

Fremont has the feel for the holiday season

The tree is up and the decorations are out at Indigo show home

JODIE WARREN
SPECIAL TO THE SUN



Mosaic Homes has decked the halls at its Fremont Indigo show home in Port Coquitlam.

from colonial New England, typically features a wood-frame house with two storeys in the front and one storey in the back. Believed to have been named after the boxes in which salt was stored, Salt-box homes had long, pitched roofs that sloped down to the back, creating unequal sides.

"It's a contemporary interpretation of historic East Coast architectural style that speaks to a simpler form, and we have adapted it and modernized it," Duyker says.

Project location: 2332 Ranger Lane, Port Coquitlam Number of homes available: 51 (650 in total Fremont development)

Residence size: 1,435 — 1,750 sq. ft

Prices: \$399,900 to \$564,900 (including GST)

Exteriors in the 51-home Fremont Indigo, Mosaic's latest offering in Fremont, feature pitched gable roofs, character windows — many of them corner windows — and brick and raised front entryways that are sheltered by suspended metal canopies.

Developer: Mosaic Homes

Architect: Ekistics

Interior design: Christina Oberti

Sales centre: 2332 Range Lane, Fremont, Port Coquitlam. The centre is open daily from noon to 6 p.m. with the exception of Dec. 24 to 26 and Jan. 1, when it will be closed for the holidays

Phone: 604-552-0319

Website: mosaichomes.com/fremont-indigo

Over the years, local developer Mosaic Homes has drawn on many historical architectural styles for inspiration — Georgian, Cape Cod and Tudor, to name a few. So when it came time to begin designing its Fremont Blue and Indigo townhomes in Port Coquitlam, the builder once again looked to the past.

Geoff Duyker, Mosaic's senior vice-president of marketing, says for the Indigo and Blue townhome portion of its 650-home Fremont community, the company borrowed elements from a Colonial-era style known as Saltbox. The style,



The Fremont Indigo show home has been festively decorated for the season by designer Monika Hibbs. The centerpiece is a flock ed tree from David Hunter Garden Centres.



While the Fremont Indigo show home kitchen appears festive for the holidays, the stainless steel appliances and laminate counters make it look great year-round.



Copper — 'a big colour trending right now,' according to designer Monika Hibbs — brings the Fremont Indigo show home to brassy life.

Fremont Indigo

Fremont has the feel for the holiday season

The tree is up and the decorations are out at Indigo show home



Mosaic brought in designer and blogger Monika Hibbs to demonstrate just what the Indigo show home can do.



The interiors at Fremont Indigo are decidedly modern, with bright and open living rooms.

Interiors, however, have a distinctively modern flair. Main living areas have a great-room concept, with centre island or wall kitchens, soft-close cabinetry, KitchenAid stainless steel appliances and durable laminate countertops that can be upgraded to composite quartz. Bathrooms have floating vanities with under-cabinet lighting, large-format porcelain tile flooring, walk-in showers in the ensuites and soaker tubs in the main bathrooms.



The Fremont Riverclub amenity space will include an outdoor swimming pool, a gym, a children's play area and a dog-washing station.

The homes, which range from 1,435 to 1,750 square feet and in price from \$399,900 to \$564,900, also come with Built Green gold certification.

In building this latest phase, Mosaic gathered feedback through the company's design labs. The process sees Mosaic representatives spending time in the homes of residents of previous Fremont phases to assess what is working and what could be improved.

"We ask them to just live in their home and to show us what that looks like," Duyker says. "We ask what is great about homes, what can we do to make them better, and then incorporate this into the design of future homes."

These observations have been translated into many new features at Fremont Indigo. "For example, we heard that the pantries were not deep enough to accommodate some of the items people like to store in them," he says. "We've also updated and released a new interior design scheme and all bathrooms, floors — all of the finishes — have been updated."

The input has also informed the size of the homes themselves. "In Fremont Indigo, we incorporated larger homes into what we're currently building to accommodate mature buyers who were selling single-family homes and who wanted to live in a townhome that was easier to maintain," Duyker says, adding that the larger plans are also popular for young families coming from apartments

or smaller townhomes "who need more space for more kids and a growing life."

In addition to being within walking distance to the shops and restaurants in Fremont Village, the community is also close to schools, the 25-kilometre Traboulay Trail, and major transportation arteries, including the Mary Hill Bypass, Trans-Canada Highway and Lougheed Highway. Fremont is also adjacent to the Dominion Park and Nature Reserve. The community's centrepiece is its amenity space. Called Fremont Riverclub and currently under construction, it will consist of 12,500 square feet of space with an outdoor swimming pool and deck, an entertainment space, gym for basketball and other sports, a fitness studio, a children's playroom and even a dog-washing area.

"It is starting to take shape and when finished, we hope it will be a beautiful architectural icon," Duyker says.

For the holiday season, Mosaic teamed up with designer and lifestyle blogger Monika Hibbs, who drew on existing colours and materials in Indigo's larger four-bedroom Elsay Series show home to create simplistic yet elegant holiday decor.

Among her inspirations, she says, was a copper pan rack with copper pots featured in the home's kitchen.

"I try to pull from the story of what is already there in terms of design," she says. "We picked up the copper from the home and played with the mixing of metals — copper, silver and gold. Copper is a big colour trending right now."

Hibbs says holiday decorating does not necessarily have to come with a large price tag, noting that the materials she sourced came from a variety of retailers, including HomeSense, Chapters Indigo and The Cross Decor and Design.

Reaction to Indigo has been positive and sales brisk.

"For us to sell 30 townhomes in the first month equals greatest sales success in company's 12-year history," Duyker

says. "It surprised us how quickly we have sold homes here. It helped us that we have just finished the first apartment building (Fremont Green), that have 200 families living here today, and that the retail commercial component (Fremont Village) is starting to take more shape.

"It's a new neighbourhood that people are just learning about."

For information on Fremont Indigo, visit the sales centre at 2332 Range Lane in Port Coquitlam. The centre is open daily from noon to 6 p. m., except between Dec. 24 and 26, and on Jan. 1, when it will be closed for the holidays.

For details, visit mosaichomes.com/fremont-indigo.