



Beyond News



Beyond Insurance Brokers Inc

WINTER 2008-2009

When Away from Home

What do I do if my home is unoccupied?

Your insurer considers an unoccupied dwelling riskier than an occupied one.

Depending on how long you are away from your home, you need to make arrangements to ensure your dwelling is checked regularly, especially through the heating season. In some circumstances, you may need to inform your insurer.



When Away for a Short Time: If you will be away from your home for fewer than 30 days you do not need to inform your insurer. However, you do need to arrange for a competent person to look in on your home every day or two to make sure that everything is in good order. If a deep freeze and/or a broken furnace result in exploding pipes and water damage that goes unnoticed for several days, your insurer could refuse to cover the costs if no one was looking in on the house.

For Longer Absences: If you are away for more than 30 days, your home is considered “unoccupied” because you plan to return. In this case you should contact your broker to determine whether you will need to inform your insurer and obtain a special permit to leave the house empty. You will still need to arrange regular checks on the property, and you might want to consider draining water pipes and installing a good security alarm.

If the Property is Empty: A fully vacant property is one with no occupants and no contents. This may occur if a house sale is delayed and the property remains vacant until sold. In this case you need to obtain a vacancy permit from your insurer. This permit will maintain most of your coverage, except for risks associated with vacancy such as broken water pipes, broken glass or vandalism. These permits can be obtained for up to three months.

Before you leave your dwelling unoccupied, check with your broker to be sure that you are covered.

Source: <http://www.ibao.org>

Umbrella Liability - A Wise Investment

It is not “News” for us to say that we live in an increasingly litigious society. People sue, and are sued, for a variety of reasons; they may have been involved in an automobile accident where injuries were sustained, or someone may have slipped and fell on the sidewalk to their home. A \$1,000,000 Liability limit was once considered sufficient insurance coverage in the event of a liability suit, however this is often no longer the case. Awards in liability suits are frequently higher than this amount. If you have assets to protect, regardless of their number or value, the limit of liability coverage that you carry on your policies is something to consider.

An Umbrella Liability policy is designed to provide liability protection that is over and above the limits and scope of coverage carried on your personal insurance policy. The policy will “kick-in” when the limit of liability coverage on your existing policy has been exhausted.



Please call us for a quote!

Limits of coverage can range from between \$1,000,000 and \$5,000,000.

We would be pleased to discuss this valuable product with you. Please contact your Customer Service Representative today!

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Beyond Insurance Brokers Inc is a progressive new insurance brokerage. Our new brokerage has opened with the backing and support of many major insurance companies and is also a division of Darling Insurance and Realty Limited, which is an independently owned brokerage that has been doing business in Ontario since 1928. (www.darlinginsurance.net)

The Brokers at Beyond are very excited by the prospect of continuing their insurance career with a brokerage that offers products and services unique and beyond what they have been able to offer you in the past.

"To Indemnify and Beyond" is not only our slogan, it is also our promise.



On your side.

Your best insurance is an insurance broker.

Visit us at

www.beyondins.net.

How can I minimize my insurance costs?

Nobody likes to pay insurance premiums so any chance to control or reduce cost is welcome. Your broker can help you minimize premiums by helping to define your insurance needs and by shopping around for the best policy.

Don't over or under-insure

Under-insure and you might be left carrying the cost of damage, theft or loss of property. Over-insure and you will be paying more than you have to. Your broker can help you find the right balance by examining your assets, your risk profile and your insurance history. They can also alert you to choices that could reduce your insurance costs such as installing an alarm system in your home.

Set deductible and liability levels right

One way to control your premiums is to set a higher deductible, which means you accept more risk for covering small losses. Insurers tend to have deductibles ranging from \$300 to \$1,000. Ask your broker to explain the cost implications of different deductibles. If you drive in the U.S., you might want to consider higher liability coverage due to the higher levels of personal injury awards in that country.

Stay claims-free

One of the best ways to minimize premiums and obtain discounts is to avoid making claims. One of the best ways to do this is to reduce the risk factors that drive claims. For your vehicle: Avoid car accidents by driving defensively and never while impaired • Install an anti-theft system • Never leave valuables in the car • Keep your driving record clean. In your home: • Consider a home security system • Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms • Clear the snow and ice off your walk • Install good quality locks on your doors and windows. These are just a few examples of ways in which lowering the risk can mean lowering the cost to you.

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