



# Jane Graydon

Sales Representative



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## Build a great deck with a solid plan

A relaxing deck gives you the great outdoors without the need to venture too far from the comforts of home. When done right, a deck improves the appearance and utility of your home and can add to its resale value.

Homeowners should pay special attention to the plan for any new deck. To ensure the structure enhances your property, both now and in the future, a good design and quality materials should be your guiding principles.

Whether you plan to build it yourself or hire a contractor, consider the following:

### How will you use your deck?

Barbecuing, sunning and lounging, supervising the children at play, enjoying nature and setting off a pool or spa are popular functions of a deck. Think about how you would typically use the space and plan your deck accordingly.

### How can you enhance your house and yard?

A deck usually sits against your house and alters the landscape of your yard. Always keep the surroundings in mind and consider the combination of visible elements. Think about the view from the deck, and if it is raised, how it will look from ground level.



### How large and what shape?

The deck should suit the scale of your house and yard. Going too large or too wide for the space can visually overwhelm and detract from the setting. Avoid a plain, boxy rectangle by adding interesting angles or changing the orientation.

### What materials will you use?

Cedar and redwood are popular choices, but for the budget-minded look for pressure-treated pine and select your pieces with care. Composite deck materials are growing in popularity in some areas.

**With careful attention to your needs and landscape, a deck creates a welcome transition between your indoor and outdoor spaces. And, it might clinch the deal when it comes time to sell.**

[www.rlpnetwork.com](http://www.rlpnetwork.com)

## Spring Cleaning - 10 Spring Cleaning Tips

- Clean a toothbrush holder with water and Alka-Seltzer.
- Use a 50-50 mix of vinegar and water in a spray bottle to clean the inside of your refrigerator.
- Run your empty washing machine and dishwasher with a cup of vinegar to sanitize it.
- Pour two cups of Coca-Cola in the toilet bowl and let it sit overnight. Brush the bowl and flush in the morning.
- Make your own window cleaner with ¼ cup rubbing alcohol, 1/3 cup vinegar, in a one-litre spray bottle.
- Mix equal amounts of vinegar, rubbing alcohol and tea tree oil in a spray bottle and lightly spritz on mattresses to combat mildew, odour and dust mites

- Sprinkle baking soda on mattresses, let sit for a few hours, then vacuum. You can also add an essential oil such as lavender to the baking soda to provide a scent.
- Scrub shower enclosures with a sponge covered in baking soda, then rinse.
- Keep drains running and fresh by pouring a half cup of baking soda followed by a half cup of vinegar. Wait five minutes, then flush with hot water.
- Cut a lemon or grapefruit in half, dip it in half a cup of borax, and use it to scrub porcelain bathtubs and sinks.



Not safe for marble or granite. For full article go to: <http://ht.lv/105Dzy>

## March Home Sales Out Like a Lion

860 homes sold in March, up 11.8% over March 2015, making last month the best March since 2006 - a good two years before the Global Financial Meltdown caused markets across North America to falter. "March 2016 may have come in like a lamb, says the President of the London and St. Thomas Association of REALTORS®, "but, as far as home sales go, it went out like a lion." Year-to-Date, sales are up 10.8%. 1,579 homes were listed in March, down 1.7% and Active Listings End of Period - or inventory - was down 16.6%. "Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation predicts that 2016 will see more sales than listings," says the President of LSTAR. "If you are thinking about listing your house, this is the kind of market you'll want to take advantage of." St. Thomas also had an outstanding March. 75 homes sold in St. Thomas last month, compared to the 58 sold the previous March. The average price of a home in St. Thomas so far in 2016 stands at \$219,822, up 1.4%.

April 4, 2016 - London and St. Thomas Association of REALTORS®.



### 2015 Average Prices (YTD)

Type	Average Price	Increase from 2015
Detached	\$291,281	6.5%
Condo	\$192,619	4.7%
Total Residential	\$271,920	6.3%

### Type

### Units Sold

### Average Price

Type	Units Sold	Average Price
2 Storey	197	\$379,551
Bungalow	158	\$228,156
Ranch	104	\$334,200
Townhouse Condo	81	\$160,962
High Rise Apt. Condo	50	\$171,994

# National Garage Sale for Shelter

Saturday, May 7th, 2016

De-clutter for a cause

Need motivation to get started on your spring cleaning? Did you know that pile of books collecting dust in your basement or that extra blender at the back of your cupboard could help change someone's life for the better?

Participating in the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation's signature fundraising event is your opportunity to do just that. The 8th annual National Garage Sale for Shelter takes place on Saturday, May 7th, 2016. This one-day charity garage sale is held the day before Mother's Day at hundreds of Royal LePage offices and other community locations across Canada. All proceeds from the event support women's shelters that offer safety and support to thousands of women and children escaping domestic violence each year.

Since the launch of the National Garage Sale for Shelter in 2009, \$2.25 million has been raised to fund women's shelters across Canada. The Royal LePage Shelter Foundation also supports prevention and education programs that help stop the cycle of family violence and help youth to develop healthy relationships. Royal LePage covers the administrative costs of the Shelter Foundation and sponsors cover event expenses so 100% of all funds raised goes directly to the cause.

We encourage you to get involved by donating gently used items to one of our offices and by visiting the National Garage Sale For Shelter in your community to shop for great deals and unique treasures.

**Small Item Drop Off Location:**

South Office - 334 Wellington Rd. S., London at Base Line Rd. E.



**Royal LePage Triland Realty - Garage Sale For Shelter**

**Where:**

342 Commissioners Rd. W., London  
London & St. Thomas Association of REALTORS®  
Between Wharnccliffe Rd. S. & Wonderland Rd. S.

**When:**

Saturday, May 7th  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



For more information on the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation, please visit [royallepage.ca/shelter](http://royallepage.ca/shelter).

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