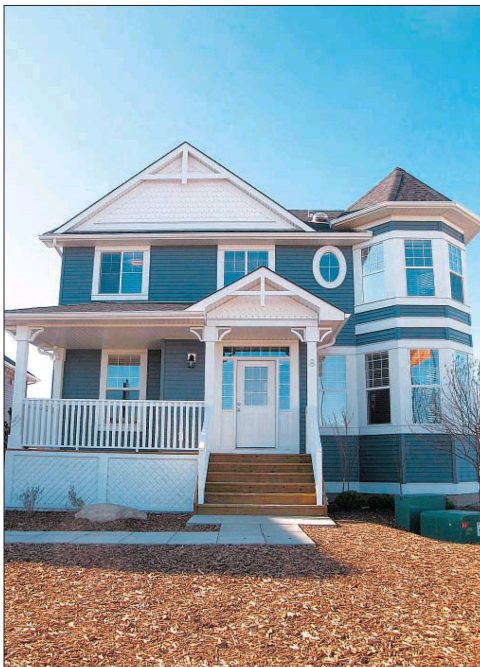


FEATURE STORY



DUSTIN HOFFERT/DCPIX PHOTOGRAPHY

<p>AREA: The Hill, Okotoks DEVELOPER: Qualico Communities BUILDERS: NuVista Homes, Broadview Homes PRICE: From the low \$400,000s. DIRECTIONS: Follow Deerfoot Tr. south to Okotoks. Turn right on Westridge Dr. and follow the signs. HOURS: Monday to Thursday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., weekends and holidays, noon to 5 p.m. CONTACT: Visit www.qualicocommunities.com</p>	FAST FACTS
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NICOLE MCLAWS/SUN MEDIA

Run for The Hill

The old-time traditions of Okotoks are blended with the conveniences of today in Qualico Communities' The Hill. It's all about living comfortably in a home built with modern buyers in mind, on an oversized lot, with greenspace and amenities nearby, all tucked into an established community with stunning views of the valley.

"The vision for The Hill was inspired by small-town traditions," says Qualico Communities marketing manager Lori Masse. "The vision for The Hill reinforces a sense of community through a variety of open spaces, streetscapes and architectural styles."

The first phase of 57 home sites has been released, and with only 150 lots in total, the community is an exclusive one.

Lots range in size from 38- to 85-ft. wide and are interspersed among expansive park spaces and nearby amenities.

"Within The Hill, we're planning three distinct, open park spaces," says Iona Sentes, architectural and

planning co-ordinator.

"The first park is going to be called Teskey Park, the maiden name of Prime Minister Harper's wife Laureen, whose family has been long-time residents of the area."

Triangular in shape, Teskey Park will offer a tot lot for kids, pathways perfect for walking the dog and open green space for all residents to enjoy.

An orchard park will also be found in The Hill, and lots are now available backing onto this outdoor amenity.

"It's more of a formal park in that there will be a lot of plantings and green areas all connected by pathways," Sentes says, adding a third park will be a destination for residents.

"The valley and river views will be quite exceptional from the upper park, which will be more of a linear space where you can really take advantage of the views," Sentes says.

However, the community offers much more than green space — four square, Colonial, Craftsman, Victorian and Tudor-style abodes built by NuVista and Broadview

Homes are traditional in design and offer wide front elevations, which create eye-catching and classic streetscapes.

"We found that residents in the area really prefer the wider lots and the reasons for that are two-fold," Sentes says.

Firstly, she says, a wider home means a more welcoming front elevation — in fact, some show-homes in the area boast verandas that stretch across the entire face of the home.

Another benefit to wider lots is having the option to put a garage either out back or out front.

"We have homes that are customer choice, meaning they can have front attached or rear detached garages," Masse says.

"That way, the community is going to look very put together and that was done for streetscape purposes, so every street will have a gorgeous streetscape."

Six showhomes are now open, and with their vibrant exterior hues and charming details, including turrets, dormers and stonework, each home seamlessly melds the styles of yesterday with the lifestyles of today.



DUSTIN HOFFERT/DCPIX PHOTOGRAPHY