



# Breathing new life into the West Don Lands

## Waterfront Toronto.

Canary District condos are well ahead of schedule, while River City enters third phase



**CONDO TRENDS**  
Duncan McAllister  
life@metronews.ca

The countdown is on. Preparations are rapidly underway in the West Don Lands area as Toronto prepares to host the 2015 Pan American/Parapan American Games. With the opening ceremonies next July just a year away, Waterfront Toronto VP of development Meg Davis tells Metro that everything is on track.

"They're quite on budget and in fact all the cranes are down. They're topped off and they're doing finishing on the inside. They're definitely ahead of schedule. They will be absolutely ready for the Games," Davis says. Waterfront Toronto set the stage for the West Don Lands, and was responsible for engaging developers with the public lands.

"I'm pretty excited because they're now getting into doing some of the finishing stuff on the public realm



**In the West Don Lands: "Things are starting to take shape and look like an actual neighbourhood," says Waterfront Toronto VP of development Meg Davis. CONTRIBUTED**

which Waterfront Toronto designed, so Front Street, Bayview and Mill Street," says Davis. "Things are starting to take shape and look like an actual neighbourhood. When you're out there, you'll see trees are planted, it's getting there for sure."

Dundee Kilmer Developments Limited is the company responsible for the construction of a large portion of

the Athletes' Village and surrounding infrastructure.

Their Canary District condominium residences will serve as accommodations for the athletes during the games, after which they will be turned over to their respective owners.

Jason Lester, president of Dundee Kilmer, says that they're well ahead of schedule. "We're almost complete-

ly enclosed now, almost all the windows are in, almost all the brick veneer is in and the panels are in on the outside. Our focus is really turning to finishing off the inside of the buildings, the drywall, the bathrooms and things like that."

Developer Urban Capital just launched the third phase of their landmark project along the Don River.



**River City is the first condominium development to hit Toronto's newest neighbourhood. CONTRIBUTED**

David Wex is a partner at the company and the visionary behind the River City condominium development, the first in Toronto's newest neighbourhood.

"I think every building here in River City is a bit different design-wise because we work with Saucier + Perrotte out of Montreal and they are kind of known for their out-there architecture."

says Wex.

"So that in and of itself was more of a different kind of architecture in the city than what we're used to. And then phase three is just taking it up a level."

Urban Capital brought on designer Graham Hill, internationally celebrated for his groundbreaking ideologies of urban space, to design the interiors of 20 exclusive units.