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Transit City in Vaughan will feature residential, retail and social amenities



The condos range in price from the \$300,000s to \$500,000s. *Supplied*

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Cool digs, easy access to transportation and affordability all combine to make Transit City's latest condo offering perfect for millennials.

The one- and two-bedroom condos in Vaughan, just north of Toronto, range in price from the \$300,000s to \$500,000s.

"When the downtown entry point is half a million dollars for a one-bedroom unit, and a million for two bedrooms, then there's an affordability issue," says Shamez Virani, president of CentreCourt, which developed and built Transit City's two residential towers.

Known for Toronto developments such as Axis Condos on Church St., Grid Condos by the Dundas St. E. and Jarvis St. intersection, and Core Condos at Shuter and Dalhousie streets, CentreCourt is used to working on downtown projects.



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Investment Trust, which is the main developer.



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Goldhar originally bought the 100-acre parcel of land, which is now home to Transit City, back in 1996. At the time, there was nothing but a network of highways, including 400 and 7, and one outlet mall after another in the area. And he thought he'd build more retail.

But when Vaughan decided to develop the intersection by his property as a future node for public transit, plus high-density residential and commercial growth – he changed his mind.

The turnabout, says Goldhar, gave him “a rare opportunity to do something really special. The government did its part to create a green belt and a policy to protect the moraine, with high-density areas intended to curtail the sprawl of the city.”

And now that vision is starting to come together. Once complete, Transit City will be a mixed-use community where people can live, work and play...

The key to master-planned communities is having a mix of commercial, retail, residential, and social amenities such as community centres, parks, libraries schools and, of course, access to transit, says architect Don Schmitt. He points to Don Mills (in North York), Guildwood (in Scarborough) and Cornell (in the north-east pocket of Markham) as examples in the GTA.

Schmitt's firm, Diamond and Schmitt, designed the towers and contributed to the overall master plan for Transit City, which is taking shape as a vibrant urban neighbourhood. Already two office towers are occupied — one mostly by KPMG, the other with a 100,000-square-foot YMCA.

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These two towers are expected to break ground this fall, with occupancy tentatively slated for fall 2021. The third tower will be 35-storeys and have 429 rental units.

It's anticipated that there will be more residential towers and possibly some mid-rise homes here in the future – although no plans have been approved at this point, says Schmitt.

Green space in a community is also important, Goldhar says, noting there will be a one-acre park on the doorstep of the condo and a nine-acre park steps away.

“You know when you're in a great city when there's enough open space between buildings to feel like you can breathe,” he says. “The goal for the community was that it feel like a park, with buildings on it.”

The main park, designed by award-winning Montreal landscape architect Claude Cormier, will be an anchor to the short street blocks that run off it, says Schmitt.

“It's a classic Toronto arterial, like College, or Queen, which have narrow block frontages along the high street, then long blocks stretching north, so you get lots of public connection,” he says.

Another bonus is the transit hub, Virani says. “I don't know anywhere else in the GTA with this kind of transportation — subway, GO bus, Viva line, York Region bus, the surrounding highway network, and the airport nearby.”

It will take residents about 20 minutes to drive to Pearson Airport, about 45 minutes to go to Union Station on public transit, and literally minutes to walk to the transit hub.

And for residents looking for a bit of panache — there will be three carshare Teslas available to get around town.

The condos are geared to a demographic that knows and likes quality, Virani says. Hence the lobby will be entirely furnished with Hermes and there will be a 24,000 sq. ft. indoor-outdoor amenity space with an Olympic size infinity pool, a pro running track, squash court, cabanas, and BBQs.

For a community to have a sense of place, there must be local services as well. That's why there will be places for residents to gather, shop and play, including a dance academy, a 75-child daycare centre, a library, and a Buca restaurant.

TORONTO WEATHER

5°C

Overcast

Feels like 0 °C



Tuesday	9 °C
Wednesday	7 °C
Thursday	8 °C
Friday	17 °C

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opportunities, transit, and civic amenities all set up.

To register for Transit City, Tower 5, call 416-869-9268 or visit the sales centre at centre 100 New Park Place, Ground Floor, or go to TransitCity.com



You Are Here:

- 1) Transit City is just three subway stops from York University, Canada's third-largest university, with about 53,000 students and 7,000 faculty and staff.
- 2) Shave an hour off the drive to cottage country on summer weekends. Less than an hour to Caledon, Halton Hills, and Collingwood, and a little more to Muskoka. More time to cool off, dress down and chill out.
- 3) Soak up culture on a day trip to the McMichael Art Collection in nearby Kleinburg where you'll find Canada's most extensive collection of artwork by the Group of Seven and their contemporaries, as well as work by First Nations and Inuit artists.

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