

# REAL ESTATE NEWS

May 2009



**EWA BORYS**  
**MARY-ANN HAUSEUX**  
**MICHEL LORION**  
 1-866-376-2843



## The Bank of Canada's Key Interest Rate is at its Lowest Level in over 50 years!!!

On April 21, the Bank of Canada announced a one-quarter of a percentage point cut to its key interest rate, bringing the rate to 0.25 per cent. The Monetary Policy Report indicates that the key interest rate has reached its floor and should remain at this level until the end of the second quarter of 2010. The key interest rate has undergone a cumulative decline of 4.25 percentage points since December 2007. At the same time, in March mortgage rates reached their lowest level in more than half a century.

### Québec Consumers are Regaining Confidence

Despite the fact that the unemployment rate reached its highest level in two years this past March (9.2 per cent), consumer confidence among Québécois has improved. At the end of last year, only 25 per cent of Québec consumers said that it was a good time to make a major purchase such as a home; in March, this number grew to 39 per cent. Historically, however, this remains a fairly low level. ■

For more info visit [www.gmreb.qc.ca](http://www.gmreb.qc.ca)

## Pool Timers: Don't waste a minute!

- ✓ Save up to \$85 on electricity in just one summer.
- ✓ Cut the length of time your filter pump operates, with no adverse effect on water quality.
- ✓ Reduce the noise caused by the pump motor.
- ✓ Help protect the environment.

### Suggested off time – Above-ground pools

May	June	July	August	Sept.-Oct.
12 h *	10 h	10 h	10 h	12 h

\* The colder the water, the less it needs to be filtered.

### Suggested off time – In-ground pools

May	June	July	August	Sept.-Oct.
12 h *	8 h	8 h	8 h	12 h

\* The colder the water, the less it needs to be filtered.



**Timers for above-ground pools:** Annual savings: up to \$60 a year (assuming use of 1-hp motor).

**Timers for in-ground pools:** Annual savings: up to \$85 a year (assuming use of a 1.5-hp motor).

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## Real Estate Statistics

Source: MLS Statistics TOTAL LISTINGS

		April 2009	April 2008
DDO	# for sale	274	280
	# sold	48	79
Kirkland	# for sale	109	115
	# sold	26	22
Pte-Claire	# for sale	145	147
	# sold	57	36
Pierrefonds	# for sale	484	471
	# sold	94	101

Properties were sold (on average) at 95-97% of asking price.

## A few tips:

1. Do not use a timer if you heat your pool with a heat pump.
2. Do not buy an all-purpose timer model. The timer must have a minimum capacity of 15 amps and be designed to control motors. An appropriate model can also be used in winter for your vehicle block heater and for outdoor Christmas lights (or other lights).
3. Make sure your pool water is clean and properly balanced chemically (pH and chlorine) at all times.
4. If you use a chlorinator, you will have to readjust its flow.
5. Did you install your timer outside?  
Make sure you buy a waterproof model. ■

**\$10**  
instant  
rebate\*

Until December 31, 2009, visit any one of our participating merchants and get a \$10 instant rebate on the purchase of a pool pump timer.

\*After-tax reduction on the price of authorized timer models. Limit of one timer per customer. See details in store.



**BUY ME !!!**

**MLS # 8159393**

**Price: \$ 499,000**

**Location: 47 Watterson, Baie-d'Urfé**

**Size: 4 bedrooms, 2 garages and 18,000 ft land**

**Huge split-level (2,160 ft)!!! Tastefully renovated, ideal for big family. Dual energy heating, double garage, amazing backyard, walking distance to train.**

## Money saving tip: Electronic Thermostats *Comfort and Savings!*

<http://www.hydroquebec.com/residential/thermostats/index.html>

**Replace your conventional thermostats with electronic thermostats, and** maintain a stable, even temperature; save up to 10% on your heating costs; receive a [mail-in rebate coupon worth up to \\$130!](#)

