

## SPECIAL FEATURE: NEW HOMES

# Calgarians are buying BC getaways

## Nature, hiking and skiing surround townhomes in Highland Crossing

### Mario Toneguzzi

The Highland Crossing multi-family development in Invermere by Lake Windermere in British Columbia has become a popular place for Calgarians buying a recreational property.

Larry Kerr, principal of Urban West Projects, the developer, said four of the seven townhomes have been sold in the project, which began in the fall of 2016. All four units that were bought were by people in Calgary.

"Owners are already enjoying their new homes, the spectacular views of Lake Windermere, and being in the heart of Western Canada's breathtaking mountains," said Kerr. "These townhomes are ideal for those looking for a week-end retreat, a summer home, a second home that supports outdoor living, or year-round living in a small town in the mountains by the lake."

The three available units are priced from the mid-\$500,000s to low \$600,000s and all have three-bedroom configurations, with condo fees of about \$300 per month.

The homes are close to 1,900 square feet and 2,200 square feet.

"It's in the centre of the universe. It's on a hillside overlooking the north end of the lake. You're surrounded by the Purcells (mountains) and the Rockies. You've got a southern view and you're 300 yards from the bakery and main street and 300 yards to the beach."

Kerr said the townhomes are also about 20 minutes away from the Panorama Mountain Resort, which has hosted several World Cup ski races. There are also eight championship golf courses in the area within half an hour's drive.

All of the homes bought right now are as second properties but with the ability to retire in the future.

"These were designed as family legacy homes. They're multi-generational. Each one has three bedrooms, three lev-



The Highland Crossing properties have been designed for buyers seeking a lock-and-leave, low-maintenance residence. CONTRIBUTED

els. The lower level opens up onto a garden area, with your own garden or hot tub — that sort of thing. If you want the kids on the lower level, that's fine, or you could add other bedrooms. The main level is the living area. The upper level is the three bedrooms. There's three and a half full baths."

Highland Crossing townhomes have high-end features such as gourmet kitchens with

quartz counter tops and stainless-steel appliances, high ceilings, large outside decks for outdoor living and entertaining, wood-plank flooring, gas fireplaces, radiant heating in ensuites, and air conditioning.

The properties are designed to be lock-and-leave, requiring minimal maintenance and offering peace of mind to those using the property as a second home.

The developer says the townhomes maximize their location overlooking the shores of Lake Windermere through picture windows and deck railings.

As an added incentive for new buyers, a \$15,000 furniture credit is offered, with Invermere-based The Natural Home, a furniture store that specializes in natural woods, leathers, and artisan furnishings.

"We completely fell in love with this undiscovered treasure. Our kids enjoy the excellent skiing and hiking, and we love the amazing outdoor space with unparalleled views. Being so close to local businesses means you can walk everywhere, and it's only a three-hour drive from Calgary, making it easy to visit for weekends," said owners Larry and Adele Thomson.