

Let us Earn Your Trust!

RE/MAX Kelowna
250-868-8000
WolfHomes.com

Colin Realtor
Julie Unil. Assist. Realtor
Wolf Realtor

NOVEMBER 15, 2014

SOUTHWOOD IN PENTICTON

The resort for perky seniors

By STEVE MacNAULL
The Okanagan Saturday

Drop by Northwood Retirement Resort in Kelowna on a Wednesday afternoon and you'll hear the Glee Club practising in the second floor amenities area.

"It will be the same at the 160-suite, \$30-million Southwood Retirement Resort in Penticton when we open there in January," said Regency Retirement Resorts developer Ed Hall.

"We're taking the Regency brand to Penticton and it looks like it will be our most successful launch yet."

Regency is the partnership created by developer Ed Hall and resort management specialist Greg Kornell.

The soon-to-open Southwood Retirement Resort in Penticton, at the corner of Wilson Street and Yorkton Avenue near Skaha Lake, will be the fifth in the Regency series.

All have a 'wood' suffix. Sandalwood was the first, 15 years ago, in Kelowna's North Glenmore neighbourhood.

Then came Missionwood in Kelowna's Mission neighbourhood, nine years ago.

Eight years ago, Westwood opened in West Kelowna.

And then last year, Northwood opened in Kelowna's North End on Gordon Drive.

"We'd been thinking about Penticton for a few years, but didn't know if the Regency brand was well enough known outside of Kelowna," said Hall.

"Well, Penticton was definitely ready for our luxury-enriched retirement resort model. Sixty per cent of the suites there are already rented and we open in January. That's the best pre-rent we've ever had."

Ed Hall used to be a partner at Canadian Adult Communities, the Kelowna-based developer that built 25 gated communities throughout the Okanagan over 25 years for active new retirees.



This drawing shows what the \$30-million 160-unit Southwood Retirement Resort will look like when finished at the corner of Yorkton Avenue and Wilson Street in Penticton in January.

The natural progression for the business was to build housing for that active retiree as they aged.

The Regency Retirement Resort concept is for what Hall refers to as "perky" seniors age 75-plus.

"They are still pretty independent, but they want a rental suite and meals and housekeeping and laundry and transportation and planned activities, all things that Regency provides."

Prices for a one-bedroom suite, with all of those extras, starts at \$1,995 a month.

"That's great value," said Hall. "A similar set up in Vancouver or Calgary would be \$1,000 a month more."

The residences really are designed to be resorts.

The main floor has patios, a conservatory, wide-open dining room and bar, theatre, salon and tuck shop.

Penticton's Southwood will be the first Regency resort with a pool.

The second floor has a chapel, fitness centre and spa, cards and arts and crafts rooms, woodworking studio, wine cellar, sports lounge, Internet cafe and library.

The full-time fun force director is constantly organizing activities



GARY NYLANDER/The Okanagan Saturday

Regency Resorts partners Ed Hall, left, and Greg Kornell in the conservatory of Northwood Retirement Resort in Kelowna with residents Noreen and Paul Tenchuk.

like Glee Club, card tournaments, wine tasting and fitness classes and outings to golf, curl, dance or hit the casino.

"Really what we're selling here is a lifestyle," said Kornell.

"Ninety-five per cent of our

residents are from the Okanagan and want to continue to live in the Valley for its lifestyle and to be close to family."

A drop-in on-site career fair will be held Thursday 2 to 6 p.m. to hire some of the 40 staff needed.

Potential workers are asked to bring their resume.

Tours for interested seniors run daily 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Call Sheri at 250-770-1178 to make an appointment or check out regencyresorts.ca.

Locals nominated for B.C. Small Business Awards



Contributed photo

Donnie Ungaro of Kelowna, who owns Culinary Ink GastroVentures and heads up the Okanagan Young Professionals Collective, has been nominated for a B.C. Small Business Award.

Socially-conscious entrepreneur Donnie Ungaro heads up one of the 12 Kelowna companies nominated for B.C. Small Business Awards.

The awards program, sponsored by the Insurance Bureau of B.C., annually hands out trophies in a dozen categories.

Winners pick up \$1,500 in cash and access to Small Business B.C. education, resources and mentorship for a year.

Nominations will continue to be accepted at sbbcawards.ca until the end of the month.

Ungaro founded Culinary Ink GastroVentures, a company that does catering and has created bicycle-towed food carts that are sold to charities so they can operate small businesses themselves.

So far, Kelowna Food Bank, Metro (services for street people) and Soles4Souls (shoes for the needy) have purchased bike food carts and are selling breakfasts, lunches, dinners and snacks on Kelowna streets.

Ungaro, 33, also heads up the Okanagan Young Professionals Collective and has also been nominated for Kelowna Top Forty Under 40, recognizing young businesspeople who've made an impact.



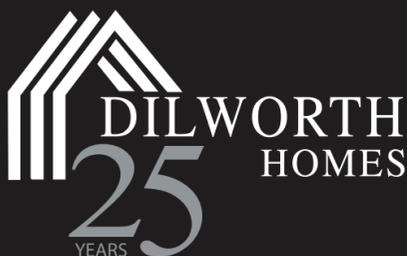
STEVE MACNAULL
Valley Views

The other Kelowna companies nominated so far are: Vantage West Realty, The Habitat, Orphan Grape, Nourish, Muninn's Post, Mavazi Apparel, Float Space, Inspired Eyes Creative Eyewear, Kekuli Cafe, Dash of Modern and Cottage Quilting.

Since nominations opened on Oct. 1, the names of almost 300 businesses across the province have been put forward.

The awards program was created to recognize the best of the 400,000 small business owners and entrepreneurs in B.C. who create jobs and drive the economy.

Continued on page C3



Dilworth Mountain Estates is now sold out. Come see us at Tower Ranch! Home and lot packages from mid \$400s. Townhomes from \$444,900.

250.491.2918

1836 Tower Ranch Blvd

www.DilworthHomes.com



TOWER RANCH