any successor legislation as may be amended from time to time;
- "Affiliated VOW Partner" or "AVP" has the meaning ascribed thereto in R-801 of the VOW Rules;
- "Agency" means that relationship between principal and agent wherein the agent is considered in law to represent the principal;
- "Agreement of Purchase and Sale" is a document giving evidence of a contract which exists between the parties involved and includes an "Agreement to Lease", "Offer to Sub-Lease", "Agreement of Purchase and Sale Under the Bulk Sales Act", "Option to Purchase", "Offer to Exchange", "Agreement of Purchase and Sale Condominium Resale":
- "as principal" means acting as Seller and therefore directly liable to other Members for compensation;
- "Authenticator" means any handheld random password generator(s) that may be provided by TRREB from time to time:
- "Authorized User Agreement" is a confidentiality agreement in a form provided by TRREB from time to time to be signed by every Member of TRREB and the authorized Broker of Record/Manager of the Brokerage;
- "Board" means the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board;
- "Boardload" means the entry of listing information from the MLS® Data Information Form onto TRREB's MLS® Online System by TRREB staff;
- "Board of Directors" means the Board of Directors of TRREB:
- "Broker" means an individual who has the prescribed qualifications to be registered as a Broker under the Act and who is employed by a Brokerage to trade in real estate and is authorized to use the MLS® System;
- "Brokerage" (Listing/Co-operating) means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietor, association or other organization or entity that, on behalf of others and for compensation or reward or the expectation of such, trades in real estate or holds himself, herself or itself out as such;
- "Brokerload" means the entry of listing information from the MLS® Data Information Form onto TRREB's MLS® Online System by the Listing Brokerage's office;
- "Broker of Record" has the meaning ascribed to that term in the TRREB By-law;
- "Business" means an undertaking carried on for gain or profit and includes an interest in such undertaking;
- "Buyer Representation Agreement" means a Representation Agreement between a Brokerage and a Buyer;
- "Buyer" includes a purchaser, a tenant, and a prospective purchaser or tenant;

"By-laws" means the By-law of TRREB as may be amended from time to time;

"Cancellation" (of a MLS® Listing), means a written agreement between the Listing Brokerage and the Seller or the Seller's legally authorized representative which terminates an existing MLS® Listing Agreement;

"commence" when used with reference to a MLS® Listing Agreement means the date the Agency between the Listing Brokerage and the Seller is to begin and may be a date that is different from the date the MLS® Listing Agreement was signed by the Seller and "commencement" shall have a corresponding meaning;

"Courtesy Office" is an office other than the Listing Brokerage's office, where keys and security cards may be held;

"CREA Rules" means all applicable CREA By-laws, rules and policies, including the REALTOR® Code of Ethics;

"Directload" includes the entry of information from the MLS® Data Information Form, Reporting of Trades, Cancellations and suspensions to TRREB's MLS® Online System by the Listing Brokerage's office (Brokerload) or Salesperson (Repload). Any MLS® Listing information entered through Directload shall be considered to be a reproduction of information contained on the MLS® Data Information Form;

"Document Attachment" is a facsimile of an actual document or image that is supplementary to the specific MLS® Listing Agreement it is attached to and forms part of that Listing;

"exclusion" means any material fact that may affect the Co-operating Brokerage;

"HST" means the Harmonized Sales Tax imposed by the Excise Tax Act (Canada) as may be amended or replaced from time to time:

"Listing(s)" shall include MLS® Listing(s);

"Listing Information" or "MLS® data" means all information that is contained in a Listing uploaded on the TRREB MLS® System and maintained in the TRREB MLS® database regarding the Listings of Members, and any subsequent additions or changes to that information, including current information about the property;

"Manager" means the Registrant in effective control and management of a Brokerage office;

"Mandatory Fields" are designated as the dark shaded fields on the Freehold, Condominium and Commercial MLS® Data Information Forms and are to be correctly completed;

"may" is construed as permissive;

"Member" includes all types of Members of TRREB as defined in the By-Laws and those who TRREB has authorized to have access to TRREB's MLS® System;

"Member Office" means a Business office maintained by a Brokerage and used for the real estate Business, serving the public on a regular and consistent basis;

"MLS®" is a registered trademark of The Canadian Real Estate Association;

"MLS® database" means the aggregation of all MLS® data as well as its selection, assembly and arrangement, and any successor database owned and operated by or on behalf of TRREB;

"MLS® Data Information Form" means a printed or electronic document containing information required by TRREB from time to time about a MLS® Listing or the property listed on a MLS® Listing;

"MLS® Forms" means all forms (regardless of media employed) prescribed by TRREB for use by Members in connection with TRREB's MLS® System;

"MLS® Listing" is property offered for sale, lease, sub-lease, exchange or option through TRREB's MLS® System and, where the context permits, includes the information concerning the property submitted to or published on TRREB's MLS® System including the MLS® Data Information Form;

"MLS® Listing Agreement" means the agreement between the Listing Brokerage and a Seller as prescribed by TRREB from time to time and Document Attachment is supplementary to the specific MLS Listing it is attached to and forms part of the MLS® Listing Agreement;

"MLS® Notice Pages" includes the pages of notices published by TRREB on TRREB's MLS® System containing solds, conditional sales, suspensions, Cancellations, extensions and deals that fell through;

"notify TRREB" is the delivery of information regarding MLS® Listings to TRREB either by Directload or telephone, or as determined by TRREB;

"Offer" is an Agreement of Purchase and Sale, including a counter-offer, which has been executed by the offeror, but not yet accepted by the offeree;

"Pending Sold" means a sale that has not yet closed and is "firm" in that the sale does not have or no longer has any conditions to closing.

"Personal Information" shall have the meaning attributed to such term in the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (Canada), S.C. 2000, c. 5, as such legislation may be amended from time to time;

"PIPEDA" means the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (Canada), S.C. 2000, c. 5, as such legislation may be amended from time to time;

"property" means real estate;

"real estate" includes leasehold interests and Business, whether with or without premises, and fixtures, stock-in-trade, goods connected with the operation of Business. For greater clarity, "real estate" may include less than a 100% interest in the foregoing, and shall include mobile homes and travel trailers that have become real property as a fixture:

"RECO" means the Real Estate Council of Ontario:

"RECO Rules" means the *Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002*, and all regulations thereto, including the Code of Ethics, as well as all applicable RECO rules and policies;

"Registrant" means a Brokerage that is registered under the Act or a Broker or Salesperson who is registered under the Act:

"Reporting" means notification of information regarding MLS® Listings to TRREB either by Directload or telephone, or as determined by TRREB from time to time and "Reported" and "Report" shall have a corresponding meaning;

"Re-run" is the re-appearance of a MLS® Listing on TRREB's MLS® Online System and in the MLS® daily listings;

"sale" shall include all forms of Trade;

"Salesperson" means an individual who has the prescribed qualifications to be registered as a Salesperson under the Act and who is employed by a Brokerage to trade in real estate;

"Seller" includes a vendor or landlord or a prospective Vendor or landlord; "shall" is construed as imperative;

"suspension" is notice from the Listing Brokerage which renders a current MLS® Listing inactive. Suspension includes the terms "Off the Market", "No Showings" and "No Further Appointments" but does not constitute a Cancellation of a MLS® Listing Agreement; and "suspend", and "suspended" shall have a corresponding meaning;

"Terms of Use" means a written series of terms displayed on a VOW to which a Consumer may agree in order to obtain access to the Listings on the VOW;

"Trade" as defined in the *Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002* (REBBA); "**TRREB**" means the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board:

"TRREB business day" means a day on which the offices of TRREB are open to serve Members;

"TRREB's MLS® Online System" is a computer system as operated by TRREB from time to time for TRREB's MLS® System;

"TRREB's MLS® System" means the multiple listing service as owned and operated by or on behalf of TRREB and includes, without limitation, all MLS® data; the MLS® database, the MLS® Data Information Forms and TRREB's MLS® Online System;

"Virtual Office Website" or "VOW" has the meaning ascribed thereto in R-801 of the VOW Rules.

"VOW Datafeed" means an electronic transmission of data from TRREB to Member or AVP, which data consists of such Listing Information that TRREB has agreed, pursuant to the VOW Datafeed Agreement, to provide to Member or AVP, as applicable, from time to time in its sole discretion, which information transmitted will, at all times, be subject to the VOW Policy and Rules and the VOW Datafeed Agreement.

"VOW Datafeed Agreement" means a license agreement in a form provided by TRREB from time to time between TRREB and a Member operating a VOW and, as applicable, such Member's AVP, governing, among other things, access to and use of the VOW Data Feed made available by TRREB to its Members.

"VOW Rules" means the series of rules found in the R-800 section of the MLS® Rules and Policies.

THE CANADIAN REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS RULES AND REGULATIONS

CREA RULE 11 STANDARDS RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF AN MLS® SYSTEM

11.1: General

- 11.1.1: An MLS® System is a member-to-member cooperative selling system for the purchase, sale or lease of real estate that:
 - 11.1.1: is wholly owned and controlled by one or more member Boards/Associations;
 - 11.1.1.2: includes an inventory of listings of participating REALTOR® members;
 - 11.1.1.3: ensures a certain level of accuracy of information, professionalism, and cooperation amongst REALTOR® members; and
 - 11.1.1.4: adheres to CREA's By-Laws, Rules and Policies.
- 11.1.2: The ability to place listings, cooperate on listings, and otherwise access an MLS® System and its inventory must be available to all REALTOR® members of that Board/Association on the same terms and conditions.
- 11.1.3: A Board/Association may establish requirements to access an MLS® System such as fees, or certain qualifications or designations, provided that all REALTOR® members have the opportunity to meet those requirements.
- 11.1.4: Member Boards/Associations may create separate corporate entities to operate MLS® Systems on their behalf, provided that the member Boards/Associations:
 - 11.1.4.1: Wholly own and control the entity;
 - 11.1.4.2: Ensure that the entity complies with CREA's Bylaws, Rules and Policies, including use of CREA's trademarks and assumes responsibility for any non-compliance by the entity;
 - 11.1.4.3: Execute such agreements with CREA, or cause the entity to execute such agreements with CREA, as may be required by CREA.
- 11.1.5: Boards/Associations may use a technology provider to operate an MLS® System on their behalf provided that the Boards/Associations ensure that the technology provider complies with CREA's Bylaws, Rules and Policies, including use of CREA's trademarks and assumes responsibility for any non-compliance by the technology provider.

11.2: Acceptance of Listings

11.2.1: The Three (3) Pillars of the MLS® Mark
Only listings that comply with the following three (3) pillars of the MLS® Mark can be placed on a
Board/Association's MLS® System.

11.2.1.1: Membership

Only REALTOR® members may place a listing on a Board/Association's MLS® System.

11.2.1.2: Agency

A listing REALTOR® member/real estate firm must act as agent for the seller to post, amend or remove a property listing in a Board's MLS® System. The nature of any additional services to be provided by the listing REALTOR® member/real estate firm to the seller is determined by agreement between the listing REALTOR®/real estate firm and the seller.

11.2.1.3: Compensation to Co-operating Broker

The listing REALTOR® member agrees to pay to the co-operating (i.e. selling) REALTOR® member compensation for the co-operative selling of the property. An offer of compensation of zero is not acceptable.

11.3: Interpretations of the Three Pillars of the MLS® Mark

- 11.3.1: The listing REALTOR® member shall be available to provide professional advice and counsel to the seller on all offers and counter offers unless otherwise directed by the seller in writing.
- 11.3.2: The listing REALTOR® member is responsible and accountable for the accuracy of information submitted to a Board/Association for inclusion in the Board's MLS® System, and the Board/Association is responsible for ensuring that the data submitted to it meets reasonable standards of quality.
- 11.3.3: Only REALTOR® members are permitted to display the MLS® trademarks in signage, advertising, etc.
- 11.3.4: Where the seller directs the listing REALTOR® member in writing to do so, the seller's contact information may appear in the REALTOR® member only remarks (non-public) section of a listing on a Board/Association's MLS® System. The seller's contact information shall not appear on REALTOR.ca or in the general (public) remarks section of a listing on a Board/Association's MLS® System. The listing REALTOR® member may include a direction in the General Description section on REALTOR.ca or on websites operated by CREA or a Board/Association to visit the REALTOR® member website to obtain additional information about the listing (but the nature of such additional information shall not be specified).
- 11.3.5: Where the seller has reserved the right to sell the property himself/herself, that fact shall be specified in the Board/Association's MLS® System.

11.4: Out of Jurisdiction Listings

- 11.4.1: A Board/Association may, at its option, accept a listing of a property located outside the Board's corporate jurisdiction, including property located in another province or territory, or another country, provided that:
 - 11.4.1.1: the REALTOR® member, in taking the listing, does not violate the provisions of applicable provincial/territorial licensing legislation; and
 - 11.4.1.2: the listing complies with all other requirements of CREA's By-Laws, Rules and Policies and the Rules of CREA and the Board/Association, including the three (3) pillars of the MLS® Mark.

11.5: Real Estate Component

- 11.5.1: Only properties with a real estate component may be listed on an MLS® System.
- 11.5.2: The term "real estate" includes real property, a leasehold or other interest in real property less than a fee simple, and a time share agreement with regard to real property.

- 11.5.3: Provided they conform to the provisions of the provincial/territorial licensing legislation, a Board/Association may also, at its option, accept listings for:
 - 11.5.3.1: a moveable dwelling that is designed for use as a permanent residence;
 - 11.5.3.2: a business, including an interest or share of a business, with or without premises, and the fixtures, stock-in-trade, goods and chattels associated with the business, provided such items are sold in bulk as part of the business operation.

11.6: Processing of Listings

11.6.1: Listing Contracts

- 11.6.1.1: A Board/Association may, at its option, require either listing contracts or data input forms to be submitted within a reasonable period of time (as defined by the Board/Association MLS® Rules) after execution of the listing contract. A Board/Association has the right to require production of the executed listing contract prior to processing the listing.
- 11.6.1.2: All unconditional sales, and any changes to listing information, must be submitted to a Board/Association within a reasonable period of time (as defined by the Board/Association MLS® Rules). Boards/Associations may, at their option, require conditional sales to be reported.
- 11.6.1.3: All forms submitted to a Board/Association in relation to a listing must be complete and accurate.

11.7: Non-Member Access to Information

- 11.7.1: Information on an MLS® System is intended for the exclusive use of REALTOR® members. However, a Board/Association may, at its option, permit access to such information by third parties other than REALTOR® members whose objectives support the interests of the Board/Association and its members, provided that such access:
 - 11.7.1.1: is granted only by way of a written contract and not as a privilege of membership; and
 - 11.7.1.2: is otherwise in compliance with the law.

11.8: Board/Association Obligations

- 11.8.1: All Boards and Associations that operate MLS® Systems must:
 - 11.8.1.1: Have in place MLS® Rules governing the operation of their MLS® Systems that, at a minimum, give effect to this Rule.
 - 11.8.1.2: Ensure the high quality of listing information on the MLS® Systems and promote data integrity to ensure that MLS® Systems throughout Canada remain a reliable source of accurate information.

RECO CODE OF ETHICS

Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002

ONTARIO REGULATION 580/05 Code of Ethics

Consolidation Period: From April 19, 2022 to the e-Laws currency date.

Note: This Regulation is revoked on the day subsection 31 (1) of the Trust in Real Estate Services Act, 2020 comes

into force. (See: O. Reg. 365/22, s. 17)

Last amendment: 365/22.

Legislative History: <u>246/06</u>, <u>539/20</u>, <u>365/22</u>.

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Interpretation

Interpretation

1. (1) In this Regulation,

"buy" means acquire or seek to acquire an interest in real estate, and "buyer" has a corresponding meaning; ("acheter; acheteur")

"buyer representation agreement" means a representation agreement between a brokerage and a buyer; ("convention de représentation de l'acheteur")

"material fact" means, with respect to the acquisition or disposition of an interest in real estate, a fact that would affect a reasonable person's decision to acquire or dispose of the interest; ("fait important")

"seller representation agreement" means a representation agreement between a brokerage and a seller, and includes a listing agreement that is a representation agreement. ("convention de représentation du vendeur") O. Reg. 580/05, s. 1 (1).

- (2) A person is related to another person for the purposes of this Regulation if,
- (a) one person is associated with the other person within the meaning of subsection 1 (2) of the Act; or
- (b) one person is related to the other person by blood, adoption or conjugal relationship. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 1 (2).
 - (3) For the purposes of this Regulation,
 - (a) a person is related to another person by blood if,
 - (i) one is the child or other descendant of the other, or
 - (ii) one is the brother or sister of the other:
 - (b) a person is related to another person by adoption if,
 - (i) neither is related to the other by blood, and
- (ii) one would be related to the other by blood if all adopted children were deemed to be the natural children of their adoptive parents; and
 - (c) a person is related to another person by conjugal relationship if,
 - (i) one is married to the other or to a person who is related by blood or adoption to the other, or
- (ii) one lives in a conjugal relationship outside marriage with the other or with a person who is related by blood or adoption to the other. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 1 (3).

Obligations of Registrants

Brokers and salespersons

- 2. (1) A broker or salesperson shall not do or omit to do anything that causes the brokerage that employs the broker or salesperson to contravene this Regulation. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 2 (1).
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a contravention by the brokerage of section 32, 33 or 41. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 2 (2).

Fairness, honesty, etc.

3. A registrant shall treat every person the registrant deals with in the course of a trade in real estate fairly, honestly and with integrity. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 3.

Best interests

4. A registrant shall promote and protect the best interests of the registrant's clients. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 4.

Conscientious and competent service, etc.

5. A registrant shall provide conscientious service to the registrant's clients and customers and shall demonstrate reasonable knowledge, skill, judgment and competence in providing those services. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 5.

Providing opinions, etc.

- 6. (1) A registrant shall demonstrate reasonable knowledge, skill, judgment and competence in providing opinions, advice or information to any person in respect of a trade in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 6 (1).
 - (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1) or section 5,
- (a) a brokerage shall not provide an opinion or advice about the value of real estate to any person unless the opinion or advice is provided on behalf of the brokerage by a broker or salesperson who has education or experience related to the valuation of real estate; and
- (b) a broker or salesperson shall not provide an opinion or advice about the value of real estate to any person unless the broker or salesperson has education or experience related to the valuation of real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 6 (2).

Dealings with other registrants

- 7. (1) A registrant who knows or ought to know that a person is a client of another registrant shall communicate information to the person for the purpose of a trade in real estate only through the other registrant, unless the other registrant has consented in writing. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 7 (1).
- (2) If a broker or salesperson knows or ought to know that a buyer or seller is a party to an agreement in connection with a trade in real estate with a brokerage other than the brokerage that employs the broker or salesperson, the broker or salesperson shall not induce the buyer or seller to break the agreement. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 7 (2).

Services from others

- 8. (1) A registrant shall advise a client or customer to obtain services from another person if the registrant is not able to provide the services with reasonable knowledge, skill, judgment and competence or is not authorized by law to provide the services. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 8 (1).
- (2) A registrant shall not discourage a client or customer from seeking a particular kind of service if the registrant is not able to provide the service with reasonable knowledge, skill, judgment and competence or is not authorized by law to provide the service. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 8 (2).

Remuneration

9. A registrant shall not indicate to any person, directly or indirectly, that remuneration is fixed or approved by the administrative authority, any government authority, or any real estate board or real estate association. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 9; O. Reg. 539/20, s. 1.

Information before agreements

- 10. (1) Before entering into an agreement with a buyer or seller in respect of trading in real estate, a brokerage shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity, inform the buyer or seller of the following:
- 1. The types of service alternatives that are available in the circumstances, including a representation agreement or another type of agreement.
 - 2. The services that the brokerage would provide under the agreement.
- 3. The fact that circumstances could arise in which the brokerage could represent more than one client in respect of the same trade in real estate, but that the brokerage could not do this unless all of the clients represented by the brokerage in respect of that trade consented in writing.
- 4. The nature of the services that the brokerage would provide to each client if the brokerage represents more than one client in respect of the same trade in real estate.
- 5. The fact that circumstances could arise in which the brokerage could provide services to more than one customer in respect of the same trade in real estate.
- 6. The fact that circumstances could arise in which the brokerage could, in respect of the same trade in real estate, both represent clients and provide services to customers.
- 7. The restricted nature of the services that the brokerage would provide to a customer in respect of a trade in real estate if the brokerage also represents a client in respect of that trade. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 10 (1).
- (2) The brokerage shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before an offer is made, use the brokerage's best efforts to obtain from the buyer or seller a written acknowledgement that the buyer or seller received all the information referred to in subsection (1). O. Reg. 580/05, s. 10 (2).

Contents of written agreements

- 11. (1) A brokerage shall not enter into a written agreement with a buyer or seller for the purpose of trading in real estate unless the agreement clearly, comprehensibly and prominently,
 - (a) specifies the date on which the agreement takes effect and the date on which it expires;
 - (b) specifies or describes the method for determining,
 - (i) the amount of any remuneration payable to the brokerage, and
- (ii) in the case of an agreement with a seller, the amount of any remuneration payable to any other brokerage;
 - (c) describes how any remuneration payable to the brokerage will be paid; and
- (d) sets out the services that the brokerage will provide under the agreement. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 11 (1); O. Reg. 539/20, s. 2.
- (2) A brokerage shall not, for the purpose of trading in real estate, enter into a written agreement with a buyer or seller that provides that the date on which the agreement expires is more than six months after the date on which the agreement takes effect unless,
- (a) the date on which the agreement expires is prominently displayed on the first page of the agreement; and
- (b) the buyer or seller has initialled the agreement next to the date referred to in clause (a). O. Reg. 580/05, s. 11 (2).
- (3) A brokerage shall ensure that a written agreement that is entered into between the brokerage and a buyer or seller for the purpose of trading in real estate contains only one date on which the agreement expires. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 11 (3).

Copies of written agreements

12. If a brokerage and one or more other persons enter into a written agreement in connection with a trade in real estate, the brokerage shall ensure that each of the other persons is immediately given a copy of the agreement. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 12.

Seller representation agreements

13. If a brokerage enters into a seller representation agreement with a seller and the agreement is not in writing, the brokerage shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before any buyer makes an offer, reduce the agreement to writing, have it signed on behalf of the brokerage and submit it to the seller for signature. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 13.

Buyer representation agreements

14. If a brokerage enters into a buyer representation agreement with a buyer and the agreement is not in writing, the brokerage shall, before the buyer makes an offer, reduce the agreement to writing, have it signed on behalf of the brokerage and submit it to the buyer for signature. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 14.

Agreements with customers

15. If a brokerage enters into an agreement with a customer in respect of a trade in real estate and the agreement is not in writing, the brokerage shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity, reduce the agreement to writing, have it signed on behalf of the brokerage and submit it to the customer for signature. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 15.

Disclosure before multiple representation

- 16. A brokerage shall not represent more than one client in respect of the same trade in real estate unless it has disclosed the following matters to the clients or prospective clients at the earliest practicable opportunity:
 - 1. The fact that the brokerage proposes to represent more than one client in respect of the same trade.
- 2. The differences between the obligations the brokerage would have if it represented only one client in respect of the trade and the obligations the brokerage would have if it represented more than one client in respect of the trade, including any differences relating to the disclosure of information or the services that the brokerage would provide. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 16.

Nature of relationship

17. If a registrant represents or provides services to more than one buyer or seller in respect of the same trade in real estate, the registrant shall, in writing, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before any offer is made, inform all buyers and sellers involved in that trade of the nature of the registrant's relationship to each buyer and seller. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 17.

Disclosure of interest

- 18. (1) A registrant shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before any offer is made in respect of the acquisition or disposition of an interest in real estate, disclose in writing the following matters to every client represented by the registrant in respect of the acquisition or disposition:
 - 1. Any property interest that the registrant has in the real estate.
- 2. Any property interest that a person related to the registrant has in the real estate, if the registrant knows or ought to know of the interest.
- 3. Any property interest that a personal real estate corporation controlled by the registrant has in the real estate.
- 4. Any property interest that a person related to a personal real estate corporation controlled by the registrant has in the real estate, if the registrant knows or ought to know of the interest. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 18 (1); O. Reg. 539/20, s. 3 (1).
- (2) A brokerage shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before any offer is made in respect of the acquisition or disposition of an interest in real estate, disclose in writing the matters referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection (1) to every customer with whom the brokerage has entered into an agreement in respect of the acquisition or disposition. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 18 (2).
- (3) A broker or salesperson shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before any offer is made in respect of the acquisition or disposition of an interest in real estate, disclose in writing the matters referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection (1) to every customer of the broker or salesperson with whom the brokerage that employs the broker or salesperson has entered into an agreement in respect of the acquisition or disposition. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 18 (3).
- (4) A registrant shall disclose in writing to a client, at the earliest practicable opportunity, any direct or indirect financial benefit that the registrant or a person related to the registrant may receive from another person in connection with services provided by the registrant to the client, including any remuneration that may be received from another person. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 18(4); O. Reg. 539/20, s. 3(2).
- (5) A brokerage that has entered into an agreement with a buyer or seller that requires the buyer or seller to pay the brokerage remuneration in respect of a trade in real estate shall not charge or collect any remuneration under another agreement entered into with another person in respect of the same trade unless,
 - (a) the brokerage discloses at the earliest practicable opportunity to the other person, in writing, the

terms of the agreement with the buyer or seller that require the payment of remuneration; and

(b) the brokerage discloses at the earliest practicable opportunity to the buyer or seller, in writing, the terms of the agreement with the other person that require the payment of remuneration. O. Reg. 539/20, s. 3 (3).

Properties that meet buyer's criteria

19. If a brokerage has entered into a representation agreement with a buyer, a broker or salesperson who acts on behalf of the buyer pursuant to the agreement shall inform the buyer of properties that meet the buyer's criteria without having any regard to the amount of remuneration, if any, to which the brokerage might be entitled. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 19; O. Reg. 539/20, s. 4.

Seller property information statement

- 20. If a broker or salesperson has a seller as a client and knows that the seller has completed a written statement that is intended to provide information to buyers about the real estate that is available for acquisition, the broker or salesperson shall, unless the seller directs otherwise,
- (a) disclose the existence of the statement to every buyer who expresses an interest in the real estate; and
- (b) on request, make the statement available to a buyer at the earliest practicable opportunity after the request is made. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 20.

Material facts

- 21. (1) A broker or salesperson who has a client in respect of the acquisition or disposition of a particular interest in real estate shall take reasonable steps to determine the material facts relating to the acquisition or disposition and, at the earliest practicable opportunity, shall disclose the material facts to the client. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 21 (1).
- (2) A broker or salesperson who has a customer in respect of the acquisition or disposition of a particular interest in real estate shall, at the earliest practicable opportunity, disclose to the customer the material facts relating to the acquisition or disposition that are known by or ought to be known by the broker or salesperson. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 21 (2).

Agreements with third parties

- 22. A registrant shall not, on behalf of a client of the registrant, enter into an agreement with a third party for the provision of goods or services to the client unless,
- (a) the registrant has disclosed in writing to the client the subject-matter of the agreement with the third party and the identity of the person responsible for paying for the provision of the goods or services;
 - (b) the client has consented to the registrant entering into the agreement with the third party; and
- (c) the registrant has disclosed in writing to the third party the identity of the person responsible for paying for the provision of the goods or services. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 22.

Steps taken by registrant

23. A registrant shall inform a client of all significant steps that the registrant takes in the course of representing the client. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 23.

Conveying offers

- 24. (1) A registrant shall convey any written offer received by the registrant to the registrant's client at the earliest practicable opportunity. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (1).
 - (2) A broker or salesperson shall establish a method of ensuring that,
- (a) written offers are received by someone on behalf of the broker or salesperson, if the broker or salesperson is not available at the time an offer is submitted; and
- (b) written offers are conveyed to the client of the broker or salesperson at the earliest practicable opportunity, even if the broker or salesperson is not available at the time an offer is submitted. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (2).
- (3) Without limiting the generality of subsections (1) and (2), those subsections apply regardless of the identity of the person making the offer, the contents of the offer or the nature of any arrangements for remuneration. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (3); O. Reg. 539/20, s. 5.

- (4) Subsections (1) to (3) are subject to any written directions given by a client. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (4).
- (5) Subsections (1) to (4) also apply, with necessary modifications, to,
- (a) written amendments to written offers and any other written document directly related to a written offer; and
- (b) written assignments of agreements that relate to interests in real estate, written waivers of conditions in agreements that relate to interests in real estate, and any other written document directly related to a written agreement that relates to an interest in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (5).
- (6) Subsections (1) to (5) apply, with necessary modifications, if a brokerage and a customer have an agreement that provides for the brokerage to receive written offers. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (6).
- (7) Subsections (1) to (5) apply, with necessary modifications, to brokers and salespersons employed by a brokerage, if the brokerage and a customer have an agreement that provides for the brokerage to receive written offers. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 24 (7).

Agreements relating to remuneration

- 25. (1) If a brokerage has a seller as a client and an agreement between the brokerage and the seller contains terms that relate to remuneration and that may affect whether an offer to buy is accepted, the brokerage shall disclose the existence of and the details of those terms to any person who makes a written offer to buy, at the earliest practicable opportunity and before any offer is accepted. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 25 (1); O. Reg. 539/20, s. 6.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies, with necessary modifications, to a brokerage that has a seller as a customer, if the brokerage and the seller have an agreement that provides for the brokerage to receive written offers to buy. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 25 (2).

Competing offers

- 26. (1) If a brokerage that has a seller as a client receives a competing written offer, the brokerage shall disclose the number of competing written offers to every person who is making one of the competing offers, but shall not disclose the substance of the competing offers. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 26 (1).
- (2) Subsection (1) applies, with necessary modifications, to a brokerage that has a seller as a customer, if the brokerage and the seller have an agreement that provides for the brokerage to receive written offers to buy. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 26 (2).

Written and legible agreements

- 27. (1) A registrant who represents a client in respect of a trade in real estate shall use the registrant's best efforts to ensure that.
 - (a) any agreement that deals with the conveyance of an interest in real estate is in writing; and
- (b) any written agreement that deals with the conveyance of an interest in real estate is legible. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 27 (1).
- (2) Subsection (1) applies, with necessary modifications, if a brokerage and a customer have an agreement that provides for the brokerage to provide services to the customer in respect of any agreement that deals with the conveyance of an interest in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 27 (2).

Copies of agreements

- 28. (1) If a registrant represents a client who enters into a written agreement that deals with the conveyance of an interest in real estate, the registrant shall use the registrant's best efforts to ensure that all parties to the agreement receive a copy of the agreement at the earliest practicable opportunity. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 28 (1).
- (2) Subsection (1) applies, with necessary modifications, if a brokerage and a customer have an agreement that provides for the brokerage to provide services to the customer in respect of any agreement that deals with the conveyance of an interest in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 28 (2).

Delivery of deposits and documents

29. Except as otherwise provided by law, if a registrant is representing a client or providing services to a customer in connection with a trade in real estate, and the client or customer has entered into an agreement in connection with the trade that requires the registrant to deliver a deposit or documents, the registrant shall deliver the deposit or documents in accordance with the agreement. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 29.

Business records

30. In addition to the records required by Ontario Regulation 579/05 (Educational Requirements, Insurance, Records and Other Matters) made under the Act, a brokerage shall make and keep such records as are reasonably required for the conduct of the brokerage's business of trading in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 30.

Certificate of registration: broker or salesperson

31. Every broker or salesperson shall carry his or her certificate of registration and, on the request of any person, shall show it to the person. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 31.

Certificate of registration: brokerage

- 32. (1) A brokerage shall ensure that every certificate of registration issued to the brokerage is kept at the office to which the certificate relates. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 32 (1).
- (2) A brokerage shall, on the request of any person, show to the person any certificate of registration issued to the brokerage. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 32 (2).

Certificates of registration for brokers and salespersons kept by brokerage

- 33. (1) A brokerage shall ensure that all duplicate original certificates of registration given to the brokerage in respect of brokers and salespersons employed by the brokerage are kept in a safe place. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 33 (1).
- (2) A brokerage shall, on the request of any person, show the duplicate original certificate of registration given to the brokerage in respect of a broker or salesperson employed by the brokerage to the person. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 33 (2).

Current forms

34. A registrant shall ensure that forms used by the registrant in the course of a trade in real estate are current. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 34.

Financial responsibility

35. A registrant shall be financially responsible in the conduct of business. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 35.

Advertising

- 36. (1) A registrant shall clearly and prominently disclose the name in which the registrant is registered in all the registrant's advertisements. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (1).
- (2) A brokerage that identifies a broker or salesperson by name in an advertisement shall use the name in which the broker or salesperson is registered. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (2).
- (3) A broker or salesperson shall not advertise in any manner unless the advertisement clearly and prominently identifies the brokerage that employs the broker or salesperson, using the name in which the brokerage is registered. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (3).
 - (4) Subject to subsection (5.1), a registrant who advertises shall,
- (a) use the term "brokerage", "real estate brokerage", "maison de courtage" or "maison de courtage immobilier" to describe any brokerage that is referred to in the advertisement;
- (b) use the term "broker of record", "real estate broker of record", "courtier responsable" or "courtier immobilier responsable" to describe any broker of record who is referred to in the advertisement;
- (c) use the term "broker", "broker real estate agent", "real estate agent", "real estate broker", "courtier" or "courtier immobilier" to describe any broker who is referred to in the advertisement; and
- (d) use the term "salesperson", "real estate agent", "real estate salesperson", "sales representative", "real estate sales representative", "agent immobilier", "représentant commercial" or "représentant immobilier" to describe any salesperson who is referred to in the advertisement. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (4); O. Reg. 539/20, s. 7 (1, 2).
 - (4.1) Revoked: O. Reg. 246/06, s. 2.
- (5) A registrant who advertises is not prevented from using the trademark "REALTOR®" by itself or followed immediately by the term "broker" to describe a broker who is referred to in the advertisement or from using the trademark "REALTOR®" by itself or followed immediately by the term "salesperson" to describe a salesperson who is referred to in the advertisement if the broker or salesperson, as the case may be, is a member in good standing of

the Canadian Real Estate Association. O. Reg. 539/20, s. 7 (3).

- (5.1) If a registrant uses the trademark "REALTOR®" by itself or followed immediately by the term "broker" to describe a broker who is referred to in the advertisement or uses the trademark "REALTOR®" by itself or followed immediately by the term "salesperson" to describe a salesperson who is referred to in the advertisement, the registrant is not required to use any of the terms referred to in clause (4) (c) or (d) to describe the broker or salesperson, as the case may be. O. Reg. 539/20, s. 7 (3).
- (6) A registrant who advertises shall not use a term to describe any registrant that is referred to in the advertisement if the term could reasonably be confused with a term that is required or authorized by subsection (4) or (5). O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (6).
- (7) A registrant shall not include anything in an advertisement that could reasonably be used to identify a party to the acquisition or disposition of an interest in real estate unless the party has consented in writing. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (7).
- (8) A registrant shall not include anything in an advertisement that could reasonably be used to identify specific real estate unless the owner of the real estate has consented in writing. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (8).
- (9) A registrant shall not include anything in an advertisement that could reasonably be used to determine any of the contents of an agreement that deals with the conveyance of an interest in real estate, including any provision of the agreement relating to the price, unless the parties to the agreement have consented in writing. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 36 (9).

Inaccurate representations

- 37. (1) A registrant shall not knowingly make an inaccurate representation in respect of a trade in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 37 (1).
- (2) A registrant shall not knowingly make an inaccurate representation about services provided by the registrant. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 37 (2).

Error, misrepresentation, fraud, etc.

38. A registrant shall use the registrant's best efforts to prevent error, misrepresentation, fraud or any unethical practice in respect of a trade in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 38.

Unprofessional conduct, etc.

39. A registrant shall not, in the course of trading in real estate, engage in any act or omission that, having regard to all of the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded as disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional or unbecoming a registrant. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 39.

Abuse and harassment

40. A registrant shall not abuse or harass any person in the course of trading in real estate. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 40.

Duty to ensure compliance

- 41. (1) A brokerage shall ensure that every salesperson and broker that the brokerage employs is carrying out their duties in compliance with this Regulation. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 41 (1).
 - (2) A broker of record shall ensure that the brokerage complies with this Regulation. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 41 (2).

Procedures of Discipline Committee and Appeals Committee

Composition and appointment of committees

- 42. (1) The discipline committee and appeals committee shall each consist of at least five members, at least one of whom has never been a registrant or a shareholder, officer, director or employee of a registrant or former registrant. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (1).
- (2) A person may be appointed under subsection 21 (3) of the Act as a member of both committees. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (2).
- (3) A member of the board of the administrative authority shall not be appointed under subsection 21 (3) of the Act as a member of the discipline committee or the appeals committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (3).
 - (4) An appointment under subsection 21 (3) of the Act expires at the end of the day on the day before the

second anniversary of the day the appointment took effect. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (4).

- (5) If the term of office of a member of the discipline committee or appeals committee who has participated in a hearing expires before the hearing is completed or a decision is given, the term shall be deemed to continue, but only for the purpose of completing the hearing and participating in the decision and for no other purpose. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (5).
- (6) The board of the administrative authority may at any time terminate an appointment under subsection 21 (3) of the Act for cause. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (6).
- (7) Subsection (5) does not apply to a member whose appointment is terminated for cause under subsection (6). O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (7).
 - (8) The board of the administrative authority shall appoint,
- (a) from among the members of the discipline committee, one person as chair of the discipline committee and one person as vice-chair of the discipline committee; and
- (b) from among the members of the appeals committee, one person as chair of the appeals committee and one person as vice-chair of the appeals committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (8).
- (9) Subsections (4) and (6) apply, with necessary modifications, to an appointment under subsection (8). O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (9).
- (10) The vice-chair of a committee may exercise and perform the powers and duties of the chair on the request of the chair or if the chair is absent or unable to act. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 42 (10).
- (11) Every person appointed under subsection (8) or under subsection 21 (3) of the Act as a chair, vice-chair or member of a committee shall, before beginning his or her duties, take and sign the following oath or affirmation in either English or French:

Assignment of discipline committee panels

- 43. (1) When a matter is referred to the discipline committee, the chair of the committee shall assign a panel in accordance with this section to hear and determine the matter. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 43 (1).
- (2) The panel has all the jurisdiction and powers of the discipline committee with respect to hearing and determining the matter. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 43 (2).
- (3) Subject to subsection 4.2.1 (1) of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, the panel must be composed of at least three members of the discipline committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 43 (3).
 - (4) If the panel is composed of three or more members of the discipline committee,
 - (a) at least two of the members of the panel must be registrants;
- (b) if a broker of record is the subject of the proceeding, at least one of the registrants must be a broker of record;
 - (c) if a broker is the subject of the proceeding, at least one of the registrants must be a broker;
- (d) if a salesperson is the subject of the proceeding, at least one of the registrants must be a salesperson; and
- (e) at least one of the members of the panel must never have been a registrant or a shareholder, officer, director or employee of a registrant or former registrant. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 43 (4).

Parties: discipline committee

44. The parties to a proceeding before the discipline committee are the registrant who is the subject of the proceeding, the administrative authority and any other person added as a party by the discipline committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 44.

Notice of hearing

45. Subject to section 6 of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, the discipline committee shall give the parties to a proceeding at least 45 days notice of a hearing by the committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 45.

Disclosure of evidence

- 46. (1) A party who intends to tender evidence at a hearing before the discipline committee shall, not later than the date specified by subsection (3), disclose the following to every other party:
 - 1. In the case of written or documentary evidence, a copy of the evidence.
- 2. In the case of oral evidence of a witness, the identity of the witness and a written statement containing the substance of the witness' anticipated oral evidence.
- 3. In the case of oral evidence of an expert, the identity of the expert and a copy of a written report signed by the expert containing the substance of the expert's anticipated oral evidence.
- 4. In the case of evidence that is not oral, written or documentary evidence, a written description of the evidence. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 46 (1).
- (2) A party who intends to tender written or documentary evidence, or other evidence that is not oral evidence, at a hearing before the discipline committee shall give every other party a reasonable opportunity to examine the original evidence before the hearing. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 46 (2).
 - (3) The date referred to in subsection (1) is,
- (a) in the case of evidence tendered by the administrative authority, the date that is 30 days before the date the hearing begins; and
- (b) in the case of evidence tendered by any other party, the date that is 15 days before the date the hearing begins. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 46 (3).

Disclosure from closed hearing

47. If a hearing before the discipline committee is closed to the public, the committee may order that evidence given and submissions made at the hearing not be disclosed to any member of the public. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 47.

Notice of decision to complainant

48. If a proceeding before the discipline committee arises from a complaint by a person who is not a party to the proceeding, the committee shall send the person a copy of its final decision or order, including the reasons if any have been given, at the same time that it complies with section 18 of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 48.

Notice of appeal rights

49. When the discipline committee sends a copy of its final decision or order to a party who participated in the proceeding, or the party's counsel or agent, under section 18 of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, it shall also send a notice outlining the party's right to appeal under subsection 21 (5) of the Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002 and the procedures applicable to an appeal. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 49.

Commencement of appeals

- 50. (1) A party may commence an appeal under subsection 21 (5) of the Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002 by delivering the following to the appeals committee within 30 days after the discipline committee sends notice, under section 18 of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, of the order being appealed:
 - 1. A notice of appeal that,
 - i. identifies the appellant and the other parties to the appeal,
 - ii. identifies the order being appealed,
 - iii. sets out the grounds for the appeal, and
 - iv. sets out the relief that is sought.
- 2. The fee for commencing the appeal, as set by the administrative authority under clause 12 (1) (b) of the Safety and Consumer Statutes Administration Act, 1996, payable to the administrative authority. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 50 (1).
- (2) The appellant shall, within the 30-day period referred to in subsection (1), deliver a copy of the notice of appeal referred to in paragraph 1 of subsection (1),
 - (a) to the other parties to the appeal; and
 - (b) to the discipline committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 50 (2).
- (3) When a party commences an appeal under subsection 21 (5) of the Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002, the discipline committee shall at the earliest practical opportunity forward to the appeals committee the

record compiled under section 20 of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 50 (3).

Assignment of appeal committee panels

- 51. (1) The chair of the appeals committee shall assign a panel in accordance with this section to hear and determine an appeal to the committee under subsection 21 (5) of the Act. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 51 (1).
- (2) The panel has all the jurisdiction and powers of the appeals committee with respect to hearing and determining the appeal. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 51 (2).
- (3) Subject to subsection 4.2.1 (1) of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, the panel must be composed of at least three members of the appeals committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 51 (3).
 - (4) If the panel is composed of three or more members of the appeals committee,
 - (a) at least two of the members of the panel must be registrants;
- (b) if a broker of record is the subject of the proceeding, at least one of the registrants must be a broker of record;
 - (c) if a broker is the subject of the proceeding, at least one of the registrants must be a broker;
- (d) if a salesperson is the subject of the proceeding, at least one of the registrants must be a salesperson; and
- (e) at least one of the members of the panel must never have been a registrant or a shareholder, officer, director or employee of a registrant or former registrant. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 51 (4).
- (5) A person who was a member of the panel of the discipline committee that made the order being appealed must not be assigned to the panel of the appeals committee that hears and determines the appeal. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 51 (5).

Parties: appeals committee

52. The parties to a proceeding before the appeals committee are the appellant, the other persons who were parties to the proceeding before the discipline committee, and any other person added as a party by the appeals committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 52.

Application of ss. 45 to 48

- 53. Sections 45 to 48 apply, with necessary modifications, to proceedings before the appeals committee. O. Reg. 580/05, s. 53.
 - 54. Omitted (provides for coming into force of provisions of this Regulation). O. Reg. 580/05, s. 54.