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Be the judge in BILD's annual People's Choice awards

Cast your vote and help choose the winning new home for 2018, writes Dave Wilkes



Transit City in Vaughan, with a YMCA and transit hub next door, is up for a People's Choice Award. (CENTRECOURT DEVELOPMENTS)

By **DAVE WILKES** BILD President & CEO
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We all have opinions about the homes, condos, lofts and town homes being built in the GTA. BILD is inviting you to share your perspective and help pick a home that will receive a very special award.

Through our annual BILD Awards program, we celebrate the excellence and innovation our members strive for, from building high-quality homes, offices and complete communities, to creating cutting-edge architecture and design, to producing inspired sales and marketing campaigns. Our jury of industry experts chooses from hundreds of noteworthy submissions those that will receive the 51 BILD Awards at our spring gala.

And it's even more meaningful for our members to be recognized by the very people for whom they build homes and communities: the people of the GTA. That's why People's Choice is one of the most coveted categories in the BILD Awards. We'd like you to help pick this year's recipient.

Start by visiting www.bildpca.ca for the full list of finalists, project names and locations, the builders and short descriptions and images. The following eight projects vying for the title were shortlisted from the BILD Awards finalists in the Mid/High-Rise Project of the Year and Low-Rise Project of the Year categories.

The Plant condo in Toronto's Queen West area, by Windmill Development Group and Curated Properties, is designed with the urban cook and gardener in mind, providing rooftop container gardens, an internal greenhouse and food preparation and event hosting amenities.

Another finalist is Tridel's Via Bloor at the intersection of Bloor and Parliament Sts., a mixed-use development that will include two condo towers as well as a new retail promenade and a large public park. Also by Tridel, Auberge on the Park at Leslie St. and Eglinton Ave., will comprise three towers with blarger suites designed for family living across the street from Sunnybrook Park.

At Transit City in Vaughan, a condo by SmartCentres and CentreCourt Developments, residents can work out at the purpose-built YMCA next door before catching the subway to work, then enjoy dinner in the lobby restaurant at the end of the day.

In Richmond Hill, Richlands by TACC Developments, Arista Homes, Deco Homes, Fieldgate Homes, and OPUS Homes, will be a family-friendly community of detached, semi-detached and freehold townhomes with a community park and school at its centre.

Trendi, an urban townhome community in the heart of Markham, by Treasure Hill Home Corp., will offer space for growing families and a location close to GO Transit. Also by Treasure Hill, Time Village in Aurora will be a midrise development with affordable units for first-time buyers.

Rounding off the list of People's Choice Award contenders, King George School Lofts and Town Homes, by The Rose Corporation, will repurpose one of downtown Newmarket's oldest properties into condominium lofts surrounded by two-storey townhomes.

Pick a project that you find attractive, excellent or innovative for any reason. Check them out at www.bildpca.ca, and cast your vote by March 31 for your chance to win a \$250 pre-paid VISA card. Watch our Twitter feed, @bildgta, on May 4, when we announce the award winners.

Dave Wilkes is President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), the voice of the home building, land development and professional renovation industry in the GTA. For the latest industry news and new home data, follow BILD on Twitter, @bildgta, or visit www.bildgta.ca.



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