

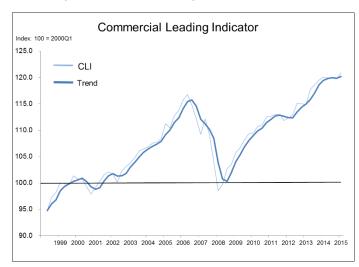
For immediate release:

Strong BC Economy Fuels Growth in Commercial Real Estate

Vancouver, BC – August 31, 2016. The BCREA Commercial Leading Indicator (CLI) increased 1.7 index points in the second quarter of 2016, propelled higher by strong growth in the BC economy. The CLI index rose to a new high of 122.2, up 2.2 per cent compared to the second quarter of 2015.

"The recent uptrend in the CLI is reflective of a strong underlying economy and accelerated employment growth," said BCREA Economist Brendon Ogmundson. "The CLI was further boosted by a rebound in financial markets that were previously dragging the index lower."

All components of the CLI contributed positively to the index in the second quarter with strong economic growth, and robust consumer spending in particular, acting as the primary driver. A rising CLI over the first half of 2016 pulled the



underlying index trend higher following several quarters of flat growth. That rising trend points to a higher uptick in the pace of commercial real estate activity over the next two to four months.

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To view the full BCREA Commercial Leading Indicator index, click here.

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The <u>British Columbia Real Estate Association</u> (BCREA) is the professional association for more than 20,000 REALTORS® in BC, focusing on provincial issues that impact real estate. Working with the province's <u>11 real estate boards</u>, BCREA provides continuing professional education, advocacy, economic research and standard forms to help REALTORS® provide value for their clients.

To demonstrate the profession's commitment to improving <u>Quality of Life</u> in BC communities, BCREA supports policies that help ensure economic vitality, provide housing opportunities, preserve the environment, protect property owners and build better communities with good schools and safe neighborhoods.

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