



Amico debuts boutique condo in Georgetown

Amico has just announced the launch of Georgetown's highly anticipated boutique condominium. This fall, Amico will be inviting prospective buyers to the official Grand Opening of 42 Mill St., adding a new high-rise presence to Uptown Georgetown.

Amico assembled a team of leaders for the development of 42 Mill St. including contemporary Toronto-based interior design firm Tomas Pearce as well as the renowned Chicago-based Holabird & Root Architects, a leading architectural firm since its founding in 1880.

Contemporary and distinguished in its design, 42 Mill St. is priced from the mid \$400,000s. Homebuyers can choose from one, two and three-bedroom designs with suites up to 1,900 square feet.

Exuding charm and sophisticated style, 42 Mill St., offers open-concept floor plans, custom built European kitchens with integrated appliances, engineered hardwood flooring and exclusive access to electric car charging stations within the building.

Garden suites at 42 Mill St. will feature private outdoor space while tower suites and penthouse suites will boast large balconies and terraces. Residents will enjoy state-of-the-art amenities including a large fitness centre, an outdoor patio with BBQ, and an indoor party room with adjacent business lounge.

Located at Mill Street and Highway 7 - adjacent to the Lions Club Park, 42 Mill St. will be surrounded by an array of social and recreational amenities including schools, the Halton Hills Public Library and The Club at North Halton. Residents will also have access to Georgetown Farmer's Market, scenic trails including the Georgetown's Silver Creek Trail and the Terra Cotta Conservation Area.

Joining local community events and festivities has always been a part of Amico's culture. On Sept. 16, Amico was a sponsor of the Head for the Hills Craft Beer Festival in Georgetown.

The site is only a five-minute walk to Downtown Georgetown and the Georgetown GO station, and 55 minutes by direct train to Union Station in Toronto.



HOWARD BOGACH
YOUR
NEW HOME

Tarion is committed to protecting new homes for Ontarians — but we usually leave the construction of those homes to others.

Last month however, a team of Tarion employees put on hard hats and picked up hammers to help build homes for two deserving families in London, Ont.

The homes are being built by Habitat for Humanity, an international, non-profit organization that recognizes the need for affordable housing and whose vision is a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. Tarion's relationship with Habitat for Humanity

goes back over 20 years to when they first became registered new home builders in Ontario.

Our connection, however, does not end there. Since 1993, we have waived enrolment fees for over 1,000 of their homes, which amounts to more than \$520,000 in savings.

Enrolment fees are what builders pay to register every new house or condominium unit in Ontario's new home warranty program.

For the past ten years, Tarion has raised enough funds to send a group of employees to participate in a Habitat for Humanity build.

This year, we were helping to build homes for the Cooper and Kassa families.

The Coopers came to Canada in 2005 after fleeing a civil war in Liberia. They and their five children currently live in a tiny, cramped apartment. Their new home, while still

modest in size, will provide them with a lot more space to grow and thrive together.

The Kassa family consists of a single mother and her two adult children, one of whom has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair. The apartment they currently live in has numerous issues and was not designed for people with disabilities.

The Kassa's new home will be equipped with accessibility features that will enable the daughter to move more freely and allow her mother to more easily care for her.

I was able to catch up with a few of the employees who took part in the build and ask them about their experience. Despite being tired and a little achy, all of them said they would do it again.

One employee told me he now has a better appreciation for the hard

work and craftsmanship that goes into building a new home.

Another said she felt honoured to play a part in these families' homeownership story.

Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity is a rewarding and educational experience for staff and a crucial part of Tarion's culture as a caring organization that is committed to building better communities across the province.

We are very proud to have helped the Coopers and Kassa's make their dreams of owning a new home a reality, and we look forward to next year's build.

— Howard Bogach is president and CEO of Tarion Warranty Corp. which protects the rights of new home buyers and regulates new home builders. Visit www.tarion.com.

Oakville woman 'a great leader' among construction program grads



RICHARD LYALL
RESCON

When Katherine Frankovich was an urban planning student at the University of Waterloo, her dorm roommates and neighbours turned to her to fix their broken furniture and fixtures.

"I've always been good working with my hands. I go to Home Depot and ask a lot of questions," she explains, grinning widely.

Fast-forward five years and a few different jobs, and the 25-year-old Oakville woman eventually found her niche — through a specialized carpentry program called Women in Skilled Trades (WIST), at Burlington's Centre for Skills Development and Training.

Since 2002, more than 200 students have graduated from the WIST program; more than 80% of them find a job in their chosen career within six months, says Lorna Hart, the Centre's business development manager. The curriculum is split 70/30 between practical learning and theory.

Now, Frankovich is one month away from graduating the 29-week program and on her way to burning a trail for women in the construction trades. You'll hear some people say that this career is still a man's world, but don't tell that to Frankovich, says Lawrence Farrell, the Centre's lead construction department instructor, who says she thrives on site through her soft skills.

"She's a great leader, very kind and always ready to help out," Farrell says. "All of the students respect her and many turn to her for help. She's the student every teacher wants to teach and the kind of employee



RESCON VP Andrew Pariser, left, with carpentry student Katherine Frankovich after she won the RESCON Women in Skilled Trades scholarship with the Centre's Lisa Rizzato, RESCON's Amina Dibe and instructor Lawrence Farrell.

every employer wants to have," Farrell says. He adds that her drywalling skills are the top of the class, and she quickly and deftly hung a door during a recent tricky workshop.

After finishing at the Centre, Frankovich wants to work for a small-scale residential construction company completing custom build and renovations while also completing her apprenticeship.

On top of that, she hopes to be an advocate for women in carpentry and construction and provide mentorship to other women pursuing a career in the skilled trades.

"I want to pay it forward. I've had amazing instructors here who gave us the tools to frame our future. If I can be a mentor and take someone under my wing, that will be great. I'll use Instagram and social media, which can be great networking tools to use to get immediate feedback,

and make myself as accessible as possible. I'm going to be honest about what it takes to succeed."

Despite juggling two jobs and schooling with a heavy practical component, Frankovich has displayed an exceptional amount of passion for residential construction — she was a shoe-in as the recipient of a scholarship provided by our association, the Residential Construction Council of Ontario. Shrugging off the challenge of working and learning simultaneously, she says: "Eight months is a flash in the pan over the course of your life."

Amina Dibe, RESCON's government and external relations adviser, presented the bursary to Frankovich at an award ceremony earlier this week for the graduates (Thursday, Sept. 28). Dibe said she was impressed with this year's crop of graduates.

"It was a diverse group in terms of age, ethnicity and experience," Dibe says. "We're proud to help the growth of the WIST program, which gives these women a chance for a second career and opens the door to a new future."

After the ceremony, Lisa Rizzato, chief administrative officer of the Centre, was glowing in the event's happy aftermath. She said of Frankovich: "We look forward to having her back here to speak to another group of students about her own success."

And we look forward to watching as she burns a trail for more women to follow.

— Richard Lyall, president of RESCON, has represented the building industry in Ontario since 1991. He is also a frequent speaker and writer on issues related to the construction industry. Visit rescon.com.