

Quick Tips

1 Be sure to confirm the registration of your real estate professional by using the real estate professional search feature on RECO's website. In Ontario, in order to trade in real estate, brokers and salespersons must be registered under REBBA 2002.

2 Remember to read everything before you sign and ask questions if the information is not clear. Agreements are legally binding contracts so it's important you understand the terms and conditions. It may be helpful to include someone you trust during the negotiation process to translate unfamiliar documents for you.

3 Ask your family or friends about their real estate experiences and if they would recommend a particular real estate professional to you.

Looking for more information?

For more information on how RECO protects the public's interest, please visit www.reco.on.ca or call **1-800-245-6910**.



3300 Bloor Street West
Suite 1200, West Tower
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M8X 2X2

T (416) 207-4800 | 1-800-245-6910
F (416) 207-4820

info@reco.on.ca
www.reco.on.ca

RECO



RECO is part of Consumer Protection Ontario, an awareness program from Ontario's Ministry of Government and Consumer Services dedicated to helping consumers make informed decisions.



Buying or selling a home?



Real Estate
Council of Ontario

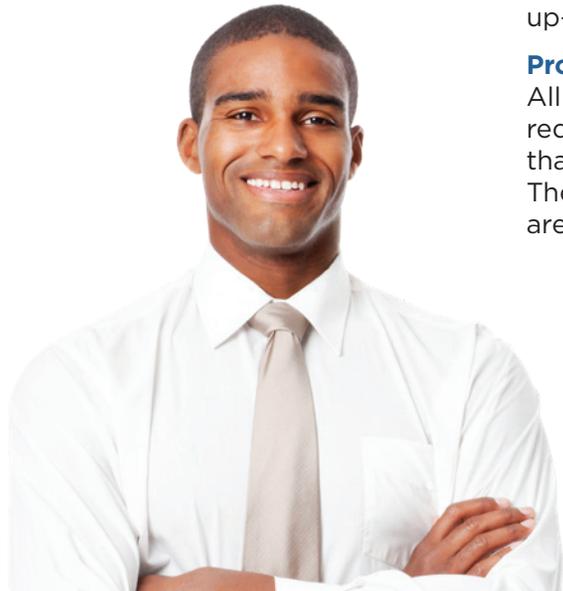
WORKING WITH A REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL

Buying or selling a home is the biggest transaction most of us will ever go through.



That's why it's so important to be informed and take advantage of expert advice. If you decide to work with a registered real estate professional, you'll have help navigating the buying or selling process along with the added benefit of valuable consumer protection from the Real Estate Council of Ontario (RECO).

All brokers and salespersons in Ontario are registered with, and regulated by, RECO. RECO's job is to protect your best interests by maintaining a fair, safe and informed real estate marketplace.



This includes enforcing the laws that all real estate professionals in Ontario must follow, on behalf of the provincial government. Working with a real estate professional means you're automatically backed by RECO's three pillars of protection, including:

Knowledge

Real estate professionals must complete education courses before they are allowed to trade in real estate, and they complete mandatory continuing education courses every two years to keep their knowledge up-to-date and their skills sharp.

Professional standards

All brokers and salespersons in Ontario are required to uphold professional standards that stress fairness, honesty and integrity. They must follow rules and regulations that are designed to protect consumers.

Insurance

Deposit insurance provides you with peace of mind knowing that the buyer's deposit will be held in trust, and insured against loss, insolvency or misappropriation by a brokerage until the deal closes and the money is paid out to the right people. Additionally, real estate professionals must hold errors and omissions insurance to pay for damages and legal costs arising from claims related to their involvement in a real estate transaction.

HOW RECO CAN HELP

Found the perfect real estate professional? Check out RECO's search function (www.reco.on.ca/realestate-pro-search) to make sure they are registered in Ontario. You can also find information regarding their brokerage location, up-to-date contact details, and registration history, including whether they were the subject of a charge, conviction or disciplinary decision within the past five years. RECO's site also features plenty of information to help you navigate the home buying and selling process.

