

# ARCHITECTURALLY SPEAKING

Park Point is going to put an exclamation point in the Beltline

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SHOW SUITE PHOTOS BY ROBERT MOROTO

The purpose of this Designer Series features was to put a spotlight on the interior decoration of the elaborate condominium and townhome show suites in the city, and the past nine issues saw some of the most visually stunning and innovative use of design to establish a lifestyle vision.

This issue goes in a little different direction, as we talk to Park Point's architect, Tony Wai of IBI Group, to look at how he provided the canvas on which the interior designer, Scott Trepp of Trepp Design Inc., worked his magic.

The relationship between the architect and the interior designer is key in determining the look and lifestyle of the condo and at Park Point it has worked to perfection.

The 34-storey, 289-suite tower from Qualex-Landmark™ — the first of Park Point's two towers — is nearly complete and about to be topped off, even as it exceeds the 70 per cent sold threshold.

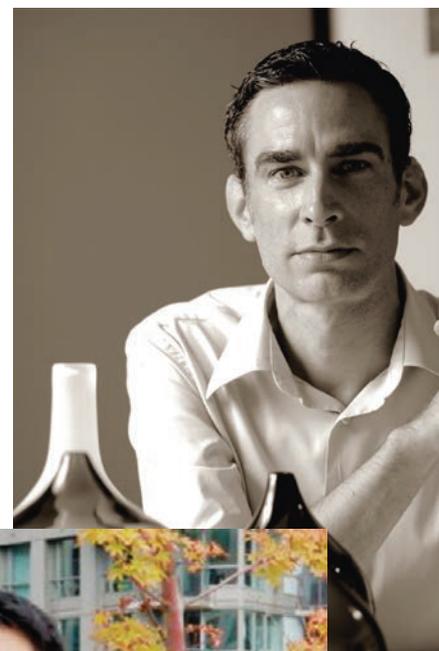
Wai says what makes the high-rise different from others in the Beltline is that instead of a "wedding cake" that sees the building tapering off five to ten floors from the top, Park Point is the opposite.

"We created Park Point to be top heavy instead, the biggest floor plate is at the top floor," Wai says. "With its black and white façade, from afar, it is going to look like an exclamation point with the podium at its base as the dot."

Quite fitting as Park Point marks a new architectural masterpiece in Calgary. Its amazing location at the corner of 2nd Street and 12 Avenue S.W. is a hotspot for exciting urban living, just across from the serene and historic Central Memorial Park and Memorial Park Library, yet walking distance to a bevy of pubs, restaurants and other entertainment and shopping opportunities.

It's a location that Wai used to their advantage, too. The fourth floor exercise room has full-length, wall-to-ceiling windows that allows for panoramic views of the park. "It is also lit 24-hours to benefit pedestrians on the streets below. It is another way the building interacts with the community," Wai says.

Park Point's first tower on the southwest corner is also positioned perfectly so it will retain its views when the second tower goes up. "They're staggered so they don't block each other," Wai says. Someday, there will be a double exclamation point in the Beltline — literally and figuratively. >>



Scott Trepp



Tony Wai

The two-bedroom suites remain popular in Park Point. But Wai says there are a lot more variations in the plans than anybody would think. Wai says he's background is in designing custom homes, and at Park Point he was able to translate this experience by offering the widest range of floor plans possible. "Because of how the tower was designed, we were able to offer suites with incremental increases in size that result in more variety to choose from and more price points."

Wai says the tower is configured to have shallower suites. "We wanted this to allow more natural light to come into the suites, which gives the feeling of size. There are cleaner lines in interior walls that also gives smaller units a larger feel," he tells Designer Series. "Kitchens are inset into the walls to try to expand the living space."



European in style and deeply practical, Park Point's award winning interior is carefully designed by Scott Trepp, president of Trepp Design Inc., and has received tremendous feedback on its outstanding finishes. These include genuine granite slab countertops and backsplash, Italian Armony Cucine cabinetry, high-end appliance package, finishings and accessories.

AEG® stainless steel gas cooktop with cast iron grates are an integral part in establishing the European feel of the kitchen, which also includes Liebherr® fully-integrated no frost refrigerator freezer, AEG® stainless steel electric wall oven, GE fully-integrated dishwasher and Panasonic stainless steel integrated microwave.



The floating vanity design sets the tone for the contemporary look of the bathroom, abetted by the polished marble slab countertop with undermount sink, and porcelain tile flooring, tub apron/shower surrounds.



Even bedrooms get the benefit of large windows and having approximately nine-foot ceilings in living areas and over-height seven-foot suite entry and interior doors add to the feeling of spaciousness. Bedrooms also come with generous closet space. Park Point's two-bedroom floor plans range from 854 to 1,092 square-feet and start from the \$490,000s. **CL**

