

New Toronto properties are showcasing the latest in condo amenities

Trends. Developers are competing to offer the latest and most sought-after extras



CONDO TRENDS
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From commercial-grade athletic facilities to high-tech gaming rooms to rooftop basketball courts, amenities are a big part of the condo package.

A new mid-rise on Dovercourt Road has a number of interesting offerings.

It's the little added touches that make ART condos unique. In an effort to

make all four sides of the building significant, the rear loading dock doubles as an event space.

Says Gary Silverberg, principal of Triangle West Developments, "The loading dock has been designed to also be an event space and to have the best lit loading trucks in the city. We have stage lighting there, a disco ball and a movie theatre-quality projector. We've already had a pretty big party there, I think it was 300 people that showed up."

The whole building has been wired for high-tech services. Each suite has been cabled for home theatre with connections between rooms. There's even a hookup for a projection TV in the middle of the living room.

For the gaming fanatics, Chaz condos leads the way. Jason Fane, president of 45 Charles Ltd., explains: "We have a computer gamers' arena and this is designed for the hard-core gamer. It's a facility that will have the best and latest equipment, will have the 4K video screens, the best computer games and it will be designed for having competitions."

Steve Gupta, president and CEO of Easton's Group of Companies, learned a lot about amenities from building a national hotel empire.

In his recently announced King Blue condo project in downtown Toronto, they offer a number of services to make downtown living more convenient.

"We have a fitness centre

overhanging into our courtyard on the sixth floor, with state-of-the-art equipment similar to our hotels. We have a terrace with 5,800 square feet of outdoor garden with a fire pit, waterfalls and a bar on the top of the south podium roof," says Gupta.

Royal LePage salesperson Terry Szwec talks about the amenity makeover at the "grande dame" of condos, Palace Pier, which opened 38 years ago.

"It was 37 years ahead of its time. Look at this list of features: totally new, redone salt water pool, state-of-the-art gym, tennis, roof top deck, squash, golf, pool, ping-pong, library, valet, valet parking and shuttle bus. All overlooking nine acres and the lake."



The units at ART condos come equipped with a hookup for a projection TV in the middle of the