

Athene shifts to new office ahead of time

BY DAVID PARKER, CALGARY HERALD MARCH 12, 2009



Athene Corporate Services president Shaune Eldred, right, with managers Kristin Weisenburger and Mechele Esselmont at the company's new office in Quarry Park.

Photograph by: Lorraine Hjalte, Calgary Herald, Calgary Herald

Not very often do you hear of tenants moving into new buildings ahead of schedule, but that's the nice surprise presented to Shaune Eldred when Remington Development had her new Quarry Park space ready for her to move in, one month before the original date of occupancy.

The president of Athene Corporate Services leased the entire top third floor of 160 Quarry Park Blvd. through Chris Law of Colliers International expecting to be able to work on tenant improvements in April. The building is already completed with 72 executive offices and suites complete with brand new furniture throughout its 22,000 square feet.

They vary in size from single offices to larger rooms with two or more desks and suites of offices for larger companies. Tenants are provided with a full range of professional, high-tech services that can include administrative, accounting, legal and human resources assistance.

Visitors are welcomed to a nicely decorated reception area fitted with Danziger Glass Design Studio panels imported from California, and the same quality is found throughout the floor. Tenants have the use of a well-equipped modern kitchen, a waterfall wall garden room, and a number of meeting rooms as well as a large, well-equipped board room.

A key component is the technical room where the server for Athene's three properties is located, fitted with state-of-the-art equipment that allows tenants to have personalized phone answering forwarded anywhere by voice or e-mail. And most important is having technical staff on hand --just one of the big

company advantages without the overhead. Tenants need only show up to their new offices with a computer-- everything else is provided.

Athene's offices are in the North Campus sector between the new Amec building and Cardell Homes' new office block. It looks out across a central water feature and an immense amount of free parking to the impressive Jacobs Canada building. And directly in front is the under-construction Market at Quarry Park, which will include a boutique Calgary Co-op store, retail services and restaurants.

Add Quarry Park's 36.4-hectare of parks and pathways with access to the Bow River and the location becomes a most pleasant place to work out of.

Eldred says an added bonus is that her clients are able to make use of the other two Athene centres at Garrison Green or in One Executive Place across from McMahon Stadium and the University of Calgary, as they travel around the city.

Advent Commercial Real Estate Group has been launched by a team of commercial realtors who can boast experience with 15 buildings over 28.3 hectares of land listed for lease and sale, and a property management portfolio of more than 570,000 square feet.

Partners in the new venture are Garry Bobke and Luke Stiles, formerly of Avenue Commercial, and Sid Smith who was a partner with Inducor Real Estate Solutions.

They are joined by other former employees of the two real estate companies including Sean Bradley and Chris Chornohos of Inducor and also Trevor Johnson who was with Avenue.

Advent has leased office space on the ground floor of 1401 1st St. S. E.

Bob Dhilon, president and CEO of Mainstreet Equity Corp. and honorary consul general in Canada for Belize, has spent the past few days escorting that country's Minister of Tourism and Aviation Jose Manuel Heredia, visiting Calgary to promote tourism to the tropical paradise. He was accompanied by Michael Singh, CEO of Belize Tourism Board.

David Parker Appears Tuesday, Thursday And Friday. He Can Be Reached At 403-830-4622 Or E-mail info@davidparker.ca.

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