

One Central makes statement in Surrey

Downtown 44-storey residential tower destined to be part of city's transformation

SIMON BRIAULT



Among the many amenities in the One Club will be a business and learning centre.



One Club will be a spacious indoor and outdoor amenity space at One Central.

If there's one thing people in Metro Vancouver know about Surrey, it's that it's growing fast. One Central, Aoyuan Property Group's 550-home residential tower, is set to be a big part of Surrey's transformation and a landmark on the city's evolving skyline.

The 44-storey building will be located right in the centre of the downtown, hence its name.

For Dan Kehler, who lives with his wife and two children in Langley and has bought a one-bedroom home at One Central, that location was a big draw.

"We checked out the City of Surrey's plan for the neighbourhood and we're essentially buying into what that area will become," Kehler said. "At the same time, we obviously like what it is now with the proximity to post-secondary education, the hospital and all the amenities."

The family also owns another apartment nearby and Kehler is familiar with the area and confident he's made a sound investment.

"It took very little effort for us to find a very good tenant for our first apartment — a student at Simon Fraser University — so we're hoping to replicate the process again at One Central," Kehler added.

One Central will be near the Surrey Central SkyTrain station and SFU's Surrey campus, as well as a wide range of shopping outlets, cafes, amenities and services.

"We are a one- to three-minute walk to literally everything," said Ben Smith, Aoyuan International's vice-president of sales and marketing for Western Canada. "There are schools, recreation centres, parks, Innovation Boulevard, Central City Shopping Centre, grocery stores and banking, not to mention future retail shops that will line the street front."

Sales at One Central have been brisk, according to Smith, and buyers so far have come from all demographics.

"We have a good mix of layouts, so we're serving all housing needs," he said.

The project's One Club is a 7,640-square-foot rooftop amenity featuring indoor and outdoor lounge space, a kitchen, a fire pit, barbecue area and ping-pong and pool tables. One Central also includes a fitness room and a business and learning centre.

Homes have one to three bedrooms and include multi-functional spaces and retractable walls and doors that allow for reconfiguration.

Kitchens feature quartz countertops and backsplashes, soft-close doors and drawers, under-cabinet lighting and undermount single-bowl sinks. Bathrooms have porcelain tiles for tub surrounds and shower walls, frameless glass doors for shower rooms and floating-style cabinets.

Smith said that the unbeatable location and the flexible floor plans, which allow for smaller overall home sizes, make the homes at One Central truly affordable for almost any kind of buyer. As for Kehler, he's confident of a quality new home when the project is complete.

"We had a bit of an expectation when we looked them up online that the sales centre and everything else was going to be pretty top notch," he said. "And when we went there, it definitely reaffirmed what we were thinking before we even walked in the door."



One Central will feature 550 homes that will range in size up to 1,443 square feet.



One Central comprises 550 one- to three-bedroom homes in a 44-storey tower

One Central

What: 550 one- to three-bedroom homes in a 44-storey tower

Where: 13350 Central Avenue, Surrey

Developer: Aoyuan Property Group

Residence size and prices: 415 — 1,443 square feet; \$281,900 — \$888,900

Sales centre: 10522 King George Blvd, Surrey

Hours: noon — 5 p.m., Sat — Thurs

Telephone: 604-588-1186