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eko Markham Centre & Liberty Square Places to Grow Community of the Year – High - Rise

Liberty Development's eko Markham Centre and Liberty Square wins the Pinnacle Award for the Places to Grow Community of the Year – High-Rise category, at the 29th Annual BILD Awards Ceremony.

Markham, Ontario, May 07, 2009 – Liberty Development, a real estate developer based in Thornhill with a longstanding commitment to creating mixed-use, transit oriented projects across the GTA, recently won the Places to Grow Community of the Year (High-Rise) at last week's 29th Annual Building Industry and Land Development (BILD) Association Awards event.

The award not only recognized Liberty's corporate commitment to planning vibrant and diverse communities, but as is the case with the eko Markham Centre and Liberty Square, it rewards Liberty's ability to market, build and deliver thriving communities in keeping with the principles of the Province's Places to Grow legislation.

"We were honoured to win this highly prestigious award from our peers in the GTA's residential development industry," says Marco Filice, Vice President and Senior Counsel, Liberty Development. "We see eko as a development model that not only inspires our ongoing projects, but can inspire the industry itself to plan and build mixed use communities, which meet municipal and provincial goals across the province, while appealing to end users."

Featuring York Region's tallest office building (Liberty Square, HSBC Tower) at 12 storeys, eko Markham Centre and Liberty Square, includes dynamic retail at grade, a sustainable green roof and landscaped courtyard, and nearly 600

residential units across four, mixed-use high-rise buildings. Estimates suggest that the community supports nearly 1,000 people and jobs per hectare, which is nearly five times the Provincial target, and has been achieved twenty-five years ahead of the Province's schedule.

eko and Liberty Square have also pursued green technology infrastructure opportunities, such as: Alternative Energy Provision, Water & Green Roof Process, Air Quality Improvement, Waste Diversion Opportunities, and Energy Conservation Initiatives.

Respectful of York Region's planning vision (R.O.P.A. 43 Centres & Corridors) eko has established a vibrant, compact, mixed-use precinct which strengthens the relationship between land use, transportation and transit. "At eko, we are encouraging our users to live, work and play in the Region," says Marco Filice. "With unsurpassed access to the VIVA "Blue Bus" and TTC connections, the entire GTA is just a short, comfortable transit ride away."

"Liberty is honoured to be a recipient of this inaugural award from Canada's largest home building industry association," adds Marco Filice. "But we are most appreciative of the people who have chosen to live or work at eko Markham Centre and Liberty Square. They have helped make it the Community of the Year".



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