### DANNY'S CORNER



Happy Holidays from the team at Skyview! We trust you had a fulfilling holiday season spent with your loved ones. As is our annual tradition, the Skyview Team donated toys and gifts in your honour to Holland Bloorview

Kids Rehabilitation Hospital.

Building plumbing systems are one of the capital items in a property that can become increasingly more expensive, and interruptive to tenants, if regular maintenance and inspection is not completed. I've asked Frank Salemi to provide a resource to you in this issue on how to monitor your building's plumbing system.

As I briefly mentioned in our last newsletter, Skyview Realty is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in the multi-unit residential market. We were grateful of Canadian Apartment Magazine for helping us to tell our story. If you have not had a chance as of yet, I welcome you to visit the link below to read more about Skyview's story and some of the clients we've worked with throughout the years.

As we enter into 2015, we wish you a successful year and look forward to working with you in the near future!

-Danny lannuzziello



View Skyview's Anniversary Magazine

@ www.skyviewrealty.com/about.html

## **Plumbing Preventative Maintenance**

By: Frank Salemi, Municipal Mechanical Services Limited

If you are a building or property manager, it is likely you are also a quick change artist. The ability to change hats quickly is something an excellent property or facility manager is adept at doing. Commercial property managers negotiate rentals with new tenants and stay aware of code changes for all building systems including plumbing, electrical and HVAC. Knowing about laws and regulations for the local jurisdiction, waste removal and fire safety is a job requirement, too.

A top concern for managers of properties of all sizes is plumbing systems. Whether the building is an office property, high-rise multi-family residential building or a single-story commercial building, plumbing problems are in a class of their own.

One sign of an experienced and efficient owner or property manager is the ability to solve problems fast and properly the first time. The key to this is to have service agreements with companies you can count on and are comfortable dealing with.

## Tips for Selecting a Plumbing Contractor

An experienced owner or property manager never accepts a plumbing bid over the phone. When approached logically, a phone bid is not a good idea. Is a plumber able to quote a price without inspecting a job? Many new property managers have a rude awakening when the contractor arrives on-site, does the work and presents you with a bill with additional charges. Insist on the contractor coming to your site and making a firm bid based on an inspection.

There are many potential causes of plumbing problems that a phone call cannot analyze. These include tree roots that invade sewer and drain lines, improper installation of original systems and more.

# Make Sure Your Plumber Has the Right Credentials for the Job

As a rule, most provinces require plumbers to license. As a minimum, property managers need proof of licensure and insurance. If the work requires them to enter the premises of residents or tenants, getting a firm with bonded employees is important.

#### **Water Conservation Makes Cents**

One leaking toilet can waste as much as 90 gallons of water in 30 days. If you manage a property, this can lead to excessive water bills. When spread over multiple toilets and multiple properties and water bills, running toilets are budget busters. Inspect plumbing fixtures on managed properties and fix leaking toilets and other fixtures that waste water. These repairs are easy and affordable.

## Maintain Your Water Heating Systems

We all know that a well-maintained car runs longer and better than a car whose owner doesn't give maintenance a second thought. Equally important, preventative maintenance programs cut the number of repairs and their extent.

# No Matter What, Metal Parts of Your Plumbing System Will Rust

Corrosion happens, as a result of alkaline water, oxygen, salts, sand, sulfates,

Continued on Page 2...

#### Plumbing Preventative Maintenance, continued...

...by-products, rust and sediment from the water heating system. Choose well-equipped plumbing companies with the latest technology such as video scopes to inspect pipes and drains to pinpoint the problem, and its location, then select the best method of repair. Consider different material options that might be more cost effective in the long run like PVC and CPVC.

### **Plumbing Emergency**

As a owner or property manager, you know that residents and businesses view any plumbing issue as an emergency. While some plumbing issues may be urgent, there are others that can wait. Slow drains or pull-up drain stoppers that are off their hooks can wait for normal business hours for repairs. The following are issues that are red-flag piping emergencies and need immediate attention, no matter the time or day:

Flooded bathrooms Broken pipes Overflowing toilets
Gas line leaks Corroded pipes

Sewage leakage

### **Property Manager's Plumbing Checklist**

Proactive owners & property managers use a plumbing checklist for periodic inspections of their building's plumbing. It serves as an early warning system to uncover problems while they are small and repair them. The following are items to check.

Look for sign of leaks in pipes that are visible. These include puddles and water stains on the ground. Pay particular attention to areas where pipes run through walls or the building foundation.

Be alert for signs of corrosion. If not repaired, corroded pipes allow for leaks and poor pipe connections. Symptoms of corrosion include green stains over and around brass or copper fittings and on shutoff valves. Older steel pipes show yellow or orange stains.

Water pressure checks ensure that the water comes out with the right force from sink faucets and showerheads. When water pressure is low, it is often a sign of sediment buildup in the faucet or showerhead. Sometimes, low water pressure is a sign of a situation with the water line. Resident's showers sometimes have low water pressure due to sediment clogs. Remove, inspect, and clean the showerhead if there is sediment present.

2015 Rental Increase Guideline: 1.6% Slow drains usually mean dirty drains. Check each drain in each unit for drain speed. If a drain is slow, check the drain and the vent for clogging. Drains should fully swirl when letting water out. Bubbles coming from the drain is usually a sign of clogging. Unusual gurgling sounds are an indication of a potential venting problem.

Flush every toilet to make sure it works properly. Check all internal and external parts of the flush assembly for broken, rusted or missing parts. Make sure the toilet stops when filled. Signs of water on the floor around the toilet show a potential problem. Push each toilet gently to ensure it does not rock.

Check for signs of mildew caused by standing water that has dried

Check the burner chamber of the water heater for the building. Check for rust flakes in the chamber, and check the flame, too. Flames that burn blue are good, while flames with yellow usually mean the jets need cleaning.

Drain the water heater periodically to remove sediment.

Turn each faucet in the building on — water coming from the handle and valves need repair. Self-inspections take a little time depending on your building size. However, doing plumbing inspections on a regular basis stops small, inexpensive problems from turning into large, costly ones.

Proactive property managers pinpoint plumbing problems while they are small and less costly to fix. The pre-selection of your plumber contractor allows for rapid resolution of problems, so tenants know you have their interests at heart, and the management knows you are on top of things and keeping plumbing service calls down.

#### Article Provided by:

Frank Salemi

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www.municipalmechanical.com





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- Apartments in the 1990's Professionally Managed
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- Building Experiences Very Little Vacancy
- Ample Surface Parking
- 43 x One Bedrooms
- · 29 x Two Bedrooms
- 3 x Three Bedrooms
- · Well Maintained and Landscaped Property
- 6.0% CAP Rate
- 19.9% R.O.I.
- Treat Financing as Clear



- Asking \$2.250.000I\$1.950.000 •
- High demand Annex area immediately next door to Subway station & close to Bloor St. W.
- First property is a 19 unit licensed, upper scale rental accommodation
- Second property is a more property with 3 apartments &
- 22 x Bachelors
- 1 x One Bedrooms
- 2 x Two Bedrooms Seller prefers to sell both
- properties as a package. Call Listing Brokerage office for income & expenses
- Treat as Clear
- Properties are listed Heritage buildings



- Asking \$2,875,000
- Asking \$79,861 per Suite Many Recent Upgrades
- Including Roof, Parking, Common Area Hallways. Unit Renovations
- Professionally Managed
- Property Located in North End of London Close to UWO
- 19 x One Bedrooms
- 17 x Two Redrooms Individually Metered
- Tenants Pay Own Hydro · Outdoor Surface Parking
- Upside Potential on Rents
- 6.0% CAP Rate
- 23.4% R.O.I.
- Treat Financing as Clear



- · Superintendent on-site
- Currently fully occupied
- Tenants pay own hydro individually metered
- Well water is routinely tested & maintained
- Property subject to registered easement
- 6.4 CAP Rate
- 17.6 R.O.I.
- · Treat as Clear
- Please Contact Dani Pizzoferrato for further



- Asking \$1,595,000 Gorgeous century mansion on 4 acres with 7 legal apt
- Cabana by the pool (used
- for short-term rental) Large barn on property
- Lots of storage space. Beautifully landscaped property with waterfalls, in-ground pool, and lots of trees and shrubs.
- 7 x 1 Bedroom
- 1 x 5 Bedroom House Several large development proposals
- close to property
  Town says property lies within the urban boundar
- Buyer to do their own Due Diligence • Treat as Clear



**TORONTO** 

This west-end property was listed and sold by Skyview Realty Ltd. Nestled in a residential neighbourhood and close to all amenities, the property was well maintained and self-managed by the Seller. There was potential upside on rents on turnover. The capital items of the building were in good condition at the time of the sale. Pat Villani, Anne Meinschenk, and Arsalan Wathra facilitated all aspects of the transaction exclusively between the Buyer and Seller.



trends and services

SKYVIEW'S RECOMMENDED SERVICES

### **Michael Lombard**

Vice-President Regional Manager - Ontario



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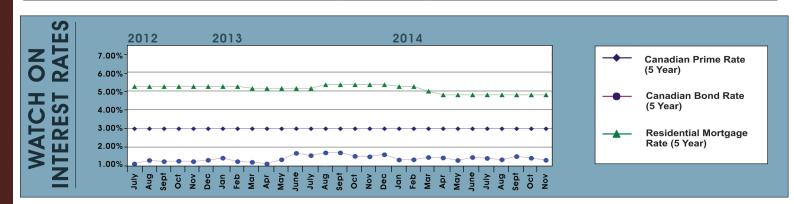
# Want an Offer?

Skyview Realty has a good number of active and qualified buyers who are looking for multi-unit residential buildings throughout Ontario.

If you are considering selling your property, we may be able to bring you an offer immediately.
For more information, contact us at 416.444.6545 or properties@skyviewrealty.com

We Have Buyers

MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL - RECENT TRANSACTIONS			
33 & 35 Kennedy Rd S, Brampton	October 31, 2014	118 Units @ \$161,017	\$19,000,046
3888 Bathurst St, North York	October 29 2014	31 Units @ \$129,032	\$4,000,000
875 Kennedy Rd, Scarborough	October 16, 2014	82 Units @ \$119,512	\$9,800,000
318 Malaga Rd, Oshawa	October 15, 2014	21 Units @ \$92,000	\$1,932,000
8 Queenston St, St Catherines	October 14, 2014	54 Units @ \$52,000	\$2,808,000
502 Gilbert Ave, York	October 14, 2014	23 Units @ \$117,391	\$2,700,000
1A Birchlea Ave, Etobicoke	October 3. 2014	22 Units @ \$85,455	\$1,880,000
40 Trethewey Dr / 3 Greentree Ct, York	October 1, 2014	86 Units @ \$95,930	\$8,250,000
1491 Wilson Ave, North York	Sept 30,2014	40 Units @ \$126,950	\$5,078,000
110 James St, Kingston	Sept 30, 2014	16 Units @ \$81,563	\$1,305,000
2100 Camilla Rd, Mississauga	Sept 12, 2014	103 Units @ \$139,417	\$14,360,000
200 Devonshire Ave, London	Sept 12, 2014	13 Units @ \$71,538	\$930,000
580 The East Mall, Etobicoke	Sept 11, 2014	122 Units @ \$150,000	\$18,300,000
560 Bloor St E, Oshawa	Sept 11, 2014	39 Units @ \$89,744	\$3,500,000
2 Kinsdale Blvd, Etobicoke	August 29 2014	45 Units @ \$155,556	\$7,000,000
355 Clyde Rd, Cambridge	August 29, 2014	11 Units @ \$105,227	\$1,157,500
147 Catharine St S, Hamilton	August 25, 2014	25 Units @ \$78,000	\$1,950,000
	SOURCE: Realtrack Inc. www.realtrack.c	com 1-877-962-9033	



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### Winter 2015

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