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TRREB: Elevated Borrowing Costs Taking a Toll on Housing Affordability

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TRREB MLS® Sales and Average Price								
		2023		2022				
	Sales	Average Price	New Listings	Sales	Average Price	New Listings		
City of Toronto (416)	1,607	\$1,051,180	4,184	1,790	\$1,050,197	3,580		
Rest of GTA (905)	2,629	\$1,101,128	6,361	2,717	\$1,098,672	5,473		
GTA	4,236	\$1,082,179	10,545	4,507	\$1,079,420	9,053		

November 2023 GNW

TORONTO, Dec. 05, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — High borrowing costs and uncertain economic conditions continued to weigh on Greater Toronto Area (GTA) home sales in November 2023. Sales were down on a year-over-year basis, while listings were up from last year's trough in supply. With more choice in the market, selling prices remained basically flat year-over-year.

"Inflation and elevated borrowing costs have taken their toll on affordability. This has been no more apparent than in the interest rate-sensitive housing market. However, it does appear relief is on the horizon. Bond yields, which underpin fixed rate mortgages have been trending lower and an increasing number of forecasters are anticipating Bank of Canada rate cuts in the first half of 2024. Lower rates will help alleviate affordability issues for existing homeowners and those looking to enter the market," said Toronto Regional Real Estate Board (TRREB) President Paul Baron.

GTA REALTORS® reported 4,236 sales through TRREB's MLS® System in November 2023 – a six per cent decline compared to November 2022. Over the same period, the number of new listings was up by 16.5 per cent. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, sales edged up compared to October 2023, while new listings were down by 5.5 per cent.

The MLS® Home Price Index Composite benchmark and the average selling price, at \$1,082,179, in November 2023 were basically flat in comparison to November 2022. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the MLS® HPI Composite benchmark was down by 1.7 per cent. The average selling price was down 2.2 per cent month-over-month.

"Home prices have adjusted from their peak in response to higher borrowing costs. This has provided some relief for buyers, from an affordability perspective. As mortgage rates trend lower

next year and the population continues to grow at a record pace, expect demand to increase relative to supply. This will eventually lead to renewed growth in home prices," said TRREB Chief Market Analyst Jason Mercer.

"Houses and condos are meant to be homes, first and foremost. We know the demand for homes, both rental and ownership, will grow for years to come. We have seen some productive policy decisions recently that should help with housing affordability, including allowing existing insured mortgage holders to switch lenders without the stress test. Additionally, in the interest of household and economic stability, we continue to call on the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) to apply the same approach to uninsured mortgages. It also goes without saying that further policy work is required to bring more supply online," said TRREB CEO John DiMichele.

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TRREB MLS® Sales and Average Price by Home Type November 20								
	Sales				Average Price			
	416	905	Total	416	905	Total		
Detached	461 14.5% ▼	1,420 5.3% ▼	1,881 7.7% ▼	\$1,617,918 3.5% A	\$1,333,889 0.3% ▲	\$1,403,500 0.8%		
Semi-Detached	168 0.6% A	236 11.3% ▲	404 66% •	\$1,217,811 2.4% A	\$949,079 2.9% A	\$1,060,829		
Townhouse	140 20.0% ▼	556 5.3% ▼	696 8.7% ▼	\$962,335 3.6% ▼	\$866,551	\$885,818 1.7% ▼		
Condo Apartment	825 8.2% ▼	387 0.5% ▼	1,212 5.9% ▼	\$720,280 1.7% ▼	\$689,654 6.4% A	\$710,501 0.4% ▲		

TRREB MLS® HPI							
	Composite	Single Family Detached	Single Family Attached	Townhouse	Apartment		
All TRREB Areas	0.12% 🛦	1.33% 🛕	1.10% 🛦	0.45% 🛕	0.71% ▼		
Halton Region	3.12% ▼	2.03% 🔻	3.36% ▼	2.34% 🔻	0.47% ▲		
Peel Region	0.50% 🔻	0.73% 🔺	0.68% ▼	1.17% 🛦	0.93% 🔻		
City of Toronto	0.03% 🛦	2.13% 🛦	1.69% 🛦	0.36%	1.03% 🔻		
York Region	2.01% 🛦	2.25% 🔺	2.80% 🛦	7.76% 🔺	0.24% 🛦		
Durham Region	0.63% 🛦	0.66% 🔺	0.51% 🛦	0.07% 🔺	1.92% ▲		
Orangeville	0.08% 🛦	0.76% 🔺	1.54% 🛦	0.40% ▼	3.97% ▼		
South Simcoe County	1.09% 🛦	1.97% 🔺	3.77% ▲	7.90% ▼	2.25% ▼		

TRREB MLS® Sales and Average Price Year-to-Date 20								
		2023		2022				
	Sales	Average Price	New Listings	Sales	Average Price	New Listings		
City of Toronto (416)	23,098	\$1,099,033	52,524	26,586	\$1,145,431	54,061		
Rest of GTA (905)	39,477	\$1,146,562	85,523	45,371	\$1,226,852	97,445		
GTA	62,575	\$1,129,018	138,047	71,957	\$1,196,769	151,506		

TRREB MLS® Sales	Year-to-Date 2023						
	Sales			Average Price			
	416	905	Total	416	905	Total	
Detached	6,543 11.0% ▼	21,463 13.6% ¥	28,006 13.0% ▼	\$1,730,803 3.7% ▼	\$1,386,115	\$1,466,644 5.6%	
Semi-Detached	2,069 16.6% ▼	3,321 20.3% ▼	5,390 18.9% ▼	\$1,303,615 5.2% ▼	\$1,006,235 6.8% ▼	\$1,120,387 5.8%	
Townhouse	2,182 17.8% ▼	8,211 13.2% ▼	10,393	\$1,011,105 3.3% ▼	\$935,974 4.7%	\$951,748 4.5%	
Condo Apartment	12,160 12.5% ▼	6,083 5.8% ¥	18,243 10.4% ▼	\$745,120 5.0% ▼	\$668,701 5.7% ▼	\$719,638 5.4% ▼	

TRREB MLS® S	easonally A	djusted Stats						November 202	
	Sales	% Change	New Listings	% Change	Average Price	% Change	MLS® HPIF	% Change	
November 2022	5,142	0.3% 🔻	11,528	7.2% 🛦	\$1,102,292	0.9% 🛦	\$1,104,500	0.6% 🔻	
December 2022	5,189	0.9% 🛦	11,370	1.4% ▼	\$1,103,217	0.1% 🛦	\$1,094,800	0.9% ▼	
January 2023	5,063	2.4% 🔻	11,480	1.0% 🛦	\$1,069,760	3.0% 🔻	\$1,079,800	1.4% ▼	
February 2023	5,303	4.7% ▲	8,998	21.6% 🔻	\$1,064,230	0.5% 🔻	\$1,075,300	0.4% 🔻	
March 2023	5,206	1.8% 🔻	8.436	6.2% ▼	\$1,074,511	1.0% 🛦	\$1,082,900	0.7% 🛦	
April 2023	6,453	24.0% 🛦	9,285	10.1% 🛦	\$1,105,099	2.8% 🛦	\$1,105,700	2.1% 🛦	
May 2023	6,727	4.2% 🛦	10,351	11.5% 🛦	\$1,142,398	3.4% ▲	\$1,133,300	2.5% 🛦	
June 2023	6,161	8.4% 🔻	11,931	15.3% 🛦	\$1,157,823	1.4% 🛦	\$1,154,800	1.9% 🛦	
July 2023	5,534	10.2% 🔻	12,948	8.5% 🛦	\$1,148,209	0.8% 🔻	\$1,162,500	0.7% 🛦	
August 2023	5,386	2.7% 🔻	13,091	1.1% ▲	\$1,130,125	1.6% 🔻	\$1,157,000	0.5% 🔻	
September 2023	5,113	5.1% ▼	14,511	10.8% 🛦	\$1,127,540	0.2% 🔻	\$1,145,200	1.0% 🔻	
October 2023	4,851	5.1% 🔻	14,044	3.2% ▼	\$1,128,412	0.1% 🛦	\$1,125,700	1.7% ▼	
November 2023	4,932	1.7% 🛦	13,268	5.5% ▼	\$1,104,062	2.2% 🔻	\$1,106,600	1.7% 🔻	