

metre

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LIFE

metronews.ca Thursday, July 10, 2014

The Carnaby captures cool culture



Meet the condo

- What. The Carnaby
- Builder. Streetcar Developments
- Location. Queen and Gladstone
- Website, streetcar.ca
- Pricing. From \$272,900 to \$809,900
- Suites. One bedroom lofts to penthouses
- Sizes. From 457 to 1,425 sq. ft.
- Status. Under construction
- Architect. TACT Architecture Inc.

The project overview

The Carnaby Collection includes two-storey loft condos and spacious penthouses with oversized windows and engineered hardwood flooring throughout. Kitchens feature ultracontemporary finishes, stainless steel appliances and European cabinetry.

Location and transit

Queen West and Gladstone has quickly become one of Toronto's centres of cool culture. The building is located along the TTC Queen streetcar line, minutes from the downtown core. Drivers will have quick access to the Gardiner Expressway.

In the neighbourhood

The Carnaby is within walking distance of trendy hotels, lounges and bars, the hippest nightspots, emerging restaurants and avant-garde galleries, as well as Trinity Bellwoods Park. A Metro grocery store and gallery will be situated on the ground floor.

Building amenities

A fully-appointed fitness centre, an outdoor terrace with sun lounge contemporary party room, media lounge and bar, a courtyard with a pedestrian-friendly landscaped laneway, with shopping in the ground-level retail and studios are featured.

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Code of Conduct

Reno industry still growing



BRYAN TUCKEY President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter com/bildgta, facebook.com/ bildgta, and bildblogs.ca.

Renovating is a great way to boost the value of your home, not to mention the quality of life for you and your family. That's why for the past 15 years, more and more Canadians are investing their hard-earned money into home renovations.

According to a recent study conducted by Altus Group, renovation spending in Canada has been on the rise since 1998 and doesn't appear to be slowing down any time soon. The expected annual growth is estimated at approximately three per cent per year.

Today's residential renovation industry is worth \$63.4 billion, which is approximately 3.7 per cent of the total GDP — a great example of the renovation sector's impact on the national economy.

Just in the GTA alone, the residential renovation industry is responsible for creating close to 100,000 new jobs every year, and is one of the largest employers in our region. These are well-paying, quality jobs that add up to about \$5.4 billion in wages.

Those wages are then pumped right back into the local economy as purchases, whether it's food, clothes, cars or entertainment.

Of course not all renovators are the same. I always recommend the hiring of a professional contractor to work on your home. A good place to find one is at renomark.ca — home of the national RenoMark program started by BILD back in 2001.

Every member of the RenoMark program agrees to a renovation-specific Code of Conduct which binds it to a number of obligations like providing a minimum twoyear warranty on all work, being covered by at least \$2 million worth of liability insurance and carrying all applicable licenses and permits.

If your renovator offers you a chance to save on the taxes and do the work for a cash fee, I strongly urge you to walk away. Cash jobs come with no written contract, so there's no accountability should your renovator leave you with a subpar renovation or nothing at all.

Don't fall victim to the underground economy. Millions of Canadians nationwide are already working with professional, reputable contractors and getting the most out of their homes. You should too

What's hot on the condo market



DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. Scarborough

Grand Opening: Parkwood by Monarch, three and fourbedroom east end townhomes. Check it out at 1325 Danforth Rd. at Eglinton Ave. E., July 12 from 12 to 5 p.m.

CONTACT: 416-495-3574, MONARCHGROUP.NET

2. Islington

Open House: Islington Village penthouse condo. One bedroom, one bathroom. Head on over to 7 Michael Power Pl., July 12 and 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.

CONTACT: 416-236-1871

3. Dufferin Grove

Grand Opening: Sylvan Collection urban townhomes in Dufferin Grove. Make your way to 44 Havelock St. at Sylvan Avenue, July 12 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CONTACT: 416-532-3535

4. Beaches

Open House: Beech House condos in the Beaches district. Head over the south side of Kingston Road between Beech and Balsam Avenue. July 12 from 12 to 5 p.m.

CONTACT: 416-691-9292, MITCHELL-LOFTS.COM