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Effective: February 1, 2021

Last Updated: July 1, 2022

CONDOMINIUM INFORMATION SHEET

Summary of Updates (Effective July 1, 2022):

- 1. The requirements of O.Reg 454/22 supersede the requirements of the HCRA's February 1, 2022 Directive (last updated February 4, 2022).
- 2. The Condominium Information Sheet must be attached to the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for all new or pre-construction condominiums.
- 3. The exemption previously offered for projects where the first arms-length Agreement of Purchase and Sale was signed before January 1, 2020 is no longer permitted under O.Reg 454/22.

Requirement

Under O.Reg. 454/22, licensees are required to include the Condominium Information Sheet as the first page of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for buyers of new or preconstruction condominiums. This requirement applies to all condominium homes in a condominium project for which the description has been registered or is proposed to be registered under the Condominium Act, 1998.

The Condominium Information Sheet can be found on the HCRA website. Important information regarding early termination conditions, timelines and project status in the addendum to the purchase agreement are put up front in this information sheet, which serves to protect consumers and prevent misleading or false information¹.

What is the Benefit of the Condominium Information Sheet?

The Condominium Information Sheet highlights key potential risks of buying preconstruction condominiums, which empowers Ontario homebuyers to make more informed decisions.

The information sheet underscores the importance of buyers having the purchase agreement reviewed by a lawyer familiar with condominium transactions. Such a review will help purchasers be better informed of the risks of a new condo purchase transaction and their rights and obligations.

¹ Section 54, New Home Construction Licensing Act, 2017



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The Condominium Information Sheet includes cautions and disclosures such as:

- pre-construction condominiums come with the risk that they may never be completed;
- early termination conditions that would allow a developer to cancel a project;
- information about the status of the development (e.g., formal zoning approval, relevant approval authority and date of commencement of construction);
- information about any restrictions on the developer's land title that may prevent the project from proceeding;
- a purchaser has an initial 10-day period to cancel their purchase under the Condominium Act, 1998; and
- the expected date when a purchaser can take occupancy.

Vendors must complete the information sheet before attaching it to the Agreement of Purchase and Sale.

When purchasing a unit in a pre-construction condominium, there is always a risk that the project or phase of the project could be delayed or cancelled. Early termination conditions are conditions that, if not satisfied, may result in termination of the purchase agreement. Some examples of conditions include reaching a minimum unit sales threshold for the project to proceed, and the developer securing necessary financing for construction and completion of the project.

Early termination conditions are contractual and must be agreed to by both parties to the purchase agreement (the vendor and the purchaser). Moreover, they must be clearly set out in the Addendum to the purchase agreement, so that home buyers are made aware of the risks relating to the conditions when they enter the agreement. Purchasers should be aware that vendors are not permitted to include any early termination conditions in the purchase agreement other than those outlined in the Addendum, particularly Schedule "A".

The Condominium Information Sheet highlights some of the risks that could cause a condominium project or phase of a project to be cancelled, such as early termination conditions. However, all early termination conditions must be listed in the Condominium Addendum. Purchasers are strongly encouraged to review their purchase agreement, Condominium Information Sheet, and the Addendum with a lawyer familiar with condominium transactions.