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*'I didn't want to pay rent anymore – I'm not a big fan of paying off someone else's mortgage'* **Danielle Schwartz**

**A**t one time, people usually waited until they were married to purchase their first home. But times (and demographics) have changed, people are waiting much longer to get married, and single people – especially single women – are making up a larger and larger percentage of today's home buyers.

Next fall, Danielle Schwartz will move into her own two bedroom condominium. Like man buyers, she was looking at her home as both a place to live and an investment.

"Basically, I decided to buy because I didn't want to pay rent anymore," explains Danielle. "I'm not a big fan of paying of someone else's mortgage."

Danielle is a freelance TV commercial producer, who works with both Generator Films and Avion Films. Her schedule is busy and erratic. "When I'm in the middle of a project, I end up working night and day," she says.

Initially, Danielle was looking for a house, and spent over a year visiting homes around the city. "All the areas I

wanted to live in were high demand areas, and I was tired of trying to compete with other buyers," she says. "And when I gave it some thought, I realized a condo would probably be better especially with my schedule."

Once Danielle decided to go condo, buying was a relatively short process. "I went in and looked on Thursday, looked again on Friday, and by Saturday I had signed a contract," she says.

The project that she bought at is The St. Clair, a mid-rise condominium on Deslisle Avenue, just north of Yonge Street and St. Clair Avenue.

"This is the perfect location," explains Danielle. "I wanted to be downtown, but not right downtown." She is very familiar with this neighbourhood, having grown up just a few blocks away. "I'm very comfortable here," she says. "I like the area, and I don't see any reason why I should change."

The St. Clair, which is being built by Barclay-Grayson, is a 226-suite building with more than 20 different floorplans,

including one-, two- and two-bedroom plus den designs. Suites range in price from \$159,900 up to \$1.2 million.

Danielle's new home is a two-bedroom plus den, with two bathrooms and about 1,100 square feet of living space. "I'm not sure what I'm going to do with all that space, but I've got about 70 percent of the furniture I need already," she says.

One of the things Danielle really likes about her new condo is that the developer took the time to host a brunch reception for purchasers at nearby Il Fornello. "That was really nice," says Danielle. "It gave me a chance to meet a few of my neighbours. I've talked to some of my other friends who bought condos and they wish they could have gone to an event like that before they moved into their buildings."

There are still some suites available at The St. Clair, which is now under construction. For more information, call 416-513-0029 or visit their web site at [www.baker-re.com/thestclair.htm](http://www.baker-re.com/thestclair.htm).



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