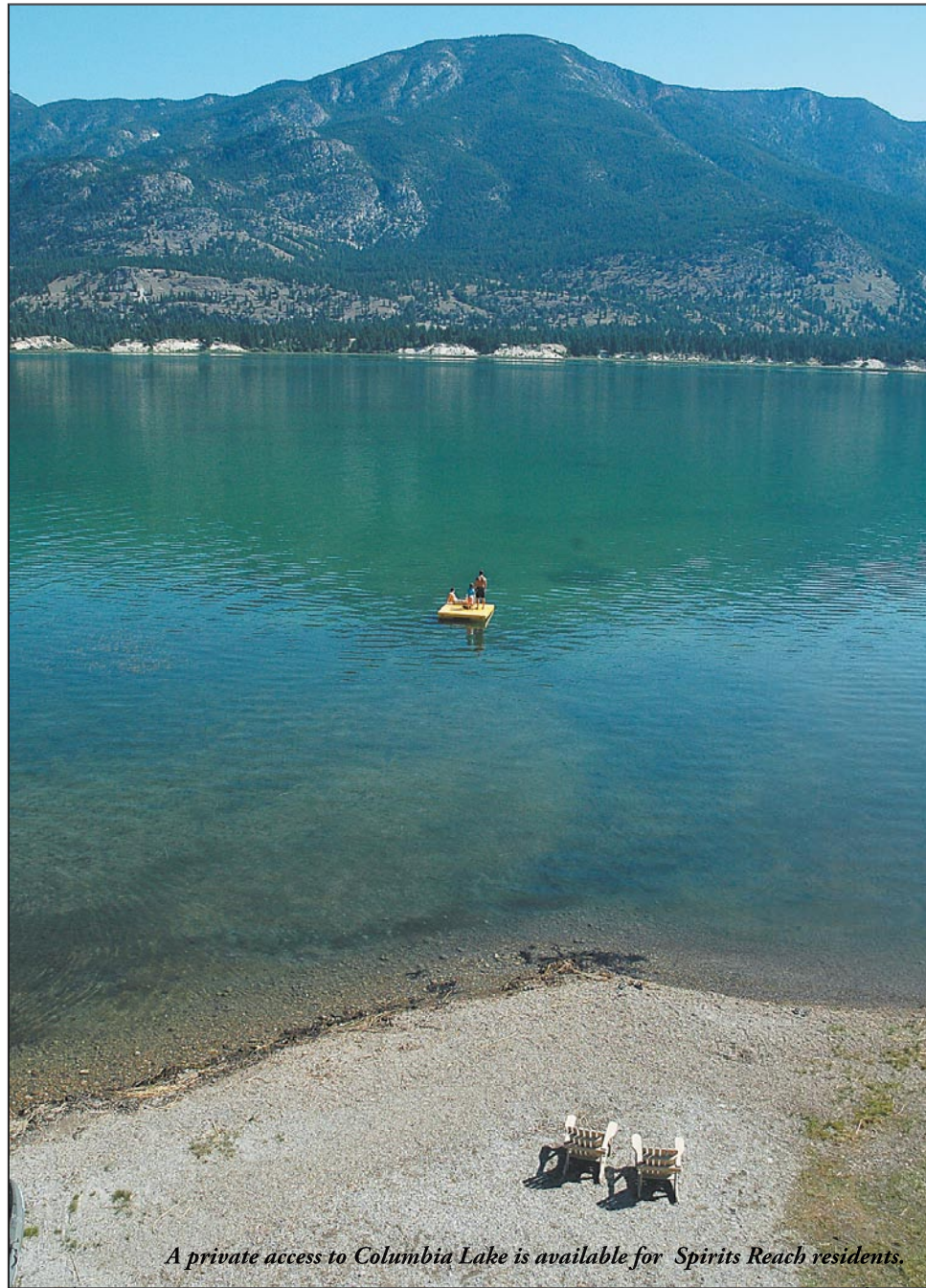


PULL OUT

NEW HOMES

Your Guide to New Housing Developments in the Columbia Valley



A private access to Columbia Lake is available for Spirits Reach residents.

Spirits Reach

Business Feature by Pioneer Staff

Purchase a home at Spirits Reach and you're not just buying into a condo development. You're becoming a part of a community that is committed to being environmentally conscious, while creating a neighbourhood where families can connect and relax.

"Creating family memories is what it's all about," said co-owner Donna Rae, as she explained the community vision. "Part of the 'spirit' of Spirits Reach is community. Families can gather and belong, get to know their neighbours and make lifelong friendships."

Dave and Donna Rae's Columere Park Developments purchased 500 acres beside pristine Columbia Lake over a period of eight years. Plans for the land will see 250 of those acres developed, with the other half remaining as is – natural, untouched and begging to be explored.

Spirits Reach will encompass four neighbourhoods: Spirit of the Lake, which is already partially completed and currently has homes available; Spirits Rise; Hardie Creek; and Mustangs Crossing. A network of footpaths and biking trails will link the neighbourhoods, which will host comprehensive lifestyle amenities.

Two of those amenities are already completed: last month Spirits Reach held a grand opening for The Lakehouse, an architecturally-designed villa beside Columbia Lake from which residents can swim, kayak or sail – or simply soak up the peace and tranquility.

And the vision gets grander. The next stages of development include such amenities as a recreation centre that will contain a swimming facility, a fitness centre and a skating rink.

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At Trailhead Ranch, residents can stable their horses, ride in the outdoor arena and participate in an equestrian program. A bed and breakfast lodge will be built nearby, and a restaurant with panoramic lake views will offer organic meals using produce from the region.

On the property's outskirts, an outdoor amphitheatre will host local entertainment and community gatherings, and within the elaborate trail system through the undeveloped land, residents will find a yoga hut and a variety of smaller huts where they can take a break during their hike.

All of this will be completed within six to 10 years. Right now, though, there are homes for sale in the Spirit of the Lake neighbourhood, which has direct access to Columbia Lake. Launched in September 2006, the first residents moved in last July. Of the 34 homes that have so far been constructed, just 12 are still available.

It's when you get down to the detail of these homes that you truly realize how remarkable Spirits Reach is. Everything about these new homes is tailored to minimize environmental impact.

Heating is geothermal – every home is built with its own technology that uses the heat from the earth to warm and cool. The unit also preheats the hot water tank so it uses less electricity (environmentally conscious and cost effective).

The windows contain low-emissive, argon-filled glass that reflects the temperature rather than absorbing it. Formaldehyde-free insulation is blown into the roof to improve energy efficiency – and it has the added bonus of reducing sound transmission.

In a particularly unique move, the wood in the fireplace mantles comes from trees removed from elsewhere on the property – wood that has been treated and prepared by the previous owner of the ranch.

All of these individual aspects come together to create a community that is set apart from other developments in the Columbia Valley. Such high respect for the land, the lake and the unique sense of community found in this region will make Spirits Reach a place people flock to experience.

For more information, call 1-877-349-7575, visit the Spirits Reach show-home or see www.spiritsreach.com.



High-quality Bosch dishwashers and Grohe water faucets are a feature of the kitchens.