

Press Release

April 12, 2016

NextHome opens NextHome Choice Properties in Sutherlin, OR The brokerage will be the fourth NextHome franchise in Oregon

Pleasanton, CA— April 12, 2016 — <u>NextHome</u> is proud to announce our latest addition to the franchise, **NextHome Choice Properties**. The brokerage will be the fourth for the NextHome franchise in the state of Oregon.

Owned and operated by Oregon native broker/owner, Patti Akins, the Sutherlin-based brokerage will provide residential real estate services to the areas of Eugene, Cottage Grove, Crestwell, Roseburg and the reminder of Douglas County. The company will also provide services in land sales, commercial units, and investment properties.

Originally in the mental health service industry, Akins had an experience with a real estate agent when selling her own personal property.

"The service level from our agent was extremely poor," recalls Akins. "I thought if someone could provide this poor of a level of service and still get paid a commission, I knew there was an opportunity for me to be able to provide first-class service to buyers and sellers."

Licensed since 1996, Akins operated as a single agent working in Eugene. She built a strong referral based business through the end of the 1990's and into the early 2000's.

Realizing that her business was growing based on a delivery of great service to her clients, Akins made the decision in 2002 to open her own brokerage under the Assist-2-Sell franchise model.

While the model was one of discount pricing, Akins never sacrificed the commitment and service level to her clients. With the help of her husband, David, they were able to grow the brokerage to be nationally recognized as the third highest producing Assist-2-Sell franchise in the United States in 2005. With over 300 sales per year, the Akins took selling to the next level.

Owning the brokerage for six years and selling at the extremely high level of nearly one sold home a day for the past three years had Patti thinking about slowing down.

"David and I were ready to slow things down. We made the decision to sell the business and move to Douglas County," recalls Patti Akins. "We opened Elk Creek Real Estate as a brokerage to have and own, but in the sense that we would only help friends and family. We were ready to relax after the previous years of running an extremely busy Assist-2-Sell brokerage."

After a two-year hiatus from the real estate business, Patti felt the urge to return to selling real estate once again.

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Patti focused on building back up her real estate business and was successful in closing more than 20 transactions a year from 2013 to 2015.

The Akins were ready to own a busy and productive brokerage once again. This time, they knew they needed to affiliate with a more full service franchise.

"When I found NextHome through a Google search of real estate franchises, what I saw was fresh and innovative," said Patti.

"With the addition of the NextHome brand to our knowledge of running a previously successful brokerage, we really feel NextHome Choice Properties will be unlike any other brokerage in our market," added Patti.

"I had the pleasure of meeting Patti and David in person when they came to our NextHome Corporate office," said NextHome's Vice President of Business Development Imran Poladi. "The Akins are committed to real estate and I think they are fantastic representatives of what NextHome is all about."

When the Akins are not working, they enjoy spending time with their children and two grandchildren.

Please join us in welcoming Patti, David, and the rest of their team at NextHome Choice Properties to the NextHome family!

Interested in being a part of the NextHome Real Estate Franchise? Contact VP of Sales Charis Moreno at Charis@NextHome.com.

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About NextHome, Inc.

NextHome, Inc. is an independently owned company with a focus on changing the way consumers work with local agents and shop for real estate online. It owns the NextHome and Realty World Northern California & Northern Nevada franchise networks with over 180 offices and more than 900 agents. The company closes over 5000 transactions annually worth over \$2B in volume.

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