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For more information please contact:
Lewis Carroll Communications
(416) 968-3945

Ancient plant on cutting edge

New or Notable

What's in? Horsetail ferns. That's what you'll find in model suites and sales offices for condominium projects that emphasize leading-edge design as one of their selling points.

The sales centre for Concord-Adex Development Corp. was well supplied with horsetail ferns, not to mention clusters of cut bamboo, when the company unveiled a model of its \$1.5 billion project for Toronto's fallow rail lands, earlier this month.

Check out the model suite for Phoebe@Queen, on Beverley St. just north of Queen St. W. That suite, designed by Elaine Ceconi and Anna Simone has thick bunches of horsetail ferns, in the little kitchen garden they've created in the kitchen island.

Take a trip to midtown, as well, and you'll find more of the horsetails, in bunches, lined up in front of the translucent glass panels at the entry to the sales office of 99 Avenue.

Horsetails are ancient. They're leftovers from the dinosaur age, when they used to grow huge. The dinosaur displays at the Royal Ontario Museum show how truly impressive horsetails used to be.



COLIN MCCONNELL/TORONTO STAR

TRENDSSETTERS: Developer Julie DiLorenzo of Diamante Developments poses behind the horsetail ferns in the model suite at Phoebe@Queen. The suite was designed by Ceconi Simone, a Toronto interior firm that's developing an international reputation for its innovative modern creations.