

An Aura that's high in the sky

The project overview

The spire that will change Toronto's skyline forever, Aura is proposed to be one of the tallest residential towers in Canada. Executive suites will feature nine-foot ceilings, wood flooring, quartz countertops, french doors and magnificent views of Toronto's downtown.

● DUNCAN MCALLISTER

In the neighbourhood

Located right in the downtown core on Yonge Street, Aura features a two-storey, glass-enclosed lobby that overlooks a three acre park, and is within walking distance to major universities, hospitals, the financial district, designer shopping, restaurants and entertainment.

Building amenities

The building has a fifth floor landscaped rooftop, state of the art fitness facility and an underground parking garage. A 24-hour concierge and security controls building access and surveillance. There are three beautifully appointed suites for guests.

Location and transit

Direct underground access to the College Park subway station with a future connection to the PATH system, the building is centrally located, within walking distance to Toronto's financial district and just a short drive to the Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway.

Five-year mortgage rates

FIXED	VARIABLE	
5.69%	BMO	2.85%
5.69%	CIBC	2.85%
5.69%	HSBC	2.80%
4.24%	ICICI	2.35%
4.29%	ING	2.25%
5.69%	RBC	2.80%
5.69%	SCOTIA	2.85%
5.69%	TD	2.85%
3.89%	BROKER	2.10%

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Meet the condo

- ▶ **WHAT:** Aura at College Park
- ▶ **BUILDER:** Canderel
- ▶ **LOCATION:** Yonge Street and Gerrard Street
- ▶ **WEBSITE:** collegeparkcondos.com
- ▶ **PHONE:** 416-962-8688
- ▶ **SIZES:** From 2,335 to 11,370 sq. ft.
- ▶ **PRICING:** From \$2,237,600 to \$17.5M



▶ Aura features a fifth floor landscaped rooftop.

Real news. Toronto



MOUNTAIN VIEWS COME WITH A HEFTY PRICE TAG

Rooftop Surfing

STEPHEN DUPUIS

HOME@METRONEWS.CA



I was in Vancouver last week checking out the high-rise condo development scene in advance of a pending housing study tour by Toronto condo developers, designers and marketers.

The selection of Vancouver as the tour destination was no accident, considering that it is the second

most active high-rise market in North America and the fourth most active housing market overall (the GTA is tops on both counts).

If there is one project in particular that drew us to Vancouver, it's The Village, the 1,200-unit community built for the athletes competing in the 2010 Winter Olympics and now on the market.

With the Pan-Am Games set for Toronto in 2015, it's worth learning from Vancouver's experience, especially since we need over 2,000 units here (yes, the Pan-Am Games are bigger than the Winter Olympics).

Another factor that drew us to Vancouver is the number of sustainability features built into their condos, which our builders are always keen to study. I was surprised at just how much geo-

thermal heating/cooling is tapped there, not to mention the ubiquitous green roofs. We even saw a net-zero energy consuming building at The Village, which is the ultimate expression of green building.

A fourth reason to check out Vancouver is their allowance of six storey wood frame construction, something Ontario is considering, and which our association is encouraging as a mid-rise building alternative. Our builders are always looking for ways to reduce construction costs and very anxious to talk to the Vancouver builders about this option.

There's one area where Vancouver does come first, and that's in price. Those mountain views come with a hefty price tag, but that's one idea we'll do our best to leave behind.