

Modernist style in Coco Oakridge

High-end towers will bring 'relaxed lifestyle' to Cambie/Oakridge neighbourhood MARY FRANCES HILL



Coco Oakridge is a project from Keltic Canada Development that will comprise 57 one- to threebedroom homes.



The Scavolini and Gaggenau brands were selected for the suites' kitchens.



Homes at Coco Oakridge will have one to three bedrooms.

What makes a vibrant, healthy community? Variety, for starters. A great community is one where anyone of any background can feel at home. At Keltic Canada Development's Coco Oakridge, a condo community planned for Vancouver's Oakridge area, Cristina Oberti's design team therefore created interiors with a universal appeal. "Variety is



An artist's rendering of Coco Oakridge, which will comprise 57 homes at 5733 Alberta Street.

essential for creating diversity in a community, particularly when it comes to designing for emerging districts and neighbourhoods," says Oberti, principal of Cristina Oberti Interior Design Inc.

Coco Oakridge will be a high-end project that appeals to professionals and young families who need an urban lifestyle, but prefer to live a "more relaxed lifestyle, beyond the downtown core," she says.

The project, which will include 57 homes, is a boutique offering compared to some of the neighbouring residential buildings planned for the area. The revitalized surrounding Oakridge community will comprise 10 towers scaling up to 44 storeys, housing for residents of varying incomes and plenty of amenities and green space.

While the name of the project is a play on Cambie-Oakridge, according to marketer Dave Bauman of Magnum Projects, Oberti says the style of famed womenswear designer Coco Chanel, known for her chic tailoring, was also a huge influence in her choices of finishes and materials.

"When most people think of Coco Chanel and her designs, they think of classic silhouettes and clean lines," Oberti says. "But above all, Coco Chanel was a modernist. It was this aspect of her talent that we wanted to highlight in our work."

Oberti opted to go for uncomplicated silhouettes and resilient, understated materials. "We chose straight, angular forms and coupled them with contrasting materials such as wood, marble and

stone. The variations in the wood and stone finishes add a sense of luxury while also providing softness to the otherwise structured furnishings, almost like fabric."

That variation is reminiscent of the materials and fabrics of Coco Chanel's own creations, which have been hailed for their utility and

integrity. Bathrooms include marble vanity countertops, herringbone wall tiles and marble shower bases.

Oberti also chose luxury brands Scavolini and Gaggenau for the suites' kitchens and bathrooms, brands that are favoured for their understated durability and elegance.

"Both brands put design at the forefront of what they do, so although their products are primarily functional and serve very specific purposes, they nevertheless are beautiful to look at," she says.

Coco Oakridge

What: 57 one- to three-bedroom homes

Where: 5733 Alberta Street

Residence sizes and prices: One to three bedrooms, 520 to 1,610 sq. ft, one-beds from \$819,900; two-beds from \$1,299,900; three-bed townhomes

from \$1.8 million

Developer and builder: Keltic Canada

Development

Sales centre: 5844 Cambie Street **Hours:** noon — to 5 p.m., Sat — Thurs

Telephone: 604-428-7533