

Spring is Coming!



"I saw a robin!" My mother's voice on the phone had the singsong quality of smug victory. She might as well have added, "Na-na-na-na!" She likes to win this game.

Mom and I have an annual competition to see who can spot the year's first robin. It started the year I left home, and it's been going on for more than two decades. The first robin of the year in our area is a big deal. It means that the winter will, indeed, end, even when we're convinced it's going to go on forever. Mom and I are not winter lovers by any stretch of the imagination. For both of us, it's always been a long, gray crawl from Christmas to Easter. So the first robin is an important signpost, and even more so this year.

My grandmother has been ill for months, and my mother's older sister died shortly after Christmas. Our lives have been touched by melancholy, and the road ahead looks bumpy and gray as mortality looms large in our lives. To make matters worse, it's also been the coldest winter in a decade. It's hard even to imagine Easter. Then Mom's call came. I couldn't remember the last time she sounded so excited.

This year's sighting was the earliest yet. Three days later, I saw a dozen robins gathered together in some undergrowth by the road. A dozen! It was nine degrees out. Mom may have had the victory, but we both won this year.

Creatures know what we people sometimes forget: Easter and spring always come. Sometimes, we just have to wait awhile.

~Marci Alborghetti

Easter is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal, and new life.

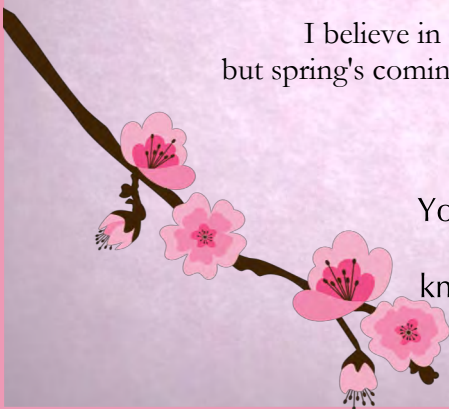
~*Janine di Giovanni*

I believe in process. I believe in four seasons. I believe that winter's tough, but spring's coming. I believe that there's a growing season. And I think that you realize that in life, you grow. You get better.

~*Steve Southerland*

You can't go into new life experiences without the understanding that yeah, you may fail, but knowing you might fail can't stop you from trying.

~*Alice Dreger*





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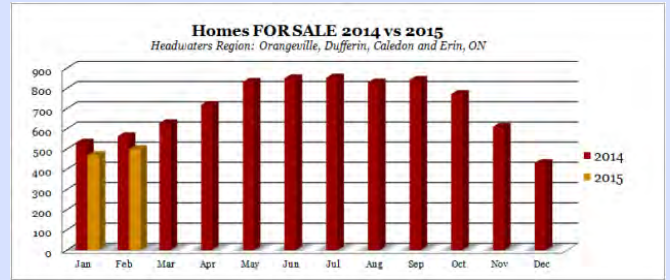
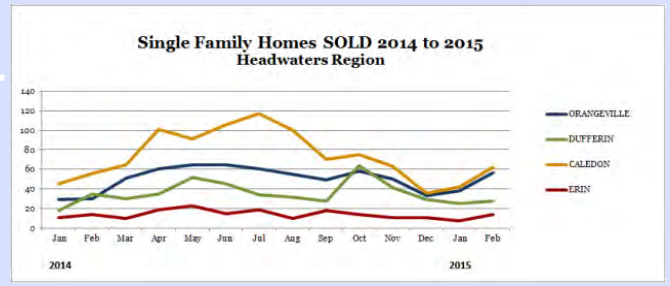
75 FIRST STREET, SUITE 14, ORANGEVILLE, ON L9W 2E7



Headwaters Real Estate Recap: to FEBRUARY 28, 2015

With the weather starting to warm up, so are home sales and inventory in the Headwaters region of Orangeville, Dufferin County, Caledon and Erin. In February **sales increased** to 161, which is up compared to January of this year (113), and February of 2014 (135). **Inventory has also risen** to 500 listings for sale in the Headwaters region. Homebuyers seem to be ready to jump on new listings this year, as the inventory starts to rise. Out of the 161 listings sold in February, **45 lasted less than 10 days** on the market! In addition to this, **22 of these listings sold for full asking price or higher**. The average sale to list price out of these 22 listings was 102%; the highest being 115%. This goes to show, if a house is priced right and shows well, the Buyers are willing to compete and pay higher than asking.

The **major** influx of inventory has not yet hit the market, and with most listings selling quite quickly, the inventory might take a while to peak this spring. With these recent stats, **February was definitely a Seller's market**. The spring market is here!!!



For more statistics and graphs please be sure to visit our "Real Estate Recap" Blog at www.thegrimeteam.com.

Home for Sale? 5 Inexpensive Ways to Boost Your Home's Value!

Declutter...Have a garage sale to dispose of unused furniture and appliances, odds and ends...or make use of Kijiji and a variety of Buy/Sells groups on Facebook. Your home will look more spacious, more organized and more inviting.

Maintenance...Go through each room of your house and make a "fix it" list. Don't forget to ensure doors are squeak-free, faucets aren't dripping, and all the bulbs are working in any lights.



Paint...It's amazing how much better your home can look with a fresh coat of paint...and it adds value for little cost. Use neutral colours inside. Outside, touch up exterior trim, wooden stairs and banisters.

Landscaping...Mow the grass, trim the hedges, plant some flowers and weed the garden. Make sure the driveway and walkways are clear and tidy looking.

Clean...Make everything sparkle and do your best to keep it that way! Make sure beds are made and dishes are done before you leave the house in the morning. Interested buyers might stop by on short notice.

Thank You! Thank You!

The Grime Team is so honoured to have received the Royal LePage National Chairman's Club Award 94th out of 16,000 realtors (Top 1% in Canada in Royal LePage Realty) Award of Excellence + Diamond Award.

Thanks to you, **our loyal clients**, for making this possible!



The Grime Team helped these clients MOVE in February!



If you or someone you know is thinking of making a move please be sure to give us a call at 519-941-5151! We would love to help!

HEY KIDS!

Want to WIN 1 of 3

\$100 Gift Certificates to Galaxy Cinemas???



1. Draw a picture of you doing your favourite springtime activity (**submit by April 3rd**)
2. Submit a letter letting us know why you think your Mom is a good Mom (**submit by May 1st**)
3. Submit a letter letting us know why you think your Dad is a good Dad (**submit by June 5th**)

Mail your pictures to our office c/o The Grime Team Spring Drawing Contest and email your letters to melanie@thegrimeteam.com.

Winning entries will be published on our blog, Facebook group and newsletter.



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