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**Spring Clean Can Be Fun...**

Nobody looks forward to cleaning the house, but we all know it is essential after a long winter, especially if you are planning to list and sell using a professional Realtor®. But by getting the whole family involved and building fun into every step, you can make spring cleaning a lot faster and less painful. Here are a few tips to make the process enjoyable, easy and more profitable:

**Have a plan.** Make a list of everything that needs to get done and include smaller, age-appropriate jobs for children. Start by removing clutter, put things back in their proper place, then start a deep clean. Buyers notice clutter and “stuff” packed into closets and other storage areas, so tidying up and freeing

space ensures your home looks great and is well presented.

**Turn up the music.** Nothing makes time go by faster than loud motivational music. Get everyone moving to the beat or dancing their way to a tidier place. And when getting the house ready to show, change the tune to something more serene and calming.

**Make a game of it.** Go skating for dust bunnies, wax on – wax off your windows, Play expiration date detective to clean out the fridge, Alphabetize the spice drawer, hold a sock-matching race. You get the idea...

**Reward for work well done.** Stock up on little prizes like granola or chocolate bars, juice boxes or something special and recognize when work gets done. This is a great incentive to help keep the house in tip top shape for showings and open houses too.

What can you do with all the extra stuff you need to get rid of? A garage sale is ideal, and several places in town welcome donations including Salvation Army, Waste Wise and the Upper Credit Humane Society Thrift Shop. Call them for more details.

Spring cleaning doesn't have to be a drag, and it can make moving a lot easier when you lighten the load. Have some fun with your family and incorporate learning into it too!

Thom Gallagher is a Sales representative with Johnson Associates Real Estate Ltd., Brokerage. Make buying or selling your home more fun. Call Thom at (416)524-6530 or visit [www.hottesthomes.ca](http://www.hottesthomes.ca) for a professional real estate experience.



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