



## **Living the Minimalist Life**

Minimalism is a trend that has really taken off in recent years, with many people trying to live with as few material goods as possible.

Ultimately, **minimalism** is the promotion of the things we value along with the removal of objects that distract us; in

other words, if you don't use it, you don't really need it taking up space. Many argue that these principles can help you live a more mindful authentic and happy life, in that you don't waste time or money on things that are not truly valuable to you. A guru in the minimalist lifestyle, **Marie Kondo**, author of "The Life Changing Magic of Tidying-Up" approached the art of minimalism by questioning whether or not an item brings you joy, and removing it from your life if it does not. Kondo claims this questioning joy approach leads to living in a "tidy home with only items you cherish". While people in many different corners of the world have adopted or admire this approach to minimalism, some feel overwhelming concern when it comes to big changes.



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## **Getting Ready to Sell Your Home in Winter: What You Need to Know**



Selling your home in the winter Real Estate market may seem undesirable to some, but it has many overlooked **advantages that actually make the cold dreary season a potential sellers-market!** One thing found is that winter buyers are generally more serious, which makes complete sense, as most people don't find joy in donning winter-wear and bracing cold icy roads

and weather just to check out the real estate market on a lazy Sunday. Additionally, with fewer properties listed for sale, the market is smaller, making it easy to stand out in the neighbourhood. Keeping up with yard work and weeding gardens doesn't pose a problem, and stringing some warm lights around the outside of the house gives some extra curb appeal that you don't see in the summer months.

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## Fall Furnace Tune-up

As much as we may hate to admit it, fall is here. As the days get shorter and the air gets colder, the time of year when we switch from cooling our homes to heating them is upon us. However, before you switch your furnace on and start getting your winter blankets out of storage, it is wise to perform

a **routine inspection** and **maintenance of your furnace**. You don't want something going wrong in the middle of winter when you need heat more than ever. You can spend money to have a professional come and perform the inspection and tune-up, but you can also easily **perform the task yourself**.



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## NOTABLE NUMBERS OTTAWA REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOT OCTOBER 2018



**UP +8.5%**

RESIDENTIAL  
AVERAGE SALE PRICE

**\$449,005**

**+5.7%**

over October 2017

### RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES SOLD

**1,383**

AN **INCREASE OF 11.8%** OVER OCTOBER 2017



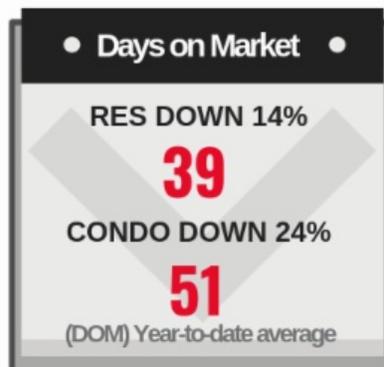
**UP +24.1%**

CONDOMINIUM  
AVERAGE SALE PRICE

**\$271,350**

**+0.6%**

over October 2017



### MARKET TRENDS TO WATCH

#### LOW INVENTORY & FAST PACED MARKET

Current active inventory is less than half of 2015-16. Compared to last year, condo inventory is down 34.5% while residential inventory is 17.5% lower than October 2017.

#### AFFORDABILITY

Ottawa is still one of the most affordable cities in Canada. Residential average prices up approximately 6% year over year, yet under \$450,000. Average condo prices are reasonable and steady in the \$270,000 range.



Have questions? Let's chat [www.teamrealty.ca](http://www.teamrealty.ca) [info@teamrealty.ca](mailto:info@teamrealty.ca)

BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE OTTAWA REAL ESTATE BOARD NOV 5, 2018

■ HOME. IT'S WHO WE ARE.

It's a busy time of year for everyone getting ready for our



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Squirrels feeding on  
Halloween pumpkins

long winter months. Final grass cutting, leaf raking, furnace and humidifier checks, winterizing lawn mowers, flower beds and swimming pools, getting winter clothes and boots ready.....the list goes on. And it's a busy time for the animals too. Our garden shed seems to be the condo of choice for many squirrels who have diligently stored hundreds of pine cones in there and have also taken the foam padding from the tractor seat, presumably to use in their winter beds/nests? My husband is not amused. Oh the delights of country living.

The wild turkey and skunk populations have also grown in our neighbourhood. Much to my dogs dismay when he "met" one last rainy Friday evening. Never a fan of baths he had to endure two, one to try and get rid of the skunk smell, the other to wash away the "skunk off" concoction.

Keep happy & Safe  
Shirley

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