# Buying a Home? Here are the Basics.

If you know what to expect – and you have a knowledgeable team of real estate and mortgage-lending professionals to help you – finding and financing your first home can be an exciting and rewarding experience. Here's what you need to know:



## Consider obtaining a Mortgage Prequalification Before You Begin House Hunting

- Learn how much financing may be available to you
- Strengthen your bargaining position with sellers

## Choose a Real Estate Agent

- Ask mortgage lenders for a list of agents
- Select a reputable professional who knows the market and will listen to your needs
- Ask agents for references from former clients

## Find the Right Home

- Determine the needs of you, and your family, if applicable
- · Create a wish list of desirable features
- Take notes as you preview homes

#### Make an Offer

- Your real estate agent presents your offer to the seller, who will accept, counter or reject it
- When the price is settled, you and the seller sign a Purchase Agreement, defining the terms of the sale

## **Consider Having the Home Inspected**

 Hire a professional home inspector after the offer has been accepted to provide an in-depth look at the basic systems of the house, to reveal any safety hazards and give you a chance to reconsider the deal

## The Home Will Be Appraised

 An appraisal, required by your mortgage lender, is a formal, written report of the home's current market value

# Obtain Title Insurance (where applicable)

- This ensures that the property you are purchasing is free of liens or conflict regarding the rights of ownership
- The policy insures against any losses to the property that result from defects in the title or deed

### Close on the Property

- Ownership of the property is transferred
- A closing agent coordinates and distributes all the paperwork and funds

And you become the proud owner of your new home!

Whatever your home financing needs, I'm ready to help with a broad range of programs and personalized service.