

Back to Hundreds line up for first house

Hundreds line up for first house

March 27, 2010

Teri Pecoskie

Hundreds of prospective buyers ended weeks of waiting Saturday when they were finally able to purchase a unit in Daniels Corp.'s new First Home Destination Drive community in Erin Mills.

By the time the sale began at 8 a.m., about 275 people were waiting — some for up to two weeks — eager to buy one of the 130 newly-built condominiums and townhomes at the corner of Winston Churchill Blvd. and Destination Dr., said Don Pugh, vice-president of Daniels Corp.

The units, which range in size from about 400 to 1,600 square feet, sold out on a first-come first-serve basis by 1:30 p.m.

"We had great weather, lots of happy people, tears of joy and lots of hugs," Pugh said. "We had lots of parents helping out their children ... it was amazing."

The homes, aimed at first-time buyers, started at \$139,900.

Even though the First Home program has been around for a while — Destination Drive is the eighth Daniels Corp. community of this sort — it is continuing to gain momentum, particularly among new Canadians and young people, said Pugh.

Part of the communities' appeal is they are entirely built before the units are sold, said Pugh. This way, prospective owners get to walk through and experience exactly what they're going to purchase, rather than merely viewing a model home.

On top of that, the units have pre-installed cable, Internet, telephone, appliances and window coverings, which helps ease the transition to the community.

New owners "can move in with their furniture and their groceries and they're set," Pugh said.

Another Daniels Corp. First Home community is currently under construction in north Brampton.

The 150-unit complex near Bramalea Rd. and Countryside Dr. is expected to be completed by this summer and sold in the same fashion.