

January, 2012

Open Letter to All Police Agencies**Re: Requirement for Individuals to Provide Criminal Record Checks**

The Real Estate Council of British Columbia (“Council”), pursuant to the *Real Estate Services Act*, is authorized to licence and oversee the conduct of individuals engaged in providing trading services (sales), rental property management services and strata management services in British Columbia.

Section 10 of the *Real Estate Services Act* requires applicants for a real estate licence to satisfy the Council that they are suitable to be licensed. This process requires applicants to demonstrate they have not been convicted of an offence that would make them unsuitable to be licensed. Accordingly, applicants are required to submit to the Council a verification of their criminal record as part of the application process.

Applicants for a real estate licence are not required to be involved with or be responsible for children or vulnerable people, nor do they require this criminal record check for a volunteer position.

The Council, therefore, requests any police agency, when contacted by an individual making a licence application to the Council, to conduct and provide a criminal record check. All costs associated with this process are the responsibility of the applicant. **Please ensure that the section of the criminal record check that provides authorization to disclose the individual’s personal information contains the name of the "Real Estate Council of BC".**

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated. If you require any additional information, please call our office and ask to speak with Lisa Kern, Senior Licensing Supervisor, at 604-683-9664 or toll-free in BC at 1-877-683-9664.

Yours truly,

Robert O. Fawcett,
Executive Officer