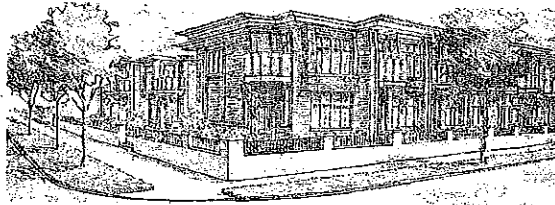


Real Estate

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ON SITE » VICTORIA



Town homes draw cross-continent commuters

BY THOMASINA BARNES

New residents at Three Point Properties' the Breakwater in Victoria are going to great lengths to maintain their island lifestyle — including a commute to Toronto.

While business meetings send them to Toronto several times a month, Karen Banks and Mike McDonald would rather sacrifice their time than their standard of living.

"With airplanes and the Internet, it doesn't matter where I live in terms of business. In terms of lifestyle, it matters a lot," says Ms. Banks.

The Breakwater is a 19-unit luxury town home development on Victoria's Dallas Road promenade. While the adjacent seaside pathway attracted the runner/cyclist side of Ms. Banks, her inner urbanite was pleasantly surprised by Victoria's downtown, which is just a short walk away. "We were surprised at all the great restaurants and pubs," she says.

The town home interiors have two distinct styles: contemporary, with CaesarStone quartz surfaces, fractured glass accents, stainless steel detailing and maple flooring, or traditional, with walnut floors, granite, porcelain tiles and

THE BREAKWATER

DEVELOPER: Three Point Properties

PRICE: \$879,000 to \$1,199,000

SIZE: 1,830 sq. ft. to 2,100 sq. ft. plus garage

SALES CENTRE: 50 Dallas Road, Victoria

CONTACT: 250-384-8124 or www.thebreakwater.ca

classic travertine.

The brick homes are designed for simplicity of ownership, says agent Ian Brown of Pemberton Holmes. "These town houses are perfect for people who go away in the winter, because the care is low maintenance but the feel is of a single family dwelling."

Ms. Banks agrees. "It's lock-and-leave, which is important because we travel so much."

"The idea behind the Breakwater was to create a responsible development that fit into the surrounding neighbourhood," Mr. Brown says.

"This development has a low impact on the community. The height and timeless look help it to blend into what is already a beautiful neighbourhood."