

EAGLEWIND | *Solterra Group's Eaglewind a great opportunity to become part of this burgeoning community.*

Squamish: A gold medal contender for both home value and lifestyle

Just an easy highway drive north of Vancouver, nestled between two of Canada's most affluent communities – West Vancouver and Whistler – Squamish has water-front and mountains written all over it. And it's going to be a lot easier to access when the \$600 million upgrade to the Sea to Sky Highway is completed in time for the 2010 Vancouver-Whistler Olympics.

"This is an exciting time for Squamish," says Mayor Ian Sutherland. "We have a lot of great developments being built and Squamish is really going to benefit."

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp (CMHC) reported that Squamish posted the strongest sales increase anywhere in the Lower Mainland, rising 21 per cent in 2007 over the previous year.

"With the overall market entering an era of stabilized prices we continue to see potential value increase in areas like Squamish," says Jennifer Podmore, managing

director, MPC Intelligence Inc. – a real estate research and analytical firm. "With their relatively low prices and close proximity to both Vancouver and Whistler, Squamish represents a good real estate value."

The number one selling new community is also the new centre of Squamish. Eaglewind by Solterra Group of Companies is a 10 hectare (25 acre) master planned

Summits View at Eaglewind is aptly named for the stunning surroundings that residents will see from homes in this six-storey concrete and steel complex.





community nestled between the Squamish downtown area at Pemberton Avenue and 4th Avenue and the Squamish River estuary.

What makes this new community unique is that nearly half of the 25-acre development is comprised of a park leading to the estuary waterfront. This park features walking trails, play areas for children, tennis and lawn bowling courts, a community garden and an area set aside for a dog park.

Several developments have already been constructed within this new community: Talon, featuring larger townhouses and duplexes with an average price in the mid-\$500,000s; Streams, with townhouses averaging in the high-\$400,000s and Rockcliff, a 90-suite concrete and steel apartment complex which quickly sold out.

The newest development at Eaglewind is aptly named Summits View for the stunning surroundings that residents will see from homes in this six-storey concrete and steel complex. The design of the building housing 134 apartments, including city homes and townhomes, is described as 'mountain contemporary' by the Vancouver-based award-winning Gomberoff Bell Lyon Architects.

Solterra Group is also the builder. The company has pioneered a system of prefabricating sections of its concrete and steel buildings which can cut down on construction time and lower the cost, and in turn sale prices. These prices are in line with the much lower value wood frame condominium apartment buildings while offering the long term superior quality benefits of steel and concrete construction.

Podmore has seen Solterra Group's 25 acre Eaglewind site for Summits View and describes it this way: "It is a site that has truly come into its own, no longer is the site a vision for the future. It is now clear the positive impact a large development like this will have on the future of Squamish. The current offering represents an opportunity to get into a master-planned community with easy access to the estuary, hiking trails and it is within an hour of either Whistler or Vancouver."

In 2010, the eyes of the world will turn to Vancouver and Whistler for the Winter Olympics. People who want to literally be in the centre of all the excitement are choosing Squamish as the place to live.