

As Seen in
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MODERN URBAN LIVING IN CALGARY

DOWNSIZERS' DREAM

The Gates has more to offer in enjoying an active, fun lifestyle

BY PEPPER RODRIGUEZ

Downsizing never held the same amount of dread for Kathy Baehr and Charles Kalas that it has on others. Living 25 years in Riverbend in a 2,700-square-foot bungalow, they knew it was time to scale down as their children have moved out and yard work has become more cumbersome than ever.

“We were excited about downsizing, especially after we found The Gates,” Kathy tells *Condo Living*. “We just knew this was the one for us,” she adds. “We were quite looking forward to becoming empty-nesters, and finally we’ve done it,” Charles adds.

It was by no means a decision they came to arbitrarily — there was a fair amount of fact gathering and comparing that went into it. They knew they wanted to remain in the Riverbend area so they did their homework and looked at other developments. In the end, they knew that only The Gates would suffice. >>



Kathy Baehr and Charles Kalas





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square-feet with 11-foot ceilings on the top floor for \$315,000. There’s one similar to Kathy and Charles’ unit at 1,060 square-feet, two-bed and two-bath on the ground floor at \$369,000.

Remington’s Champagne luxury condo is likewise down to its final units. “We are currently selling the final phase of Champagne, Building 5, with homes available for immediate possession. The project is over 90 per cent sold but we do have some one-bed, two-bed plus den and custom penthouse suites still available,” McGarvey says. Show suites for The Gates are available to view on appointment.

Kathy and Charles did also look at Champagne, but they say the more modern look of The Gates was more attuned to their style.

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“We found everything we were looking for in a condo here,” Kathy says. Their 1,070-square-foot two-bedroom, two-bath suite answers all their storage needs and was a seamless fit for their lifestyle.

“The one thing I was worried about in downsizing was finding adequate storage in a condo, thankfully our unit here has more than enough for our needs,” Kathy says.

The open-concept design even accommodated most of their furniture from the

old place and the neutral colours of the spec unit they bought worked better than they expected. “Everything blended well and it couldn’t have worked out better for us,” says Kathy.

They didn’t even feel the need to upgrade any of the standard specs that their unit came with. “We have contemporary tastes, and we like the suite’s modern look,” Kathy says.

But what really cinched the deal for them was its location. The Gates is in the heart of Quarry Park — the new multi-use, riverside community along 18th Street S.E. developed by Remington Development Corporation — who also built The Gates and the Champagne luxury condos just down the street.

Both Kathy and Charles lead very active lifestyles and The Gates’ location in Quarry Park is crisscrossed by plenty of bike paths and walking lanes by the Bow River just behind them. But the absolute kicker is having the new Quarry Park (Remington YMCA) Recreation Facility right in the neighbourhood.

“We used to have our own basement gym in the old house, but that’s nothing compared to what we have now at this recreation centre, which is so accessible to us,” Charles says.

The Quarry Park recreation facility, opening this September, has approximately 94,000 square-feet of leisure, recreational and community amenities, including a 25-metre, six-lane pool, a small leisure pool, hot tubs and steam room, a fitness centre with cardio and strength training equipment, and running/walking track. Not to mention a full service Calgary Public Library (relocation of the Glenmore Square Library) and childcare and child-minding services.

“We’ve been looking forward to this since plans were announced several years ago, and having this so near our home at The Gates is certainly wonderful,” Kathy says.

It’s not just Charles and Kathy that have found this true about The Gates, as the boutique, low-rise condo development is already 70 per cent sold. Adrienne McGarvey of the Remington Development residential sales team says their location is a big part of their success.

“You can literally walk out of your front door and be on the river pathway systems within a minute. There are restaurants, and pubs already at the nearby Quarry Market — which is turning into the cultural and social hub it was designed to be — and the latest addition of the YMCA just adds to our cache as a live-work-play community,” she adds.

“The Gates also offers class leading quality, spacious floor plans and outstanding value which really sets it apart from other condo projects.”

Still available is a one-bed-plus-den unit at 770

