

The Blume 53 condos at 14377 60th Ave., by Vest Properties

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Blume's Colonial-inspired architecture, coupled with its urban influence, are said to be key factors that have drawn the interest of prospective homebuyers. -Photograph by: Submitted, For The Province.

BLUME Project location: 14377 - 60th Ave., Surrey Project size: 53 townhouses Residence sizes: 1,473 - 1,963 sq. ft. Prices: from \$335,900 Developer: Vesta Properties Architect: Barnett Dembek Architects Inc. Interior designer: Concept to Design Sales centre: Same location as above Hours: Saturday to Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Telephone: 778.565.1323 Email: ara@vestaproperties.com Web: www.blumeliving.com Tentative occupancy: Summer 2011 Like many grandparents, Jack Simmons wants to live closer to his two children and three grandchildren. "I'm about to retire and since we decided to downsize, it just made sense to move closer to our children," says 66-year-old Simmons, a broadcaster of nearly three decades and an advertising representative. "When we started seriously looking, our children told us about Blume." The couple liked what they saw, and, more importantly, the price was right. "I thought we would have to spend more for what we were getting in Blume because for the same quality and workmanship you would get in Richmond, it's costing us less in Surrey." So the longtime Richmond resident and his wife Cindy sold their family home. This summer, they will move into their brand new 1,800-square-foot home in Surrey's Panorama neighbourhood. Simmons says prior to purchasing in Blume, the couple did their due diligence. They checked out other Vesta communities around the Lower Mainland to see if they were well built. Simmons says they were impressed with the quality of the finishes, as well as the value offered at Blume. "Compared to other municipalities, the value was night and day." Although he concedes it's a neighbourhood in transition, he believes its proximity to South Surrey (a 15-minute drive), and its natural rural feel will attract a lot of buyers. "Once it's completed, I think it's going to be a nice neighbourhood with lots of young families and people like us who are downsizing," says Simmons. Blume comprises 53 town houses surrounded by parks, bike and walking trails, and is within walking distance to elementary and secondary schools. It is also close to many family amenities, such as the Panorama Village Shopping Centre and the Surrey Farmer's Market for fresh produce, cheese and artisan breads. It is also within a few minutes from the YMCA, a new elementary school, the Bell Centre for the Performing Arts and five golf courses. "It's one of the fastest-selling communities in the Panorama neighbourhood," says Curt Woodhall, senior marketing manager for Vesta Properties Ltd. "We are already half sold." Woodhall believes Blume's classic Colonial-inspired architecture, coupled with its urban influence, are key factors that have attracted the interest of prospective homebuyers. The open-concept homes feature nine-foot ceilings, oversized energy-efficient double-glazed windows, gourmet kitchens with stainless-steel appliances and granite counters. Each home also comes complete with hardwood laminate floors throughout the main floor and ensuite bathrooms with soaker tubs. Each home also has a sizable unfinished basement, which is plumbed for future use. Blume offers features which come standard with each home, including two-inch faux wood blinds throughout, private fenced backyards, two-car garages and front doors from street level access. "Each home either has a deck or porch," he adds. The entry-level homes have a full-length kitchen with easy flow to the dining room and living areas. The larger homes come standard with a granite and wood island in the kitchen; however, purchasers of the smaller town homes have the option to have one installed. © Copyright (c) The Province

