

# MEWS **Apartment Report - Fall 2008**

#### **DANNY'S CORNER**



When I first started in the multi-residential industry over 20 years ago, I quickly gained an appreciation for the relationships that get built through our business. At Skyview, our first priority is our clients!

Danny Iannuzziello Broker of Record

By understanding our

client's needs, working to give them the best return for their investment, and assisting them with finding the resources and services to maintain and grow their investments, we have built some solid business friendships all across Ontario and around the globe.

Skyview's desire is to continue to provide this level of service to you, our valued client. That is why, in this newsletter, you will not only find our latest listings but also resources, updates, and links to information that can assist you in growing your investments in the apartment building industry.

This month, I've asked my long term friends Frank and Peter of JT Plumbing to share some valuable tips for dealing with your building's plumbing - helping you to save time and money resulting in greater effeciency in your building.

You may have noticed a special insert in this issue of Skyviews Newsletter. I encourage you to take a moment to fill that in and send it into my office. As we continually expand our level of service, we want to keep you informed of industry changes, valuable resources for your business, and additional in vestment opportunities in your area. By sending us your updated contact information, especially an e-mail address, you will receive the most up-to-date information on our industry.

Danny lannuzziello

# **Smart Investing in Your Building's Plumbing**

by Frank Salemi and Peter Todorofsky, JT Plumbing Inc.

Your car's engine and your building's plumbing have something in common. Both get taken for granted until something goes wrong. Just as routine maintenance and careful observations can prolong the life of your car, the same diligence with plumbing can help to reduce your overall costs and improve the longevity of your pipes and fixtures. In fact, proper maintenance and wise investments in the right types of plumbing for your building, can also reduce the overall costs for your entire building.

The following are some helpful tips for preventing major expenses down the road, and for ensuring the investment in your building's plumbing brings you a good return:

#### 1) Fix Problems as they Arise

When it comes to plumbing, the guicker you can notice, address, and fix a problem, the better it is for your building and for your pocketbook.

Problems such as leaking pipes or backed up drains are fairly simple to repair, however if they are not addressed in proper time they can add up to more issues down the road. A leaking pipe that is not fixed immediately, for example, will cause you to spend more time and money to fix with issues such as water damage to surrounding areas and the possibility of mold developing.

The best practice for any owner of a residential building is to take a proactive approach to their building. Frequent inspections and keeping a watchful eye on your building's plumbing will save you money and frustration in the long run.



2) Take Care of Leaking Taps and Toilets Leaking taps are a normal occurrence especially in older buildings where there haven't been upgrades to the kitchen and/or bathroom fixtures. Most tenants, however, will stall to report these leaks and will just live with the incessant dripping for a time.

These leaks are literally washing your income down the drain. Did you know that the average single leaking toilet can waste up to 200,000 litres of water annually? That's just one toilet. Imagine if you had a number of toilets leaking in the same building... it really adds up!

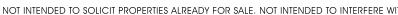
In order to avoid paying extra for water every month there are three key steps you must take in your building. First, make it a priority for your property manager or superintendent to address leaky plumbing service requests immediately. Secondly, during annual inspections, have your property manager keep an eye out for leaks in the bathrooms and kitchens. Lastly, post a notice to your tenants asking for their assistance in dealing with leaks.

Encourage them to file a report as soon as they are aware of a problem with the taps and let them know you will address it as quickly as possible. In buildings where your

...Continued on Page 2

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING, PLEASE CALL (416) 444-6545 FAX (416) 444-6997

Website: www.SkvviewRealtv.com Email: info@skyviewrealty.com



# ARE YOU THINKING OF SELLING?

Below is a partial list of services that our team at Skyview Realty, Ltd. Brokerage will provide for you.

- Provide you up front with a market evaluation of your building.
- Determine an asking price which is acceptable to you.
- Describe how to prepare your building for the best exposure in the market place.
- Prepare a marketing information package to be presented to all prospective purchasers.
- Create a dynamic marketing plan.
- Marketing directly to all prospective purchasers of apartment buildings.
- Follow up and represent the building to qualified potential builders.
- Negotiate an agreement of purchase and sale.
- Advise on various clauses pertinent to the purchase and sale of a prospective building.
- Facilitate the transaction during the due diligence process to ensure a smooth closing.
- Maintain the relationship even after close by providing resources and assistance.

By using Skyview Realty, Ltd. Brokerage, you don't just sell your apartment building, you experience a sense of comfort that you are making a proper decision each step of the way.

My team and I look forward to sharing that experience with you. We can be contacted at anytime through our office at (416) 444-6545.

- Danny lannuzziello, Broker of Record

# "We Don't Just List Apartment Buildings, We Sell Them!"

# Investing in Your Plumbing, Continued from Page 1

tenants pay their own utilities, it is in their best interest to do so.

#### 3) Insulating Pipes

In most apartment building utility rooms, the plumbing pipes are exposed to allow easy access for repairs and upgrades. These exposed pipes can often "sweat" during the summer months and if temperatures reach low enough in the winter months, can lead to freezing - cracking the pipes and causing major damage. Either way, it is a good practice to insulate any exposed pipes. This will improve the longevity of your system and prevent any water damage from the pipes leaking or bursting.

#### 4) Upgrade your Old Plumbing

If it's time for you to upgrade the plumbing in your building, you should be looking at ways to get the most for your investment dollars.

There are cheap ways to upgrade and there are inexpensive ways. There is a difference! Most people look first to the bottom line and go with the cheap option but this can only lead to further expenses down the line. The priority should be placed on finding a plumbing system that is right for your overall budget but will provide your building with the service that will pay for itself in the long run.

There are many different types of plumbing - all with their own benefits. When choosing what type of plumbing (such as CPVC, copper, etc) to use on your building, you want to find the one that will last the most amount of time and require the least amount of maintenance.

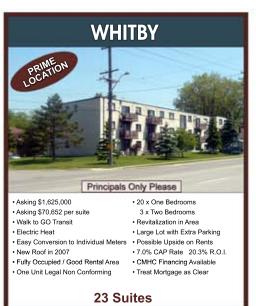
One type of system that has been proven cost efficient and time saving is known as "AquaRise".

It's a CPVC hot and cold water distribution system which is quickly becoming the choice over copper piping because it is strong, highly-engineered, and affordable. Choosing a system such as AquaRise will ensure you have less issues with "sweating" and longer, maintenance-free use in your building.

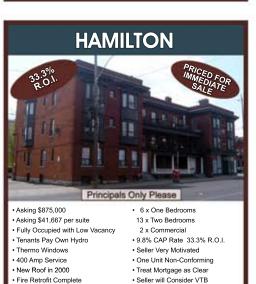
As an owner of a multi-residential building, you focus on the bottom line to get the most out of your investment. By being watchful of your plumbing system and making the right choices regarding repairs and upgrades, you will save yourself valuable time and money.

This resource provided courtesy of: JT Plumbing Inc. Tel: 416-418-1187 jtplumbing@rogers.com







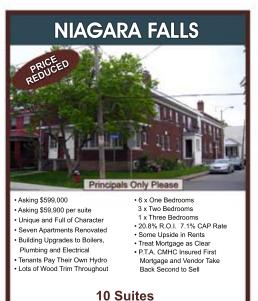


21 Suites

60 Suites







## SKYVIEW'S RECENT TRANSACTIONS



# industry report

# trends and services

## It's Rare... but it Happens

Landlord faces 135 days in Jail for Fire Code Violations

As reported in "Canadian Apartment Magazine" June/July 2008 edition, a Hamilton landlord now faces 135 days in jail for failing to comply with fire code regulations. While jail sentences are rare, it is an indication that fire code violations are taken seriously in the province of Ontario. In this particular case, the landlord was fined and given warnings on other code infractions prior to receiving a warrant for arrest but it does show the extent of the law in relation to tenant safety.

As an owner or investor in multiresidential properties, it is in your best interest to be aware of fire code laws and what your building needs to be compliant.



Working with the right real estate brokerage during the sale or purchase of your property ensures that all fire codes are adhered to.

Contact Skyview's team if you have any questions or would like to access our database of service professionals related to fire code specifications.



#### **UNDERSTANDING FINTRAC**

You may notice changes in the process of your next real estate transaction. FINTRAC or Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada is the federal government's financial intelligence unit with a mandate to collect, analyze and disclose financial information in business transactions. Their purpose is to watch these transactions for possible ties to money laundering and terrorism-related financing. The most noticeable change you will find is when a financial transaction occurs - for example, a deposit placed on a property you are purchasing - you will be asked to provide a government-issued photo identification. Be aware! FINTRAC has issued a Fraud Alert because some individuals have been posing as representatives of FINTRAC and charging fees for "clearance certificates". FINTRAC does not charge any fees related to their program.

For more information on FINTRAC, visit www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca.

# WATCH ON INTEREST RATES 2006 2007 2008 9.00% 8.00% 7.00% 6.00% 5.00% 4.00% 3.00% 2008 Canadian Prime Rate (5 Year) Canadian Bond Rate (5 Year) Residential Mortgage Rate (5 Year) Residential Mortgage Rate (5 Year)

SKYVIEW'S RECOMMENDED SERVICES

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- Weekly Multi-Residential Property Listings
- Industry Related Articles
- News, Resources, and Valuable Links
- Updates on Sold Properties in Your Area



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# **SkyViews**

**FALL 2008** 

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