

# A breath of fresh design

CONTRIBUTED

## The project overview

These elegant boutique condo-styled, two-storey townhomes and maisonettes will have unique features such as glassed-in suite corridors with floor to ceiling windows and a car elevator for underground parking.

● DUNCAN MCALLISTER

## Five-year mortgage rates

FIXED		VARIABLE
5.39%	BMO	2.85%
5.39%	CIBC	2.85%
5.39%	HSBC	2.80%
3.69%	ICICI	2.35%
3.69%	ING	2.25%
5.39%	RBC	3.00%
5.39%	SCOTIA	2.50%
5.39%	TD	2.85%
3.39%	BROKER	2.10%

RATES MAY VARY BY PROVINCE. RATESUPERMARKET.CA FOR THE BEST RATES IN YOUR AREA.

## Meet the condo

- ▶ **WHAT:** O2 Maisonettes
- ▶ **BUILDER:** Empire Communities, Identity Developments, Stal Inc.
- ▶ **LOCATION:** YShuter and George Streets
- ▶ **WEBSITE:** O2toronto.com
- ▶ **PHONE:** 416-979-1333
- ▶ **SIZES:** From 540 to 2,050 sq. ft.
- ▶ **PRICING:** From \$379,900 to \$1,249,900

## Location and transit

Centrally located in Toronto's eastern downtown between both the Queen and Dundas streetcar lines and just a short distance from the Yonge subway. It's a fifteen minute walk to the business core, and commuters can choose between the nearby Don Valley Parkway or the Gardiner Expressway.

## In the neighbourhood

Shops and dining are close by on eclectic Queen Street East, and there's plenty to see and do just west towards Yonge Street. The Maisonettes overlook Moss Park and are close to historic Allan Gardens.

## Building amenities

Featuring a professionally equipped exercise room, a seasonal courtyard of natural plantings, chic seating and barbecue areas accessible from the third floor lounge area with fireplace and kitchenette. Most suites feature private balconies and imported Italian finishes.



▶ O2 Maisonettes feature exposed concrete columns and floating open-riser staircases.

## Real news. Toronto

- Reve Condos, Coming Soon to Front and Bathurst, Call 416-514-2710 or visit tridel.com/reve**
- Now Open, 2 St. Thomas St., Call 416-759-2222 or visit thestthomas.com to register.**
- Downtown Townhome, Open House at 325 Jarvis St., Unit 33, August 27 from 2-5 p.m., Call 416-485-2374**
- Condo Open House, 18 Concorde Pl., Unit 614, August 27-28 from 2-4 p.m., Call 416-443-0300**
- Open House, Condo at 55 East Liberty, Unit 2102, August 28 from 1-4 p.m., Call 416-762-8255**

● DUNCAN MCALLISTER

# FOUR SEASONS TO GTA NEW HOME MARKET

## ROOFTOP SURFING



STEPHEN DUPUIS  
HOME  
@METRONEWS.CA

Nothing says fall more than the CNE, so I guess we can start talking about the fall housing market, assuming we will be able to tell the difference from the hot summer market, which was itself a continuation of a very strong spring market.

There used to be the notion of a spring and fall new housing market in the GTA but over the last several years, the market has been active at any time depending upon when builders choose to release new

low-rise communities or condo buildings.

As it happens this year, builders chose the summer to launch new projects resulting in a 36 per cent increase in new home sales in July, following a 54 per cent increase in June, according to RealNet Canada Inc.

In July, it was sales of new single-detached, semi-detached and townhomes in the 905 Regions that led the way, with sales up 64 per cent over the previous July.

The highrise market was also up by a very respectable 20 per cent compared with July 2010.

While the low-rise market was strong across the board (except for Durham Region), the highrise strength was concentrated in Toronto, as usual, but also in York

Region, predominantly Markham, where high-rise sales more than doubled, up 132 per cent over last July.

Whereas the regions have accounted for just 23 per cent of highrise sales so far this year, that percentage jumped to 42 per cent last month.

Based on my various sources, August sales, which will be reported around this time in September, will look a lot like June and July, confirming my view that we now have a four seasons housing market in the Greater Toronto Area.

STEPHEN DUPUIS IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (BILD) AND CAN BE FOUND ON TWITTER (TWITTER.COM/BILDGTA), FACEBOOK (FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA), AND BILD'S OFFICIAL ONLINE BLOG (BILDBLOGS.CA).