

Right to your front door

Condo trends. Toronto companies are catering to the market by making special home deliveries

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We all know the routine. After a seemingly never-ending day at the office, you come home to an empty fridge, too tired to cook and loathe to stand in line at the local mini-mart. With stomach rumbling, you reach for the phone. Who you gonna call? If you've been here, then some of these innovative new custom condo delivery services are for you.

In days of old, home deliv-

Kitchens for show only?

"A lot of the condo owners from my understanding; there's a large percentage of them that never turn their ovens on."

Tony Loschiavo, owner of L-EAT Express, which delivers food to your door



L-Eat Express owner Tony Loschiavo, centre, is about to begin a delivery with executive chef Christopher Palik, left, and director of operations Richard Arnold, making sure he has the complete order aboard the trike. COURTESY L'EAT EXPRESS

ery was not so uncommon. Toronto families would wake to find a newspaper, a bottle of milk and a loaf of bread waiting on their doorsteps.

It's now back in vogue with everything from doggy daycare to in-suite cleaning services,

car sharing and food delivery as savvy Toronto entrepreneurs respond to the busy lifestyles of condo dwellers.

L-EAT Express offers fast delivery service by Toronto's first and only delivery tricycle; a custom-fitted three-wheeler

with an insulated box that keeps food hot or cold while avoiding all the traffic snarls and parking nightmares traditional delivery methods entail.

According to restaurateur Tony Loschiavo, "a fully-loaded bike could probably do a de-

At your service

Don't feel like cleaning up after dinner? Just place a call.

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cent lunch for about 25 people. We have one part that's insulated for hot and cold and one part that's just room temperature."

An avid cyclist, Loschiavo will bring you your lunch anywhere in the downtown core on the well-conceived trike. "The box in the back of the bike is custom-made to take a bakery rack. They have these oversized rubber tires that can go over tracks without disturbing the load, so the whole thing off loads," he explains.

Mama Earth Organics provides fresh local and certified-organic produce with free delivery throughout the GTA. You can order online with baskets ranging from \$27.50 to \$55. Heather and Alex Billingsley have been running the service for about five years. You can see their vans all over town.

Let the party come to you

Is it beer o'clock yet?

The Steam Whistle Brewery has been doing condo delivery for ages.

"If people have a special occasion coming up they can just call the brewery and order for delivery," says marketing director Sybil

Taylor. You pay for the beer as if you were buying it at any beer store and there is a small delivery charge that goes on top of that.

"We bring it right into your living room or balcony or condo party room and set that up and then we return the next day and pick everything up and take it back to the brewery and refund

you for the keg deposit," explains Taylor.

The service includes the loan of the equipment and everything you're going to need including the draft unit itself, ice, cups and the CO2 tank, delivered and expertly deployed by Ben Taylor, Steam Whistle's friendly mobile draft expert.



Ben Taylor, Steam Whistle's mobile draft expert. COURTESY STEAM WHISTLE BREWERY