

# Park views inspire design

## NEW DIGS

BY TERRENCE BELFORD

Toronto has no shortage of condominiums offering waterfront views. Nor does the city lack buildings with commanding vistas of the dramatic skyline. Toronto does have a problem in another area, however. Where do you go if you want to step onto the terrace of your new city home and be surrounded by rolling parkland?

You might try HOME, Condominiums on the Park, being built by Context Development Inc., the same company doing Radio City on the old CBC property on Jarvis Street.

HOME is situated on the southeast corner of Bloor Street West and Ellis Park Drive, at the western edge of High Park. Context has, after much negotiation with the City of Toronto and the Ontario Municipal Board, come up with a stepped design that gives almost all of the 43 units either a ter-

"We took a lot of care working with the City and the Ontario Municipal Board," says Howard Cohen, Context president. "We were able to deliver what they wanted. This is the only project on the park within spitting distance of a subway station."

The matchless views, stunning architecture, quality finishes, nine-foot ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows do not come cheap. Mr. Cohen is not ready to offer specifics but says prices will range from the "high \$200,000s" for a 644-square foot, one-bedroom unit to more than \$1-million for the top-of-the-line, three-bedroom-plus-den suites, which measure in at 2,500 square feet.

Prices include one underground parking spot and one storage locker for each suite.

The terraces are a truly nifty feature. They can range in size from 350 square feet to a staggering 1,775 square feet — an outdoor patio space as big or bigger than most two-bedroom apartments.

"The whole idea is to actually live on the park," Mr. Cohen says. As Toronto's former chief planner for neighbourhoods, creating projects that blend and interact with the surroundings and the communities they are situated in has become his forte. In this case, the community is one created by nature. The terraces serve as natural intermediaries between park and living spaces.

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## STEPPED PYRAMID

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## NATURAL VIEWS

race or a balcony overlooking High Park, Toronto's largest parkland.

There are a few one-bedroom units that look north, so they are without park views. For the rest, however, the hillside setting and the stepped pyramid design by Peter Clewes of Architects Alliance, guarantee a wonderful year-round front-row seat on a big city version of nature at its finest.



HOME, Condominiums on the Park by Context Development.