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Subject: **Spring - Think. Change. Grow.**
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Edmonton Alberta Oil Sands Real Estate Investment Experts

Alberta Oil Sands Investment Real Estate News®

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Dear Friends and Partners,

Spring is in the air. A new leaf, a blossom blooming and so on...

"The first day of spring was once the time for taking the young virgins into the fields, there in dalliance to set an example in fertility for nature to follow. Now we just set the clocks an hour ahead and change the oil in the crankcase." ~E.B. White, "Hot Weather," One Man's Meat, 1944

Every 90 days we reevaluate our business plan and 4 key areas in which we aim to continue improving. Many companies and individuals can use the momentum of Spring as an excuse to revisit their goals and make sure that they're on track. I talked about 'Kaizen' in an earlier newsletter and thought I'd touch on it again here as the timing seems right. Below is an excerpt from Wikipedia.

Kaizen is a daily activity, the purpose of which goes beyond simple productivity improvement. It is also a process that, when done correctly, humanizes the workplace, eliminates overly hard work ("muri"), and teaches people how to perform experiments on their work using the scientific method and how to learn to spot and eliminate waste in business processes.

People at all levels of an organization can participate in kaizen, from the CEO down, as well as external stakeholders when applicable. The format for kaizen can be individual, suggestion system, small group, or large group.

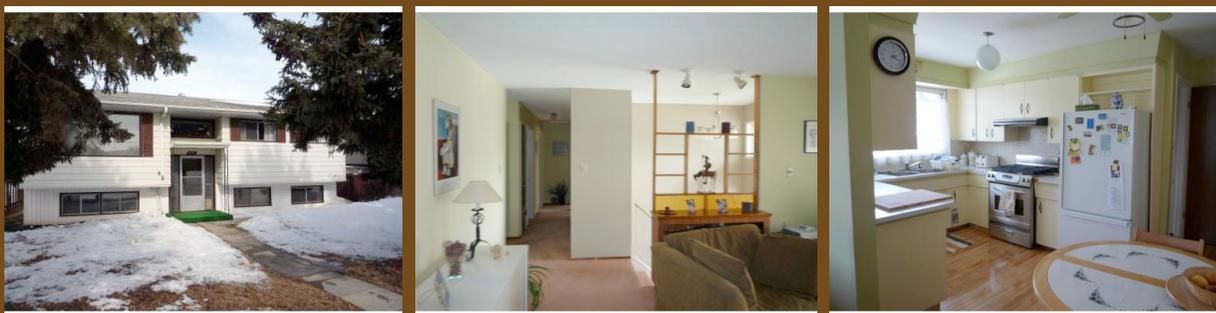
At Toyota, it is usually a local improvement within a workstation or local area and involves a small group in improving their own work environment and productivity. This group is often guided through the kaizen process by a line supervisor; sometimes this is the line supervisor's key role.

While kaizen (at Toyota) usually delivers small improvements, the culture of continual aligned small improvements and standardization yields large results in the form of compound productivity improvement. Hence the English usage of "kaizen" can be: "continuous improvement" or "continual improvement."

Kaizen methodology includes making changes and monitoring results, then adjusting. Large-scale pre-planning and extensive project scheduling are replaced by smaller experiments, which can be rapidly adapted as new improvements are suggested.

When you're enjoying the warmer days remember that a welcome change to your business and lifestyle can be a breath of fresh-air.

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Recession Skips Botox Crowd

By Mindelle Jacobs, Edmonton Sun
Published: Fri, March 20, 2009

What recession? Scores of women crowded into a ballroom at the appropriately named Fantasyland Hotel at West Edmonton Mall this week to hear about the latest cosmetic procedures.

If you have to cry about your RRSPs, at least you don't have to furrow your brows. Looking good in a recession is important, one 60-year-old woman told me. "It's a young person's market out there and if you can present yourself with a more youthful, alert look, you have a better chance." Call it recession chic. **GRAB THIS STORY.**

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Canada, U. S. Urged to Fight 'Dirty Oil' Label Rhetoric driving policy, says chamber

By Shaun Polczer, Calgary Herald
Published: March 20, 2009

Canada and the United States need to team up to combat the "dirty oil" tag that has hampered efforts to promote Alberta's oilsands as a secure source of supply to the world's largest energy consumer, says the head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for 21st Century Energy.

Speaking to reporters in Calgary on Thursday, Karen A. Harbert said development of Canadian oilsands, the second-largest oil reserve on Earth, after Saudi Arabia, is of vital strategic interest to both countries. [READ MORE](#)

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Energy Future Bright: Deputy Minister

By Carol Christian, Fort McMurray Today staff
Published: 3/21/09

Though Alberta is stepping up its game when it comes to renewables as part of the energy mix, Alberta's deputy minister of energy, Peter Watson, says reliance on the controversial oilsands will continue for quite some time.

"We want and we will facilitate more renewable and alternative energy," Watson told the Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce yesterday. However, he added, hydrocarbons and fossil fuels will continue to be the centrepiece of the province's energy mix for some time to come. [READ FULL ARTICLE HERE.](#)

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Wishing you a warm and wonderful spring. Be it underneath the cherry blossoms for some and others enjoying the explosion of green after the snow melts away. If the weather is good, join us in Tokyo's Ueno park on April 8th. Please call or email for directions.

Thank you,

Todd and Danielle Millar-

P.S. Stay ahead by checking out Danielle's daily blog at [Edmonton Real Estate Investor](#) for all your cutting edge market news and information.

P.P.P.S. Don't forget to visit our website and take advantage of the [Resource Tools](#) and product section including REIN's #1 real estate books and Quick Start homestudy sets at a discount. Get your copy of the Canadian Success Stories book and the Top Ten Investment Towns of Alberta and Ontario.

☞ REIN's ACRE Investment Event will be held in Ontario on April 18th and 19th. Get your discounted tickets [HERE](#).



A banner advertisement for Glenn Simon Inc. On the left is a red house icon with a white roof. To its right, the text reads "Glenn Simon Inc." in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Further right, the text "INVEST NOW AND RETIRE YOUNGER AND RICHER" is displayed in a smaller, orange, sans-serif font. Below this, the text "Investment worries? Settle your mind. Alberta Oilsands Real Estate" is written in a white, sans-serif font. On the far right of the banner is a photograph of a hand holding a golden key.

