

Choosing Cornwall

as a place to live

When it comes to choosing a place to settle down, there are a number of factors to consider.

For Crystal and Pat Regnier, those factors include family, finances and a good quality of life – all of which they found in Cornwall.

After spending the last several years living in the nation's capital, the young couple recently put their Ottawa home up for sale and began planning their return to their hometown of Cornwall.

The need for a change became apparent when Crystal returned to work a short time ago following maternity leave, Pat recalls.

“Between daycare and the hours at work and just the daily grind of traffic, we found that our quality of life decreased significantly,” said the 28-year-old.

Before long, Pat started thinking about the possibility of commuting to his government job in downtown Ottawa. After crunching some numbers, he realized that they could get a great home in Cornwall for a great price, and his wife could stay

home to raise their one-year-old daughter Alexis. Having their families around as a support network would be another big plus.

Pat soon found himself on the ChooseCornwall.ca website reading about Delaney Bus Lines' Cornwall-Ottawa commuter bus service, and that pretty much solidified the move.

“That was really the turning point to say we could do this,” he said of the door-to-door service offered by Delaney.

Pat said the family is looking forward to enjoying the small-City lifestyle and big-City amenities that Cornwall offers.

“We aren't doing anything here (in Ottawa) that we couldn't do in Cornwall,” he added.

The Regnier's are among a growing number of people – be it newcomers or expatriates – who are discovering the benefits of calling Cornwall home.

There are a slew of reasons, not the least of which is



The Delaney commuter service runs daily between Cornwall and Ottawa.

The bus was named 'Best Dressed' in North America for 2010.

the relatively low cost of housing in the City. According to the Cornwall and District Real Estate Board, the average sale price of a home in the Cornwall area for the period of January to May 2011 was \$151,560. That's less than half the average sale price of homes in Ontario and Canada.

"We're a bargain right across Canada," said Johanna Murray, executive director of the real estate board.

Another big factor is the quality of life that one can find in the City. Cornwall has virtually everything young families or professionals could want, minus the big-City hassles of traffic jams and hefty parking passes.

The list of amenities is virtually endless – a picturesque waterfront park and recreational trail, a gigantic library, top-notch health, education and sporting facilities, a thriving arts community, unique shops and restaurants, and cutting-edge businesses to name just some. Best of all, it's all just minutes away from the front door.

Aside from the bricks and mortar, there's another big factor that makes Cornwall a great place to live, and that's the people. Whether it's a simple hello to a passerby or a smile and a handshake at a charity fundraiser, Cornwallites have become known for their friendly, supportive nature. It's something that newcomers instantly remark on, and it's something that makes the move to Cornwall even more comforting.

"Cornwall is a City where you can succeed – whatever your passion might be. A big part of our success is the simple fact that we accept and support one another," said Mayor Bob Kilger. ♦



Average Housing Prices

Cornwall	\$144,865
Canada	\$356,343
Ontario	\$350,135
Ottawa	\$334,357
Toronto	\$443,293
Montreal	\$298,233

Average sale price as of February 2011

Cornwall & District Real Estate Board
www.mls-cornwall.com

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