

First Place homes sell quickly

New homes in the City of Edmonton's First Place development in Tawa neighbourhood were snapped up three weeks before the showhome could even open its doors.

"It's evidence of the program's importance to young people wanting to establish their own home in an increasingly tight housing and rental market," says Tim McCargar, Director of Strategic Planning with the City's Real Estate, Housing and Economic Sustainability Branch.



"These townhomes are attractive, and energy-efficient into the bargain," says McCargar. "They are designed with input from the surrounding community to ensure they 'fit' with existing development, and a small deferral on the land portion of the mortgage for five years brings them into the realm of affordability for many first-time buyers."

Edmonton has a strategy to build [First Place](#) homes on 20 surplus school sites to help attract and retain talented young people in a city where the employment and housing markets frequently experience boom conditions.

Several of Tawa's 39 homes, built by Rohit Communities, have been purchased by healthcare workers and other professionals who can walk to work in a nearby hospital and other employment opportunities. The Mill Woods area homes have high EnerGuide ratings for enhanced energy conservation, and feature drive-under or surface parking as well as visitor parking.

The showhome at 140 Youville Drive will stage a ribbon-cutting May 15, from 4-7 p.m., so that interested residents and prospective buyers can take a look at what First Place homes are all about. Additional First Place developments are in the planning stages this year for several southside communities.

[First Place housing program](#)

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