



THE HIGH LIFE ON BURNABY MOUNTAIN

It's the view that hits you first. If you haven't been atop Burnaby Mountain for a long time, you'll be struck again by the sweeping view: the trees, the sea, and the city lights below. Very quickly, though, it's not the just the vista, but the new and vital community, that will stun you.

The main Burnaby campus of Canada's top comprehensive university has always offered a superior education. You went up the mountain to learn, to socialize, to exercise - but not necessarily to live. Now, UniverCity has changed all that.

SFU Community Trust has created a model community, sustainable, affordable, and in many ways the embodiment of a decades-old vision. Twelve residential projects featuring 3500 homes are complete and sold out; three more new projects are currently on offer, and even more will follow. It is an award-winning celebration of possibility - affordable and sustainable homes nestled between the bustle of the campus, and the serenity of one of the largest protected wilderness areas in Metro Vancouver.

There is the grocery store in the block-long Nesters Market. There are restaurants, a hair studio, a childcare centre, a dental office, a weekly farmers' market, and scores of others services for the thousands of residents who have already joined the community. And there is the University Highlands Elementary school, towards which

the Cant family is now walking.

"The play ground is brand new," says Annabella, as her sons drop their scooters and race to the slides and ropes. "The children can walk to school," adds SFU research assistant Joeri, "and I walk to work."

The family used to live in Coquitlam. "We never got used to the constant sound of the traffic," says Joeri, "and now we love how it's so quiet at night."

Residents of UniverCity take advantage of the Campus amenities, from an Olympic-sized pool and state of the art fitness centre, to NCAA level Collegiate Sport entertainment.

"Living here," says Annabella, "feels like a never-ending vacation." Spectacular new studios, one, and two bedroom units are currently for sale in four housing developments. (Origin, the city-side wood frame building by Porte Development has only six homes remaining. Lift, Porte's second project in the community, offers 52 contemporary 1 and 1 + den flats and 2 and 3 bedroom garden homes and sky homes. Liberty Homes' Highland House offers 104 contemporary high rise apartments located steps away from UniverCity's High Street. On the peak of Burnaby Mountain, Altitude by the Hungerford Group is Burnaby's most affordable tower offering and features more than 200 homes with quality interior finishes and amenities.)

Environmentally sound and energy efficient, these homes are well positioned to be an excellent long term investment in Metro Vancouver's strained housing market, with rentals also being in high demand.

Information is available in the Sales Centres (located on High Street) and at www.UniverCity.ca.

As the sky on Burnaby Mountain becomes rosy with the setting sun, 10-year-old Santi runs to his scooter towards home. His younger brother Kian is still eyeing the slide. Maybe he'll climb it just one more time, and pause at the very top.

Just long enough to enjoy the view, and to realise that up here you will live better.

Tomorrow (On Saturday 29 September) join the UniverCity community from 12 to 3, at IT'S YOUR MOUNTAIN FALL FESTIVAL. It's a chance to quiz design expert and host of LOVE IT OR LIST IT Jillian Harris on her condo and town home decorating tips, while enjoying a free Barbecue, face painting and balloons, and live music from Jordan Klassen.