

newhomes

More than the market

St. Lawrence about lifestyle

LISA VAN DE VEN
Steps Away

It's in the heart of the St. Lawrence Market," developer Sam Crignano says of his aptly named condominium project, The St. Lawrence. But the market's not all the neighbourhood has going for it — a local himself, Crignano is a fan of the lifestyle on offer there, as well as its rich history. "It's where Toronto started," says the president of Cityzen Development, which partnered with Fernbrook Homes on the building. The downtown east community is not far from the Gardiner Expressway, while the Financial District and waterfront are within walking distance. All of which has made it popular with developers, as well. "There's hardly any developable land left there now," Crignano says. "I continually scout that marketplace for opportunities, but there are fewer and fewer."

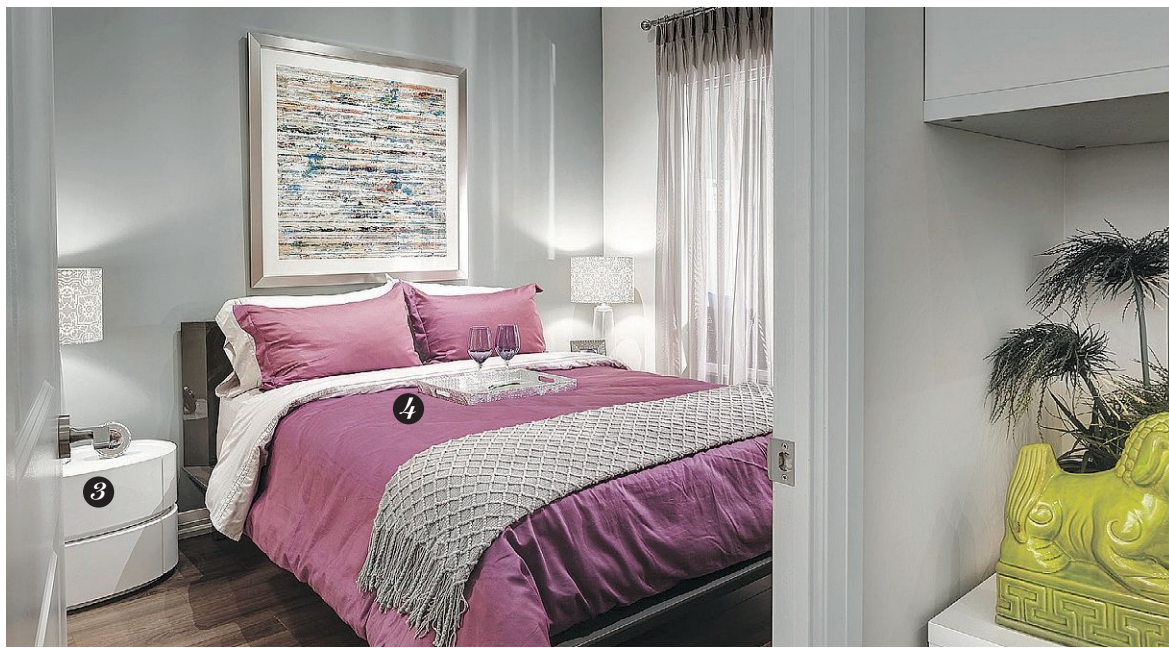
150 Steps George Brown College is just a three-minute walk from the site — or, the King streetcar is a two-minute stroll. You don't need to take transit for food and drink, though, not with so many restaurants nearby. There's George Brown's culinary school restaurant The Chefs' House, brunch favourite Petit Déjeuner, or Hiro Sushi for fish lovers.

250 Steps Who needs to dine out, though, with so much fresh food to choose from? For home cooks, St. Lawrence Market is a treasure trove of options. "It's not the same as shopping at the (grocery stores) — it's a completely different experience," Crignano says. "The convenience of it is great." Another neighbourhood highlight is the nearby St. James Park — a great place to enjoy a breath of fresh air or a spot of people watching.

500 Steps One can't exist on good food alone — so it's nice to know cultural experiences are also plentiful in the neighbourhood. Canadian Stage, The Sony Centre for the Performing Arts and the St. Lawrence Centre are all easy to walk to. Or catch the latest flick at the Rainbow Cinemas Market Square. But if you do want to eat before the show, maybe make a stop at one of Crignano's favourite restaurants, Biff's Bistro, 10 minutes from the project.

Suites at The St. Lawrence range from 519 to 1,435 sq. ft. and start at \$331,400. The sales office is at 132 Front St., Toronto. Monday to Thursday noon to 6 p.m., weekends noon to 5 p.m. Call 647-351-0158 or visit thestlawrence.ca.

National Post



Pads that pop

ME2 MODEL TARGETS FIRST-TIME BUYERS WITHOUT SKIMPING ON STYLE LISA VAN DE VEN

"It's vibrant and youthful," Paul Davies says of the model suite he and his team designed at ME2. And for good reason — young buyers were their primary target market when styling the one-bedroom-plus-den space. Bright pops of mauve create a cheerful vibe in the open-concept unit, grounded by an otherwise neutral palette of grey, white and silver, with brown laminate flooring and kitchen cabinetry to add warmth. All the finishes are standard, creating an affordable living environment meant to inspire new buyers. "Most of the things in there are very budget oriented, so people could feel like they could afford," says the vice-president of Tanner Hill Associates. Suites at ME2, by Lash Group, range from 402 to 907 square feet and are priced from \$189,990. To register for the project, call 416-430-0003 or visit melivingcondos.ca.

1 Even when you're on a budget, sometimes you can splurge — and that's what Davies did with this glass-and-chrome TV console from Bernhardt Interiors. "That's one of the pricier items," he says, but he saved money on the mauve-and-white lacquer corner unit, purchased at Ikea.

2 "It easily fits four," Davies says of this sectional sofa, featuring mauve upholstery and large accent pillows. "The furniture isn't undersized — there's enough space that it's full-sized furniture." He uses a silver shag area rug to anchor the living space and add texture to the room.

3 The white lacquer accents from the living room show up again in the bedroom — specifically in these modular nightstands from Zuo. Glass lamps with soft grey shades add subtle pattern to the space. "We didn't want to go over the top," Davies adds.

4 A queen-size wenge bed has drawers underneath to add extra storage — while mauve bedding makes the space pop, with white and grey accents for contrast. A colourful but "not too powerful" abstract print creates a focal point above, Davies says, without pulling from the rest of the room.

MORTGAGE RATES 10.26.16

RATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SELECTION OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS MAY VARY WEEKLY. FIGURES SUPPLIED BY FISCAL AGENTS

	Variable rate	6months	1yr	2yr	3yr	4yr	5yr		Variable rate	6months	1yr	2yr	3yr	4yr	5yr
BANK															
ATB Financial	2.40	4.10 - 4.10op	3.04 - 4.10op	2.39 - 4.10op	2.54	2.59	2.59	Effort Trust	n/a	4.45 - 6.30op	3.35 - 6.30op	3.50 - n/aop	3.70	4.30	4.35
Alterra Bank	2.45	4.00 - 6.30op	2.79 - 6.30op	2.69 - n/aop	2.49	2.69	2.48	Home Trust	2.25	3.95 - n/aop	2.69 - n/aop	2.14 - n/aop	2.34	2.59	2.49
Bank of Montreal	2.70	n/a - 6.95op	3.09 - 6.95op	3.19 - n/aop	3.59	4.09	2.59	Investors Group Trust	n/a	4.20 - 6.50op	3.14 - 6.30op	3.09 - n/aop	3.39	3.89	2.45
Bank of Nova Scotia	2.90	4.55 - 6.45op	3.29 - 6.50op	3.09 - n/aop	3.39	3.89	4.49	MTCC	2.90	4.55 - 6.45op	3.29 - 6.50op	3.09 - n/aop	3.39	3.89	4.49
Canadian Western Bank	n/a	4.00 - 6.45op	3.14 - 6.30op	3.04 - n/aop	3.65	4.20	4.74	OTHER							
CIBC	2.70	n/a - 6.95op	2.84 - 6.35op	2.79 - n/aop	2.44	4.09	4.79	Alterra Savings	2.45	4.00 - 6.30op	2.79 - 6.30op	2.69 - n/aop	2.49	2.69	2.48
Equitable Bank		n/a	3.14	3.04	3.65	4.39	4.64	Comtech Fire C.U.	2.45	6.20 - 6.40op	2.84 - 6.30op	2.89 - n/aop	2.95	2.99	2.89
HSBC Bank Canada	2.79	4.45 - 6.20op	3.14 - 6.35op	2.70 - n/aop	3.39	4.09	2.70	DUCA Credit Union	2.50	n/a - n/aop	2.89 - 5.75op	2.79 - n/aop	2.79	2.99	2.44
ICICI Bank Canada	2.75	n/a - n/aop	2.84 - n/aop	2.84 - n/aop	2.84	2.89	2.89	First Calgary Financial	2.70	4.00 - 6.30op	2.89 - 6.30op	2.89 - n/aop	2.44	2.79	2.54
Manulife Bank	2.60	4.45 - n/aop	3.00 - 3.20op	2.94 - n/aop	2.84	2.79	2.89	First National Fin. LP	n/a	3.10 - n/aop	2.29 - n/aop	2.24 - n/aop	2.39	2.49	2.59
National Bank	n/a	4.40 - 6.70op	3.14 - 6.70op	3.04 - n/aop	3.39	2.64	2.74	Industrial Alliance/IAP		n/a		3.54	3.29	3.19	3.39
President's Choice Finan	2.70	n/a - n/aop	n/a - n/aop	2.79 - n/aop	3.34	3.99	4.44	Luminus Financial	3.25	n/a - n/aop	3.25 - 6.25op	3.20 - n/aop	3.65	4.00	4.50
Royal Bank	2.60	n/a - 6.75op	3.14 - 6.75op	2.34 - n/aop	2.44	4.39	4.64	Meridian Credit Union	2.40	4.00 - n/aop	2.84 - 6.30op	2.79 - n/aop	2.64	3.89	2.44
TD Canada Trust	2.60	n/a - n/aop	2.99 - 6.30op	2.84 - n/aop	3.39	2.39	2.59	PACE Savings & C.U.	n/a	5.00 - 6.70op	2.99 - 6.30op	2.69 - n/aop	3.49	3.99	4.54
Tangerine	2.70	n/a - n/aop	3.19 - n/aop	3.24 - n/aop	3.49	3.69	3.79	Parama Credit Union	2.65	n/a - n/aop	2.80 - 2.95op	2.85 - n/aop	2.95	3.05	3.15
TRUST LOAN															
Community Trust		6.50	3.14	3.25	3.95	4.39	4.64	Steinbach Credit Union	2.25	n/a - n/aop	2.39 - n/aop	2.39 - n/aop	2.39	2.49	2.49

*Also offer 7- to 10-year mortgages. op = open mortgage. n.a. = not available from company. ro = renewals only dashes (-) mean companies not quoting at present.



Price range: \$334,900 to \$584,900
Location: Queen West and Dovercourt Road, Toronto

QUEEN WEST
Located close to the Drake Hotel and a short walk from Trinity Bellwoods Park, Epic is a West Queen Street West condominium project.
Builder/developer Plaza
What's new The site is built, with occupancy underway.
Type 20-storey condo
Suites One-bedroom to three-bedroom layouts
Size 405 to 1,050 sq. ft.
Occupancy Immediate
Features Granite kitchen counters, stainless steel appliances, laminate flooring
Amenities Gym, boardroom, patio, three guest suites
Sales office 48 Abell St., Toronto. Monday to Thursday noon to 6 p.m., Friday by appointment and weekends 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 647-347-6680 or visit pureplaza.com.
L.V., National Post



Price range: From \$1 million
Location: Lebovic Campus Drive and Ilan Ramon Boulevard, Thornhill

THORNHILL
Now in registration, Real-Towns Thornhill will include 79 contemporary townhouses with exteriors of stone, brick, precast, stucco and aluminum; and private backyards and front-drive garages.

Builder/developer Madison Homes
Type Three-storey freehold and condo townhouses
Suites Three- and four-bedroom layouts
Size 2,168 to 2,730 sq. ft.
Occupancy August 2018
Features Ten-foot main-floor ceilings, engineered oak hardwood on main level.
Amenities Close to the Schwartz/Reisman Centre and the Joseph & Wolf Lebovic Jewish Community Campus.
Sales office To register, visit madisonhomes.ca.
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Real Estate
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