

» TORONTO STAR «

SECTION H
SATURDAY
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New in Homes & Condos

COOKING WITH GAS

Colin and Justin serve up a budget kitchen that doesn't skimp on style, **H4**



A UNIQUE PRESENCE

L Tower, designed by star architect Daniel Libeskind, finally breaks ground, **H2**



THE BIRTH OF A CONDO PART ONE: SITE SELECTION

Out on the edge



Developers seek approval to convert a dilapidated former skate factory into a gleaming condo

In this five-part series, the Toronto Star follows the development of a highrise condominium — Blade in Brampton — from site selection through to the sales launch, offering an in-depth look at the logistical challenges and critical decisions that emerge along the way.

RYAN STARR
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

For years the now-defunct Dominion Skate factory has been a blight on Brampton, a derelict property that's done nothing to help the city in its efforts to revitalize the downtown area and attract new residents and businesses.

In recent years the building had become home to a car repair shop and at some point was rented out as a rehearsal space for bands. The semi-abandoned space had also begun to attract a seedier element.

"There were people living there illegally for a while," says Grant Gibson, a regional councillor and former chair of Brampton's planning

BLADE continued on H6

GREEN HOME

Taking the LEED in Newmarket

Developer is first Canadian builder of an occupied neighbourhood with highest 'green' ranking

TRACY HANES
TORONTO STAR

Shelagh Dunlop and her family have officially become green trailblazers.

This week, Dunlop, her husband Denis and their two daughters were recognized as the first residents of a LEED Platinum certified house in Ontario in a ceremony attended by Minister of Energy and Infrastructure George Smitherman.

And their builder, Rodeo Fine Homes, officially became Canada's first builder of an occupied neighbourhood of LEED Platinum Homes at its EcoLogic development in Newmarket.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum is the highest "green" home rating in North America, going beyond energy savings to promote waste diversion, soil erosion controls, use of recycled materials, advanced framing and other environmental advances. The rating is based on a point system.

The EcoLogic homes contain features such as solar thermal hot water preheat, drain water heat recovery, dual-purpose burners which heat both space and water, rainwater collection cisterns, Energy Star

GREEN continued on H18



SARAH DEA FOR THE TORONTO STAR

Rebecca Dunlop, 8, with her mother, Shelagh Dunlop, in the family's LEED Platinum house on Rodeo Fine Homes' Quaker Trail site in Newmarket.

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Where To Look.



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