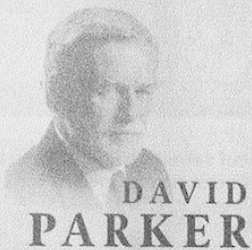


Centron Construction to build first, market later



**DAVID
PARKER**

Open a show suite and wait until a percentage of the suites are sold before beginning construction is the usual way developers market a condominium tower, but **Cole Harris**, newly appointed president of **Centron Construction Group**, is so confident of the level of overall design, finishes and location of Churchill Estates he's going to build it before a single brochure is produced.

The 11-storey high-end tower is a project of **Centron-Homburg Teamworks**, a partnership of Halifax-based **Homburg Investment Inc.** and Centron, well-respected here for its Vintage buildings. Design is by **Abugov Kaspar Architect**. It is located in the Eau Claire district, kitty-corner to Shaw Court on 3rd Avenue at 6th Street S.W., just one block from McDougall Centre.

Two elevators will take owners to the 44 suites. No retail space is available, as Churchill Estates is strictly residential, including the ground floor, except for the comfortable lobby area that will house a 24-hour concierge service. Two parking spots per suite are available as well as extra storage space.

Above the ground floor the units are set back to provide extra large balconies outside floor plates ranging from 1,600 square feet to the 3,200-square-foot penthouse.

With the appointment of Cole as president of Centron Construction Group, his father, **Bob**, becomes CEO; **Wayne Benz**, executive vice-president; **Richard Heine**, vice-president construction and engineering; and **Michael Anderson**, vice-president development.

The team has a lot on its plate. Besides more than 2,000 multi-family units underway in Calgary, Edmonton and Canmore, it has purchased the building on the northeast corner of 5th Avenue and 12th Street S.W. and will soon announce plans to add more floors to the office



Courtesy, Mantaray Creative

Churchill Estates tower, seen here in this artist's conception, will be built before a single brochure is produced.

block and build on the adjacent parking lot.

I would think it quite the coup for the **Calgary Chamber of Commerce** to be able to announce that Auditor General **Sheila Fraser** will be here to speak at an event next week.

She will share her thoughts on the work she does and provide comments on key findings of her latest audit reports. Fraser, who also serves as chairwoman of the public sector account board of the **Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants**, will address a lunchtime audience at the Hyatt Regency Hotel March 16.

It was only a few short weeks ago that **Bob Willis** mailed me a photo of a crew shooting a StatsCan commercial at Lunchbox Theatre starring **Leslie Neilson**. It was taken in 1981. Willis also showed a very young **Kirstie McLennan** and people I'd worked with at **FWJ Advertising** who are now deceased. It was kind of him. Willis passed away last week — a man who must have shot miles of film dating back to 1947 — much for his travel lecture business — that he donated to the Glenbow Archives.

The bidding will be hot and heavy for live auction items at this year's **Trout**

Unlimited National Conservation Dinner. It takes place on Thursday at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and will feature some incredible items, such as five days' use of a drilling rig from **Nabors Drilling**, a golf weekend including passes for the final two days at this year's Masters in Augusta, a collection of 220 bottles of wine, and how about a **Bill Duma** painting?

There are lots of fishing-related tours to bid on, of course. **Shaw Communications** has donated a trip for 12 in a private jet for some salmon fishing off Prince Rupert, or you can enjoy five days on the luxury Royal Canadian Pacific train to fly fish the Rockies.

Supporters can also raise their bidding paddles to fish in Cuba, Belize, Yukon and at other West Coast resorts. There are also more than 150 silent auction items and lots of raffle items including a Suzuki Quadrunner, a Kawasaki and a set of three Winston Boron rods.

This event has been held in Calgary since 1985 and over that time has become North America's largest conservation fundraising dinner — should be a lot of fun.

DAVID PARKER APPEARS TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY. HE CAN BE REACHED AT 830-4622 OR E-MAIL INFO@DAVIDPARKER.CA

