



REALTOR® Safety – Tips

- When showing a property, insist on meeting at your office or even at another real estate office near the property — never at the property or the prospect's home
- Always use your own car or take separate cars — never ride in the prospect's car
- Before leaving the office, tell others that you're going to show homes and give them a list of the properties
- Saleswomen should be wary of male buyers who'll only work with a female — and of males who drop in the office and ask to see vacant or isolated property right away
- When showing a house, unlock the door and allow the prospects to enter first; keep them in front of you throughout the showing, making it difficult for them to trap you
- In large condominium complexes, be especially wary of isolated areas such as laundry or supply rooms
- If you're showing several properties, phone your office occasionally to check-in (if you're suspicious or fearful of someone, use these calls as an excuse to return to the office immediately)
- Consider not including photos on your business cards
- Consider listing only office addresses and phone numbers on your business cards
- If you want to give your home phone number to a prospect, write it on your card, but be aware of the risks you might incur if the information is lost or misused
- If an open house is held in an isolated or questionable location, hold the open house with another real estate agent; if you must hold one by yourself, have someone from your office — or even a neighbour — stop by and check on you or call periodically
- During an open house, keep the door locked and limit the number of visitors you admit at one time
- During an open house, ask guest to sign a guest registry and request business cards from other salespeople

Contacts for More Information:

Contact your local police department for more advice on personal safety.

(Source: Compiled from TREB sources)