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Prepared by Ann-Marie Lurie, CREB[®] chief economist. Edited by Tyler Difley. Designed by Rachel Niebergal and Kristina Andric.

CITY OF CALGARY HOUSING SUMMARY

Since March, the Calgary housing market has been hitting record-high sales each month and supply has not kept pace. This has caused extremely tight conditions, especially in the detached sector, where benchmark home prices went from \$492,000 in January to \$537,200 in June.

These steady price gains have encouraged more sellers to list their homes, helping alleviate some of the tightest conditions experienced throughout March and April. However, the gains were not enough to pull the market out of conditions that favour the seller. Housing sales were expected to improve in 2021, but after the first half of the year, sales are far outperforming expectations. Within the city of Calgary, sales totalled 15,050 units after the first half of the year, the highest levels seen in more than a decade. Pent-up demand and the low-interestrate environment have supported much of the growth. In addition, concerns over lack of supply and rising prices may have contributed to more people taking a sooner-rather-than-later approach when it came to their housing needs.



CITY OF CALGARY HOUSING SUMMARY CONTINUED

Moving forward, we anticipate demand levels will remain strong throughout the remainder of the year, but the recordsetting pace will slow to levels more consistent with longer-term trends. Despite some slowing in the pace of sales in the second half of the year, overall sales are expected to exceed 24,000 units on an annual basis, making 2021 the best year of sales since 2014.

Supply gains are expected to continue as price recovery in the market encourages more sellers to list their homes. Both detached and multifamily starts in the new-home sector have been on the rise, which will also contribute to additional supply choice in the broader housing market. Due to these supply gains and slower demand growth, we should start to see the market return to more balanced conditions by the end of the year, slowing the pace of price growth for the remainder of 2021. However, prices are still expected to rise by more than eight per cent on an annual basis.





ECONOMIC UPDATE

While the economy remains far from full recovery, economic conditions are much better than original forecasts. This is due to a few factors, including employment. While job loss did occur earlier in the year due to additional shutdowns, job prospects are improving for both full-time and part-time positions as the economy re-opens. Unemployment rates are also far better than original expectations, easing below the double-digit rates that were forecasted over the next two years. There are several sectors that have not seen employment return to prepandemic levels, but we are seeing gains occur in many of the higher-paid industries, including professional and technical services. This development is good news in terms of longerterm prospects in the housing market.

On the population front, Alberta has started to see a return of some international migration over the last two guarters. However, first-guarter data is still showing a loss of interprovincial migrants, mostly due to people moving to British Columbia. As restrictions continue to be lifted. we should see additional growth in international migrants. However, any increase in interprovincial migration will likely be related to improvements in the job market. The loss of migrants to other provinces is expected to persist this year. While this is not expected to have a significant impact on housing demand in 2021, it could weigh on housing demand growth in 2022 if the trend persists well into the new year. Overall, net migration is expected to remain positive and improve over the next several guarters, but only due to the return of international migration. This should start to translate into improvements in the rental market, which faced several challenges throughout the pandemic.



ECONOMIC UPDATE CONTINUED

One of the key drivers that continues to impact the housing market today is lending rates. Discount rates have risen slightly from the lows recorded at the end of 2020 and early 2021, but they remain exceptionally low. More stringent qualification rules were imposed in June, but low lending rates are still expected to drive demand over the near term. Concerns regarding inflation have caused some to question the timing of rate increase. However, most of the inflationary pressure should be temporary and rates are expected to remain low into 2022.

The economic recovery from the pandemic will undoubtedly be bumpy and somewhat uneven, with varying results from industry to industry. However, high vaccination rates and movements to re-open are expected to support a stronger economy in the second half of this year and into next year. The housing market has seen stronger-than-expected demand growth throughout the pandemic, but that growth is still expected to settle at levels that are better than what was experienced before the pandemic.





HOUSING MARKET DETACHED

Thanks to growth across every district, detached home sales reached new record highs in the second quarter. While it is no surprise that levels were far stronger than last year, when the market was reeling from the initial impacts of the pandemic, the level of sales in the second quarter exceeded expectations, pushing well above longterm averages.

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE

5.96% quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY

-62.90% year over year

-1.18% quarter over quarter

12.09% year over year

\$532,800

1.60

Persistently strong demand relative to supply caused significant gains in detached prices. Those gains have been impacting sellers, as new listings in the guarter also rose to the highest levels seen in over a decade. The rise in new listings has helped support some inventory gains in the market, but not enough to pull the market out of sellers' market conditions. The months of supply did trend up over the past few months, but it has averaged less than two months in the second quarter.

Persistently tight conditions, especially over the past two

quarters, have had a significant impact on prices. In the second quarter, detached benchmark prices rose by nearly six per cent compared with the first quarter and currently sit over 12 per cent higher than last year's levels. These gains were enough to support full price recovery to previous highs from 2014. While prices have been rising in every district in the city, the City Centre and North East are the two districts that have not seen prices fully recover to previous highs. This is especially true in the City Centre, where detached benchmark home prices remain over five per cent lower than previous highs.



SALES **NEW LISTINGS AVERAGE INVENTORY** Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 Total Q2 Total Q2 5.775 5,775 3.722 7,898 9,078 6,028 3.080 6.283 3,469 **95.40%** yoy 173.31% yoy 🔺 2021 2007 1.40% yoy 2008

HOUSING MARKET Semi-Detached

Similar to the detached sector, semi-detached sales reached record highs in the second quarter, as every region in the city recorded significant gains. New listings in the market also rose to new highs, helping to support inventory gains. The slight improvement in inventories helped support some modest gains in the months

of supply relative to the first quarter, but with two months of supply, conditions have not been this tight in the semi-detached market since 2014.

Supply levels have generally not kept up with demand, supporting price gains. However, there is significant variation depending on location within the city. In the second quarter, the months of supply remained below two months in the North, North West, South and South East districts. These are also the districts



Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE

\$423,467

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY **2.06**

-59.16% year over year V 3.57% quarter over quarter

that recorded the largest price gains. While prices in the second quarter eclipsed figures from the first quarter and last year in all districts, prices still remain below previous highs in the City Centre, North East and South districts.



SALES

 Total Q2
 Record High Q2
 10-yr average Q2

 821
 821
 533

 120.70% yoy
 2021
 2021

NEW LISTINGS

1.196

2021

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2

-3% to -5%

910

AVERAGE INVENTORY

 Total Q2
 Record High Q2
 10-year average Q2

 563
 861
 588

 -9.87% yoy ♥
 2018
 588

Total Q2

1,196

67.04% yoy

HOUSING MARKET ROW

Second-guarter sales reached new record highs with 1,252 sales citywide. However, those sales were accompanied by a record number of new listings, supporting some inventory gains. The rise in inventory came mostly at the end of the second quarter and was not enough to cause any material change in the months of supply, which remained relatively low for the second consecutive quarter.

Like other property types, the low level of supply relative to demand for row product has supported stronger-than-expected price gains. In the second quarter, row benchmark prices rose by more than four per cent relative to the first guarter and sit nearly eight per cent higher than levels recorded last year. Despite price improvements in every district, this sector has not seen the same price recovery as other property types, as no district has seen row prices recover to their previous highs. Prior to the rebound in housing demand, inventory

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$296,367

7.56% year over year 4.43% quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 2.49

-57.57% year over year -16.49% quarter over quarter

levels were relatively high. They have trended down, and the months of supply has also decreased, but levels are not as tight as they were in 2014, placing some limits on the pace of price recovery.



SALES

Total Q2 1,252

169.25% yoy



Total Q2 1,902 80.80% yoy 👗 **NEW LISTINGS**

1,902

2021

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2

1,271

AVERAGE INVENTORY

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 1,039 847 1,175 14.25% yoy 👗 2018

HOUSING MARKET APARTMENT

As supply choice eased across other property types, many buyers turned to the apartment condominium sector. Sales in the second guarter rose to 1,261 units, the best second quarter since 2014. The apartment condominium sector has not experienced the same sellers' market conditions seen among the other property types. Prior to the pandemic and after the 2014 energy price crash, the apartment condominium sector was the hardest hit due to excess supply levels.

The recent improvement in sales relative to supply levels has helped support some

price growth, but at a much lower rate than other property types. In the second guarter, benchmark prices rose by two per cent relative to the first guarter and sit nearly five per cent higher than last year. Despite the gains, prices remain nearly 16 per cent below previous highs.

The recent improvements in demand and prices are starting to have an impact on supply. Thanks to gains in new listings, inventory levels are now higher than those recorded over the past two years. Demand remains strong enough to keep the months of supply in a balanced range, but if this trend

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$252,633

4.73% year over year 2.14% quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 4.55

-51.58% year over year -13.73% guarter over guarter

continues, it will place some limits on the pace of price recovery in this sector.



SALES

2014



Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 957 1.431



Record High Q2 10-year average Q2 2,561 1,882

NEW LISTINGS

2008

AVERAGE INVENTORY

Record High Q2 10-year average Q2 Total Q2 1,912 2,052 32.17% yoy 👗 2008

1.452

SURROUNDING AREAS



AIRDRIE

The housing market in Airdrie showed no signs of cooling off in the second quarter with 802 sales, a new quarterly record high. The number of new listings coming onto the market also trended higher in the guarter, but it was not enough to significantly change inventory levels. The lower level of supply and strong sales kept the market firmly in sellers' market territory throughout the entire quarter. In fact, the months of supply has remained below two months since February.

Persistent tightness in the market has resulted in steep price gains in the area. In the second quarter, prices rose by more than five per cent compared with the previous quarter and sit over 12 per cent higher than last year's levels. Prices have fully recovered and reached new highs in both the detached and semidetached sectors, but prices remain well below previous highs in both the row and apartment sectors. Both apartment- and row-style properties have recorded improving sales, but there has still been some supply choice - especially in the apartment condominium sector - impacting the pace of price growth in those sectors.

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$378,767

12.02% year over year 5.15% quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 1.25

-68.24% year over year 💙 -24.44% quarter over quarter

Tight resale market conditions and price gains are impacting the newhome sector of the market, where starts have risen by nearly 80 per cent so far this year. The growth in new-home supply will eventually help with the tight supply conditions in this market, but it will take some time before we see a shift toward more balanced conditions in the resale market.



SALES **NEW LISTINGS** Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2

AVERAGE INVENTORY

802 2021

396 924 84.80% yoy

924

2021



Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 333 633 -20.89% yoy 🕇 2018

434

Total Q2

802

149.07% yoy

COCHRANE

Sales in the second quarter soared, reaching 426 units. Not only is this a new all-time quarterly record, but it is more than double the level of Q2 sales that we have seen on average over the past five years. More new listings became available in the market in the second quarter, which played a part in the rising sales. However, with a sales-to-new-listings ratio that averaged 97 per cent in the second quarter, it is no surprise that the strong demand outweighed listings growth, keeping inventories low.

In the second quarter, inventory levels averaged 174 units. This is half the supply that we have traditionally seen in this market over the past five years. The months of supply dropped to just over one month. reflecting the tightest conditions since 2006. New-home starts have started to improve, but not at the pace recorded in some markets. This will likely prevent a guicker transition into more balanced conditions.

Persistent sellers' market

conditions in the second quarter have had a significant impact on prices. Total residential benchmark prices averaged \$446,433 in the second quarter, a quarterly gain of more than seven per cent. This steep price gain was enough to cause detached, semi-detached and row properties to reach new record highs.

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE **\$446,433**

7.74% year over year
7.55% quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY

-76.95% year over year ♥
-32.66% quarter over quarter ♥

187



SALES

 Total Q2
 Record High Q2

 426
 426

 159.76% yoy
 2021

Total Q2 440 55.48% yoy NEW LISTINGS

10-yr average Q2

323

Record High Q2

440

2021

AVERAGE INVENTORY

 Total Q2
 Record High

 174
 396

 -40.11% yoy ↓
 2018

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 396 2018

OKOTOKS

Okotoks has been struggling with low supply levels since the third quarter of 2020. At the beginning of 2021, we started to see new listings growth, which continued into the second guarter. However, the gains in new listings were not enough to offset the record sales, keeping inventory levels relatively low for the quarter.

With a sales-to-new-listings ratio of 88 per cent and months of supply that averaged just over one month, persistent sellers' market conditions caused the

pace of price growth to rise in the second quarter. Benchmark prices averaged \$482,100 in the first quarter, four per cent higher than last quarter and nearly 13 per cent higher than last year's levels.

Detached home sales have accounted for nearly 85 per cent of overall sales so far this year. With fewer concerns among consumers about commute times, many have turned to markets like Okotoks where detached homes are traditionally more affordable and feature more amenities compared with Calgary. The tight conditions in Okotoks have

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$482,100

12.70% year over year 🔺 **4.20%** quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 1.19

-76.61% year over year 🔰 -31.66% quarter over quarter

caused detached benchmark home prices to rise, exceeding \$500,000 for the first time. Until we see new supply additions from either the new-home market or the resale side, conditions are expected to remain relatively tight.



SALES

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 294 294

2021

186

Total Q2 334 57.55% yoy 🛕 Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 389 299 2008

NEW LISTINGS

AVERAGE INVENTORY

2008

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 299

117 -38.81% yoy 🕇 228

140.98% yoy 👗

CHESTERMERE

Following a strong first quarter, second-quarter sales reached 212 units, a new quarterly record high. Sales improved across every product type and price range. Low lending rates, rising demand for detached homes and desire for more space have likely fuelled some of the growth in the area, where detached homes account for more than 75 per cent of all sales. In addition to its lake amenities, Chestermere typically offers larger lots, newer homes and more affordability than some of the lake communities located in Calgary.

While new listings have also been on the rise, with a salesto-new-listing ratio averaging 76 per cent in the second quarter, there have been few additions to inventory. Over this three-month period, inventories averaged 127 units, which is among the lowest levels seen in more than six years. The months of supply also dropped in the second quarter to just under two months. This is over 65 per cent lower than long-term averages for the area.

These tight market conditions have been impacting

prices, especially in the detached market. In the second guarter, detached benchmark prices rose by nearly four per cent relative to the first guarter and currently sit nearly 13 per cent higher than Q2 figures from last year. This is a significant shift for a market where detached homes prices trended down throughout most of the past five years.

SALES

212

2021

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$536,567

11.82% year over year **3.68%** quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 1.80

-67.15% year over year -31.56% quarter over quarter



Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 277 97

NEW LISTINGS

277

2021

AVERAGE INVENTORY



162

93.71% yoy 👗

Total Q2

212

202.86% yoy

HIGH RIVER

Sales activity in the area has been somewhat dampened by the lack of choice in the market. In the second quarter, new listings trended up over the previous quarter, helping to support record-high sales. While there was a bump in new listings, any improvements in supply were quickly absorbed by the strong sales activity.

This left the market with a quarterly sales-to-new-listings ratio of 85 per cent and a months of supply below two months. Conditions have not been this tight in High

River since prior to the 2007 financial crisis.

Generally, prices in High River have been falling since 2016. However, sellers' market conditions have persisted since the fourth quarter of last year, reversing the steady price declines by the end of 2020. Further tightening in the market this year has resulted in significant price growth.

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE **\$373,600**

12.86% year over year4.92% quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY **1.74**

-62.26% year over year ♥
-26.93% quarter over quarter ♥

72

In the second quarter, residential benchmark prices averaged \$373,600, nearly five per cent higher than the first quarter and nearly 13 per cent higher than prices recorded in the second quarter of last year. The recent gain was enough to support full price recovery in the detached segment of the market, but prices remain slightly lower than previous highs for all other property types.



SALES

Total Q2 120 84.64% yoy

120 2021



NEW LISTINGS

198

2010

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2

127

AVERAGE INVENTORY

STRATHMORE

A boost in new listings helped support stronger sales in the second quarter. However, like many other locations, Strathmore's gains were not enough to cause any significant change in the inventory situation and the months of supply remained low, averaging just over two months in the second guarter. Market conditions in Strathmore have not been this tight since 2006 and it is having an impact on prices.

Benchmark prices trended up for the second consecutive guarter, reaching \$385,833. This

is a quarterly gain of nearly five per cent and a year-over-year gain of 13 per cent. Price gains have been even higher for detached properties. Detached benchmark prices in Strathmore averaged \$418.266 in the second quarter, a gain of 17 per cent compared to last year. The recent price gains were enough to overcome earlier declines, as prices reached a new record high.

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$385,767

13.39% year over year 4.73% guarter over guarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 2.16

-73.78% year over year -32.12% quarter over quarter

While tight conditions typically encourage new starts activity, we have vet to see a boost in starts occurring in Strathmore. The slower reaction to supply will likely continue to keep conditions relatively tight over the near term, supporting further price gains in the market.



NEW LISTINGS

AVERAGE INVENTORY



SALES

Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 137 177 174.00% yoy 2006

88

Total Q2 169 116.67% yoy 🔺 Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 238 2007

CREB® | 2021 Q2 CALGARY & REGION **QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT**

RURAL ROCKYVIEW

Rural Rockyview sales hit a new record high in the second guarter. Low lending rates and a desire for more space are likely supporting some of the demand growth occurring in the areas just outside of Calgary.

The level of new listings also improved, but inventories remained at the lowest levels seen since 2007. Stronger sales and lower inventories caused the

months of supply for the area to ease to just over three months. This is the tightest this market has been since 2006, and those tight conditions had a significant impact on prices this quarter.

The Rural Rockvview area is relatively diverse, but more than half of the activity

Q2 BENCHMARK PRICE \$530,033

20.25% year over year **11.63%** quarter over quarter

Q2 MONTHS OF SUPPLY 3.25

-78.07% year over year 🔰 -32.11% quarter over quarter V

in the area occurs in the higher-priced communities of Bearspaw and Springbank. After six consecutive years of weak demand and higher supply levels causing price declines, prices have turned around and improved in both these areas. In fact, Springbank and Bearspaw have seen price increases of more than 20 per cent so far this year.

NEW LISTINGS

AVERAGE INVENTORY





Record High Q2 10-yr average Q2 Total Q2 238 112 238 271.88% yoy 2021



404 2012

322



384

