

newhomes

Panda comes to city centre

LISA VAN DE VEN
Steps Away

When it comes to the location of Panda Condominiums, “it’s really at the heart of everything,” says Brian Brown, principal with Lifetime Developments. His team sought out the project’s downtown Yonge Street and Dundas Street location — the site of the former World’s Biggest Bookstore — for just that reason, loving its easy access to everything from transit to shopping, and from event spaces to the financial core. “It’s the first site that we’ve done that actually achieved a 100 Walk Score and a 100 Transit Score,” he says. That’s been an appealing prospect for buyers across demographics, whether they be young students, investors, or move-up purchasers wanting an easier commute to work. “It’s a very prime location in the downtown core,” Brown says. “So it caters to different types of groups.”

50 Steps Panda residents won’t have to worry about walking far in the cold. “If you walk directly across the street you have access to Atrium on Bay, which is a great office building but also has access to the TTC and to the PATH connection as well,” Brown says. Get to the Dundas subway station or walk farther downtown — all while staying warm.

200 Steps “There are a number of buyers we’ve been dealing with that have been buying for the purposes of their children that are going to be going to Ryerson,” Brown says. As well as being a selling point, Panda’s proximity to the university has helped drive the amenity spaces, which will include study rooms and an outdoor sports court. “We needed to think about what was attractive to them and what was useful to them, and what they would appreciate having in their own building,” Brown says.

250 Steps The Eaton Centre may be one of the city’s most popular tourist attractions, but it also promises to be pretty handy. Shop for the perfect outfit, or eat at restaurants like JOEY or Trattoria Mercatto. If you choose to leave the mall, there’s also shopping along Yonge Street, as well as the Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Dundas, Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre, and Massey Hall — all a quick walk away. Or you can take in an event at Yonge-Dundas Square. “I would say that’s the most prominent and most important square the city has, and it’s a lively and active space that’s always being used for different purposes,” Brown says.

Suites at Panda Condominiums range from 458 to 1,035 square feet and from \$530,900 to \$1,249,900. The sales office is at 3080 Yonge St., Suite 3056, Toronto, and open Monday to Thursday from noon to 6 p.m. and weekends from noon to 5 p.m. Call 416-927-8980 or visit pandacondos.com.

National Post



Bold and edgy

‘HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR’ MODEL HOME PUTS DRAMATIC IN SPOTLIGHT BY LISA VAN DE VEN

Who needs the Oscar red carpet? Designer Andrew Pike brought Los Angeles straight to Breslau in the “Hollywood Glamour” model home he designed at Empire Riverland, near Kitchener-Waterloo. “Hollywood glamour, for me, is really bold, edgy and dramatic,” says the principal designer at Andrew Pike Interiors. And the house — one of five models at the site — lives up to its name, with accents of striking black and opulent gold, all set against a more neutral soft grey and white backdrop. Calling the home “very luxurious,” Pike says it’s perfect for a young family, but maybe one less interested in playing it safe. “I wanted to do a home that was younger and edgier, and not as traditional,” he says. “To do something that was very graphic but warm.” Houses at Riverland, by Empire Communities, range from 1,345 to 3,238 square feet and start in the low \$400,000s. To register, visit empirecommunities.com.

1 Slab oak cabinetry is stained an ebony tone, offering a dramatic and moody backdrop to the home’s kitchen. Providing contrast and lightening it up are grey floors and a matching hexagon ceramic tile backsplash. “That keeps the cabinets from feeling too heavy,” Pike says.

2 Complementing the home’s Hollywood style, the kitchen’s black quartz countertops are accented with gold accessories. Gold CB2 stools and matte black pendant lights with gold interiors also add some extra bling. “I love the black and the gold together, I think it’s so sharp,” Pike says.

3 “When you find a bed that goes perfectly with your colour scheme you jump on it,” Pike says. And this grand king-sized four-poster bed definitely makes an impact. The designer contrasted it with a white bedspread, while gold trim and a black accent pillow tie everything together.

4 While grey tones are prominent in the master bedroom — with a charcoal bench and grey loveseat — there’s still plenty of gold to go around. Metallic gold sheers line the windows, there’s gold-and-black artwork on the wall, and a gold-toned shelf offers space for even more gold accessories.

MORTGAGE RATES 02.03.18

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								Home Trust	2.60	n/a - n/aop	3.59 - n/aop	3.04 - n/aop	3.39	3.39	3.24
ATB Financial	3.00	4.50 - 4.50op	3.09 - 4.50op	3.19 - 4.50op	3.34	3.39	3.39	Investors Group Trust	n/a	4.20 - 6.80op	3.35 - 7.10op	3.35 - n/aop	3.74	4.24	3.54
Alterna Bank	3.15	4.00 - 6.95op	3.29 - 6.30op	3.24 - n/aop	3.29	3.25	3.35	MTCC	3.65	4.75 - 6.95op	3.69 - 6.70op	3.49 - n/aop	3.94	4.29	5.14
Bank of Montreal	3.40	n/a - 7.10op	3.29 - 7.10op	3.50 - n/aop	4.05	3.19	3.49	OTHER							
Bank of Nova Scotia	3.65	4.75 - 6.95op	3.69 - 6.70op	3.49 - n/aop	3.94	4.29	5.14	Alterna Savings	3.20	4.00 - 6.95op	3.29 - 6.30op	3.24 - n/aop	3.29	3.39	3.39
CIBC	3.45	n/a - 7.25op	3.29 - 6.35op	3.24 - n/aop	3.64	3.44	4.99	Comtech Fire C.U.	3.20	6.20 - 6.40op	3.05 - 6.30op	3.10 - n/aop	3.15	3.20	3.29
Equitable Bank		n/a	3.34	3.39	3.95	4.89	5.14	DUCA Credit Union	2.99	n/a - n/aop	3.54 - 5.75op	3.54 - n/aop	3.64	3.74	3.49
HSBC Bank Canada	2.69	3.69 - 6.75op	3.24 - 6.35op	2.99 - n/aop	3.49	4.29	3.19	First Calgary Financial	3.20	4.09 - 6.95op	3.24 - 7.00op	3.24 - n/aop	3.29	3.34	3.44
ICICI Bank Canada	3.50	n/a - n/aop	3.19 - n/aop	3.19 - n/aop	3.29	3.39	3.44	First National Fin. LP	n/a	3.99 - n/aop	4.09 - n/aop	3.74 - n/aop	3.54	3.59	3.59
Manulife Bank	3.45	4.45 - n/aop	3.24 - 3.95op	3.34 - n/aop	3.44	3.54	3.64	Industrial Alliance/IAP			3.79	3.69	3.59	3.94	3.49
National Bank	n/a	4.40 - 6.70op	3.34 - 6.70op	3.59 - n/aop	4.15	3.49	3.54	Luminus Financial	4.00	n/a - n/aop	4.10 - 6.25op	4.20 - n/aop	4.35	4.50	4.99
Royal Bank	3.45	n/a - 7.25op	3.09 - 7.25op	3.19 - n/aop	3.34	3.44	3.54	Meridian Credit Union	3.05	n/a - n/aop	3.04 - 6.30op	3.14 - n/aop	3.39	3.89	3.39
Simplii Financial	3.45	n/a - n/aop	n/a - n/aop	3.24 - n/aop	3.59	3.39	4.64	PACE Savings & C.U.	n/a	4.75 - n/aop	3.34 - n/aop	3.59 - n/aop	4.15	4.89	5.14
TD Canada Trust	3.00	n/a - n/aop	3.04 - 4.50op	3.24 - n/aop	3.34	3.44	5.14	Parama Credit Union	3.40	n/a - n/aop	3.09 - 3.29op	3.19 - n/aop	3.29	3.49	3.69
Tangerine	2.95	n/a - n/aop	3.29 - n/aop	3.09 - n/aop	3.14	3.24	3.34	Steinbach Credit Union	2.95	n/a - n/aop	3.09 - n/aop	3.19 - n/aop	3.29	3.39	3.49
TRUST LOAN															
Community Trust		6.50	3.34	3.59	4.15	4.89	5.14								
Effort Trust	n/a	4.50 - 6.30op	4.00 - 6.30op	4.10 - n/aop	4.15	4.60	4.85								

*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.

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