

Ing+McKee
INSURANCE

Newsletter

April - June 2024



Quarterly Newsletter from Ing & McKee Insurance!

We hope everyone had a joyful and heart-warming Easter celebration with their cherished loved ones. As spring unfolds, we're excited to share the latest updates, tips, and insights related to insurance coverage.

Read our newsletter for valuable articles, tips and our featured spotlight. At Ing & McKee, we're committed to safeguarding what matters most to you. Thank you for being part of our insurance family!

Good News for Seniors!

Unlock Savings with the Seniors Discount at **Red Deer Registries!**

For Alberta Residents Aged 65 and above

Get 25% Off Eligible Personal Registry Services

As an Alberta senior, you deserve extra savings! This exclusive discount ensures that you can access personal registry services at a reduced cost.

There's no need to worry about the fine print. The Red Deer Registries staff will address any inquiries or services not covered in person.

Visit Red Deer Registries at 7101-20, Sharpe Ave Next to Ing & McKee Insurance, and east of the Peavey Mart Centrium.

When you call Red Deer Registries, a friendly professional will always answer the phone.

403-347-3570

RED DEER REGISTRIES

Alberta Authorized Registry Agent

Unlock Savings with the Seniors Discount!

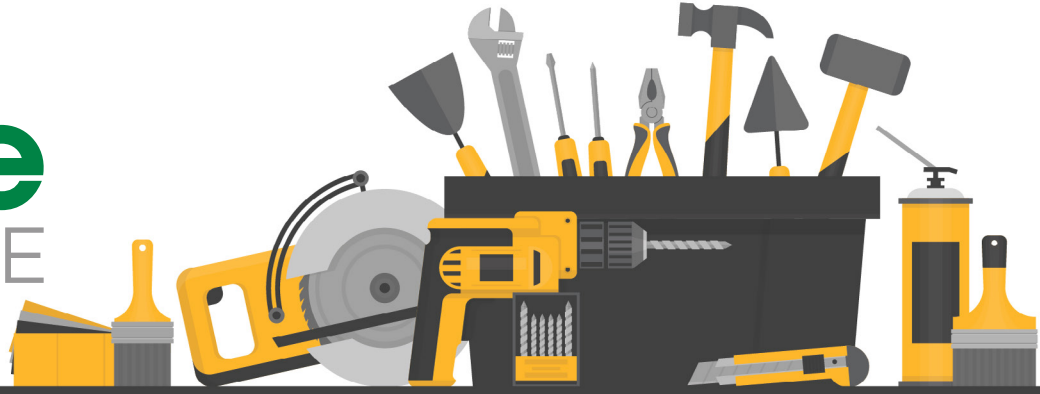
**Off Eligible Personal Registry Services*

For Alberta Residents Aged 65 and above

- ✓ Divers Licence/ID Cards
- ✓ Passenger Vehicle Registration Services
- ✓ On-Road Motorcycle and Off-Highway Vehicle Registration Services
- ✓ Trailer Registrations
- ✓ Disabled Parking Placards
- ✓ Abstracts and Other Motor Vehicle Search Products
- ✓ Land Title Searches
- ✓ Birth, Marriage, and Vital Statistic Certificates
- ✓ Marriage Licences
- ✓ Legal Name Change

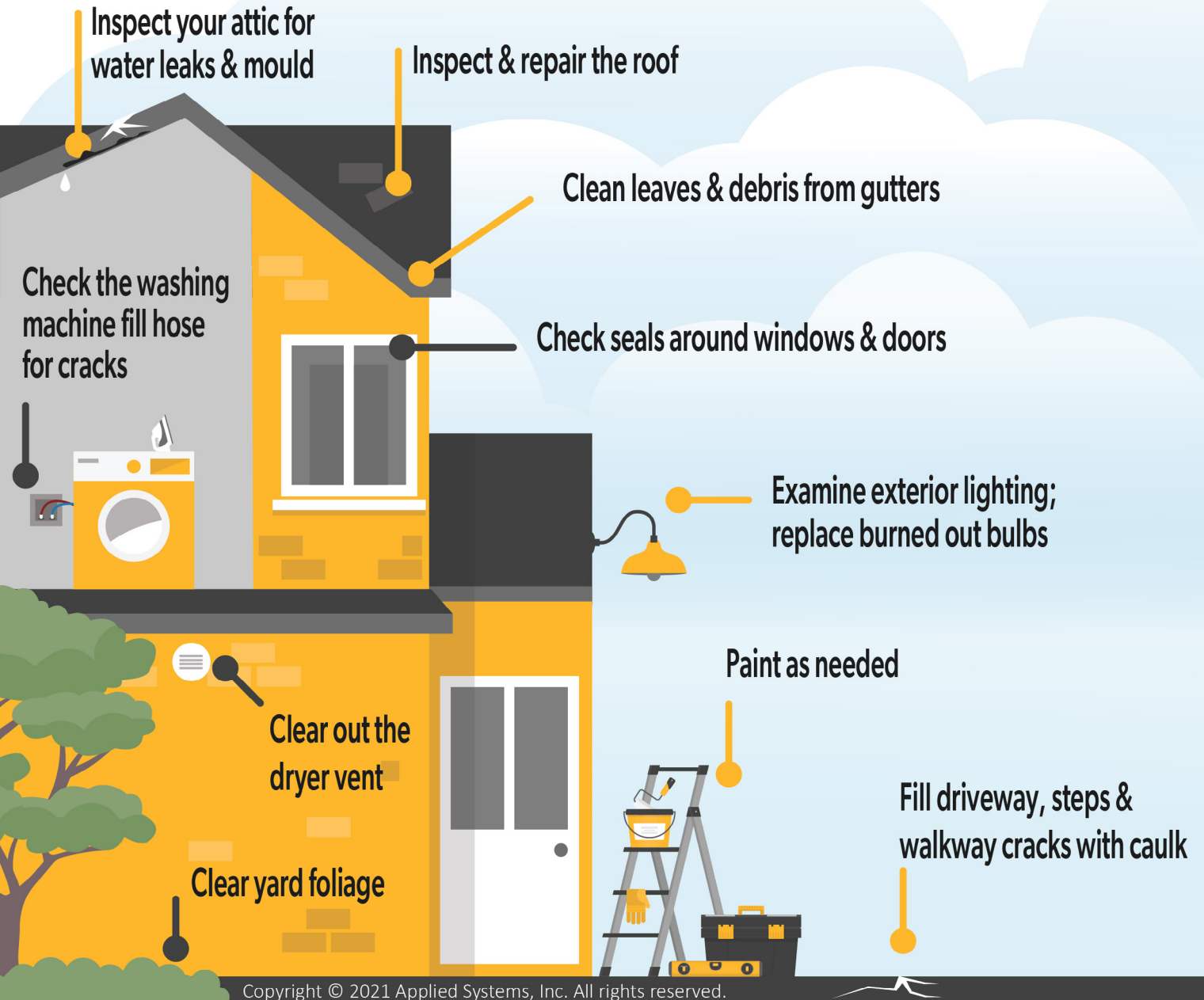
25% OFF





10 Spring Maintenance Tips for Your Home

These routine home maintenance tips can help prevent costly out-of-pocket home repairs not covered by insurance.



What Home Insurance Covers:

Dwelling Coverage: Protects your house itself, attached structures, and permanently installed features.

Outbuilding Coverage: Covers other structures on your property (like a detached garage or shed).

Personal Property Coverage: Insures your belongings (furniture, electronics, clothing, etc.).

Additional Living Expenses: Pays for temporary living expenses if your home becomes uninhabitable due to a covered loss.

Personal Liability: Provides coverage if someone is injured on your property and you're legally responsible.

For Additional Protection, Consider These Optional Add-Ons:

Identity Theft Coverage: Helps with costs related to identity theft.

Voluntary Medical Payments: This coverage ensures that medical costs are taken care of, regardless of legal liability.

Voluntary Property Damage: Coverage addresses unintentional direct loss or damage caused by you to someone else's property, even if you are not legally liable.

Home-Based Business Coverage: Protects business equipment at home.

Overland Water Coverage: Water that suddenly accumulates on your property and damages your home.

Sewer Backup Coverage: This covers damages caused by sewer backups, which can result in costly repairs and property damage.

Remember, maintaining your home and understanding your insurance coverage can help you be prepared for unexpected events. Consult with your broker at Ing & McKee Insurance to see if you have the necessary coverage. You can access your brokers contact information [here](#).



Spotlight Feature Maureen Jacobs:

Personal Lines Manager at Ing & McKee Insurance



Embracing Change and Building on Success

In the dynamic world of insurance, some individuals stand out for their unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions. One person in our company comes to mind: Maureen Jacobs, a seasoned professional in

the insurance industry with an impressive journey that spans over three decades.

A Long-Standing Odyssey in Insurance - Maureen embarked on her journey in the insurance industry at the age of 16, where her initial role involved tackling the ins and outs of filing at Ing & McKee Insurance on Saturday mornings and after school. This early exposure to the industry laid the foundation for a career that would become a lifelong passion. After high school, she transitioned into a full-time processing role and swiftly rose to the opportunity of becoming a broker in 1989. Fast forward 35 years, and her unwavering dedication continues to inspire those around her.

Reflecting on her transition to the role of Personal Lines Manager, Maureen emphasized the wealth of experience and relationships she has cultivated

over the years. Having previously supervised the Personal Lines team, she envisions a seamless transition into her new managerial position, viewing it as an opportunity to further enhance the team's performance and camaraderie.

Embracing New Challenges - When asked about the specific challenges accompanying this role transition, Maureen candidly acknowledged the inevitability of obstacles. However, her focus remains steadfast on collaborating with the exceptional Personal Lines Team at Ing & McKee and embracing the learning curve with determination and optimism.

Despite the exciting prospect of her new role, Maureen expressed a heartfelt sentiment about the bitter-sweet nature of change. The transition prompted her to transfer a significant portion of her long-term clientele to other brokers in the office, which evoked a wave of emotional farewells from clients turned friends.

Life Beyond the Office - Beyond the realm of insurance, Maureen finds solace in the simple pleasures of life. Whether unwinding with a good book, hitting the gym, or strolling with her faithful companion, Shasta, she finds joy in the everyday moments. She really appreciates the warmth of the summer sun on her deck while relaxing with her friends or family, enjoying a cold bevy.

It becomes evident that Maureen's journey through the insurance industry is not just a narrative of professional achievements but a testament to resilience, empathy, and the abiding quality of human connection.

Factors that Influence Personal Auto Insurance Rates

Alberta has some unique considerations when it comes to car insurance. Here's what you need to know: As of now, the average auto insurance premium in Alberta stands at \$1,316, making it the third-most expensive in Canada after Ontario and British Columbia.

Determinants of Auto Insurance Rates:

Vehicle Type: Insurers consider the type of vehicle you drive. Some models are statistically more prone to theft or accidents, affecting your premium (**see next page**).

Age and Driving History: Younger drivers typically face higher premiums, while costs tend to decrease with age and driving experience. Senior drivers may see increased expenses due to age-related risks.

Where you Live: Factors such as proximity to fire services, natural disasters, neighborhood crime rates, and the claim rate of your neighborhood play a significant role in determining premiums.

Driving Record: Collisions and traffic ticket convictions impact rates.

Coverages and Limits requested and Deductibles: Most people wisely carry Third Party Liability in excess of what is minimally required, in addition to the necessary Accident benefits and DCPD. Optional coverages like Collision and Comprehensive are often purchased, but you can usually save money by choosing higher deductibles.

Insurer Choice: Each insurance company files its own rates. Insurance brokerages work with multiple insurance companies to provide clients with choice. Ing & McKee proudly represents the leading automobile insurers in Canada

Tips to Lower Car Insurance Costs in Alberta:

Avoid High-Theft Vehicles: When buying a new car, steer clear of models frequently targeted by thieves.

Pay Upfront: Pay your premium in full instead of monthly installments if possible.

Safe Driving: Maintain a clean driving record—avoid speeding, collisions, and distracted driving.

Bundle Policies: Combine home or condo insurance with auto insurance for potential discounts.

Why Albertans Insurance Premiums Are On The Rise

Auto Theft Crisis:

- Canada is facing a growing crisis of car thefts. More than 80,000 vehicles were stolen nationally in the past year alone.
- Auto theft claims have amounted to \$1.2 billion in Canada in the past year.
- Insurance companies are taking on significant rate increases due to higher and disproportionate losses in recent years.
- Brokers are not at fault for these increases; they merely convey information between clients and insurers.

Inflation and Repair Costs:

- Inflation affects insurance premiums. As prices rise, it becomes more costly to carry out repairs and maintenance.
- Canada's annual inflation rate recently went up by 3.4%.
- Brokers must work within the framework provided by insurers.

Extreme Weather Events:

- Increasing frequency of severe weather events (such as floods, hurricanes, and forest fires) causes more serious damage and costly insurance claims.
- Brokers help clients navigate these challenges by finding suitable policies for their clients based on their locations.

Insurers Underwriting Practices:

- Insurance companies assess risk and determine premiums.
- Brokers facilitate communication between clients and underwriters but don't influence underwriting decisions directly.

Brokers' Role and Client Advocacy

- Brokers act as intermediaries, ensuring effective communication between clients and insurers.
- They advocate for clients, helping them find the best coverage options.

Fun Fact, Or Not So Fun Fact

What are the top ten most commonly stole vehicles in Alberta

These are the top 10 most stolen vehicles in Alberta which have been consistent over the years.

1. Ford F250
2. Ford F350
3. Chevrolet/GMC 2500
4. Dodge RAM 2500
5. Chevrolet/GMC 3500
6. Dodge RAM 1500
7. Dodge RAM 3500
8. Honda Civic
9. Ford F150
10. Chevrolet Silverado1500

These trucks and vehicles are attractive to thieves, and their prevalence in Alberta is influenced by factors like oil and gas industry use and the absence of theft-deterrent devices in older models. To protect your vehicle, consider using additional security measures like steering wheel locks or electronic anti-theft systems. Stay vigilant!

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