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## THE REBIRTH OF THE ROYAL CONNAUGHT

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One of our favourite things here at the Toronto Star's NewInHomes.com is witnessing the re-birth and re-purposing of historic buildings in the Greater Toronto Area. Allowing the city's history to thrive for further generations is how you build a world-class city.

A great example of this is the plan for The Royal Connaught Hotel in Hamilton. The century-old building has been empty for the past few years, awaiting word on its future. Well, thanks to our friends at Valery Homes and The Spallacci Group, the Royal Connaught Hotel is in for quite the change!

Valery Homes and The Spallacci Group recently announced their plans to transform one of the city's most iconic landmarks into a new residential destination point. The plan calls for 700 new residential condominium units into the heart of Hamilton, plus 13,000 square feet of retail space on the ground floor. A significant portion of the residential units will be located in a new seven-storey podium, one that will complement the historic facade of the Connaught Hotel.

Everyone is very excited about the Royal Connaught plans:

"People see The Royal Connaught as their hotel," says Ted Valeri of Valery Homes. "Our plans for the project are to bring it back and make people proud of this iconic address once again."

"We can build in numerous communities, but the heart is missing in our city and we want to bring it back," says Rudi Spallacci of Spallacci Homes.

“We need the Connaught to come back to life so people in the city as well as the rest of the world understand that Hamilton is on the move again,” says Mayor Bob Bratina.

“Hamilton is witnessing a surge of new people from all over who want to live in our core. The Connaught development will certainly ramp that up and help bring the Gore Park Master Plan to life,” says Councillor Jason Farr. “Given the reputation of the two developers, there will be lots of hometown pride in the project.”

Between the cool low-rise developments that are starting to emerge, and the planned high-rises, Hamilton is certainly experiencing a renaissance.

The developers are releasing 135 new suites that will be built behind the original facade of the first two Connaught Buildings, with a completion date scheduled for 2015.

For more information on the development, check out [www.royalconnaught.com](http://www.royalconnaught.com).