

# TRADEMARK USE SUMMARY

## **CONTEXT:**

- ALWAYS use REALTOR® or REALTORS® to mean a member of CREA;
- ALWAYS use "MLS®" when referring to professional services provided by REALTORS®;
- NEVER use REALTOR® or MLS® as part of corporate branding, product name, business or trade name;
- NEVER use REALTOR® or REALTORS® as synonym for "real estate agent";
- **NEVER** use MLS® as a synonym for a database;
- NEVER use adjectives with the marks;
- **NEVER** use MLS® as a noun.
  - **Right:** The listing is on the Association's MLS® System, Your neighborhood REALTOR®, John Jones REALTOR® Ltd. **Wrong:** The listing is on the MLS®, XYZ REALTORS Ltd.

### FORM:

- ALWAYS capitalize the M, L, and S in MLS®, the first letters of Multiple Listing Service® and the "S" in "System" in the phrase MLS® System;
- ALWAYS use all capital letters, followed by the registered mark in your initial use of REALTOR®; subsequent uses may capitalize only the "R" and omit the "®" unless used in a firm/team name or used with a modifier;
- ALWAYS capitalize REALTOR® when used with a modifier or in a firm/team name;
- ALWAYS accompany the MLS® and REALTORS® marks, where possible, with the required trademark statement;
- **NEVER** alter, distort or combine the MLS® or REALTOR® logos with other words or designs;
- NEVER distort, hyphenate, abbreviate, alter or expand on the MLS® or REALTOR® marks.
  *Right:* MLS®, Multiple Listing Service®, REALTOR, Edmonton REALTOR®, John Jones REALTOR® Ltd.
  Wrong: mls®, multiple listing service®, realter, Edmonton Realter.

Wrong: mls®, multiple listing service®, realtor, Edmonton Realtor

### Examples of Trademark Statements:

- I'm more than a real estate agent. I'm a REALTOR®;
- The trademarks MLS®, Multiple Listing Service® and the associated logos are owned by The Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) and identify the quality of services provided by real estate professionals who are members of CREA. Used under license;
- REALTOR®. Member of The Canadian Real Estate Association and more.

### **INTERNET:**

- ALWAYS capitalize all letters in REALTOR® and REALTORS® and include ® in social media posts;
- NEVER use MLS® in a domain name, email address or social media username;
- ONLY use MLS® and Multiple Listing Service® in social media posts where the correct form and context is being applied;
- ONLY use REALTOR® in domain names, email addresses, and in social media usernames in accordance with CREA's policies;
- REALTOR® and REALTORS® may be used in domain names, email addresses, and social media usernames in conjunction with the name of a member, a firm name, or a team name;
- Modifiers may be added to these domain names, email addresses, and social media usernames;
- Use in domain names and email addresses does not have to be capitalized or followed by ®;
- Use in social media usernames can capitalize only the R (i.e., Realtor);
- Use of REALTOR® or REALTORS® in hashtags does not require the ®.
  Right: <u>www.johnjones-REALTOR.com</u>, <u>edmontonrealtorjanet@gmail.com</u>, #yegREALTOR
  Wrong: <u>www.professionaledmontonrealtor.com</u>, <u>bestedmontonrealtor@live.ca</u>.

\*For more detailed information on the trademark rules of usage, access the Trademark Manual