

REAL ESTATE

Mainstreet, CAP REIT exchange properties

TORONTO

Canadian Apartment Properties Real Estate Investment Trust and Mainstreet Equity Corp. are exchanging properties in Calgary and the Toronto area in transactions "that give each a greater national presence in the multi-family residential real estate market."

CAP REIT said Friday it is buying a 188-unit townhouse development in northwest Calgary from Mainstreet for \$16.8 million, its first purchase in Calgary.

And Mainstreet Equity is entering the East by buying a 104-suite apartment building at 1175 Dundas St. West in Mississauga from CAP REIT. Details are to be disclosed when the sale closes by April 1.

"This purchase represents our launch into Eastern Canada, which has long been a key element of our strategic plan," stated Bob Dhillon, chief executive officer of Calgary-based Mainstreet.

"We look forward to a long and mutually rewarding relationship with CAP REIT."

For CAP REIT, "in addition to further accelerating our geographic diversification strategy, this transaction also involved the first sale of a property by CAP REIT, a clear demonstration of the benefits generated by our operating skills and the freehold ownership of our portfolio," stated Thomas Schwartz, president of the Toronto-based real estate investment trust, which owns 12,675 residential units in Canadian cities.