



economic analysis *report*

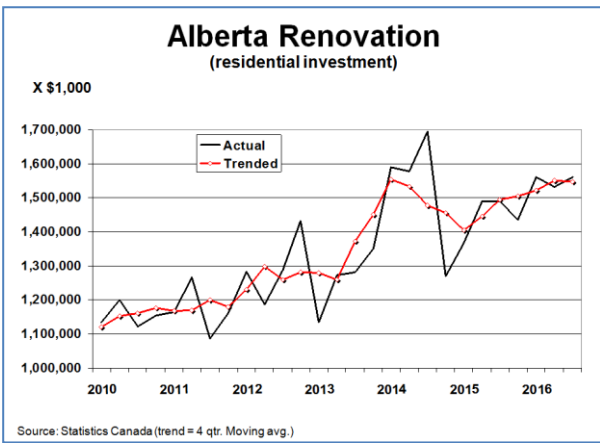


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Albertans Boost Renovation Spending to \$3.1 Billion

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Despite lingering weakness in the Alberta economy, spending on residential renovations continues to improve in 2016.



According to Statistics Canada’s residential investment data, renovation spending in the second quarter of 2016 increased year-over-year by 4.7% to \$1.56 billion. This was in contrast to a 17.4% decrease in the total value of investment in residential construction in Alberta during the second quarter.

So far this year, investment on residential renovation has increased by 3.8% over the first six months of 2015 to \$3.1 billion. During 2015, total spending on residential renovations increased by just over 1% compared with all of 2014 to almost \$6 billion.

The figures show Albertans continue to see spending on home improvements as a good investment. Increased renovation spending also helps support Alberta’s economy and create jobs at a time when many other sectors are struggling.

Spending on energy efficiency upgrades for Alberta’s aging housing stock may get a boost in 2017 when new carbon taxes take effect. Almost two-thirds of Alberta private dwelling are more than 20 years. The Alberta government has pledged \$645 million for Energy Efficiency Alberta, a new provincial agency that will support energy efficiency programs and services for homes and businesses.

The Canadian Home Builders' Association – Alberta represents over 1,600 business members including new home builders, renovators, developers, trade and supply companies, and professional services.