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Homes on the range

By THOMASINA BARNES
Special to The Globe and Mail

TOBIANO EQUESTRIAN LOTS

DEVELOPER: Pagebook Inc.

PRICE: Starting at \$245,900

LOT SIZE: From 0.24 acres to 0.40 acres

SALES CENTRE: Tobiano Discovery Centre at 7000 Trans Canada Highway, outside Kamloops, is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CONTACT: 1-877-373-0055 or <http://www.tobianoliving.com>

With the launch of 19 equestrian building lots at the Tobiano development near Kamloops, Michael Grenier aims to meld the history of ranching with the luxury of resort life.

"In the heart of lake country but with all the luxury amenities, Tobiano paves the way for a new kind of residential resort destination," says Mr. Grenier, owner of real estate developer Pagebrook Inc., which bought the site in 1996.

"Riding your horse home will be a perk many horse-lovers won't be able to pass up," he predicts.

Amenities at the 1,000-acre planned community - which has drawn the attention of celebrities such as Jennifer Lopez and David Letterman - have been designed with equestrians in mind.

Landscaped bridle paths connect with the development's Tom McBroom-designed golf course, 100-slip marina at Kamloops Lake, pedestrian village and community hotels.

With an adjacent equestrian centre including stables, paddocks, arenas and tack shop, as well as the idyllic riding environment of rolling hills and lake-view trails, Tobiano hopes to become an unparalleled community for horse lovers.

The \$500-million development is encompassed by Six Mile Ranch, which Mr. Grenier also owns. The century-old working cattle farm is about 15 minutes' drive west of Kamloops and borders on 17,000 acres of wilderness. The ranch's trails will allow Tobiano residents to ride into the horse-friendly border area.

Mr. Grenier's own award-winning post-and-beam home at Tobiano exemplifies the housing designs available for buyers. Building guidelines promote the use of natural materials intended to blend with the environment.

Pagebook, owned by Mr. Grenier and his father, Bill, is a family-run company which has nearly 40 residential, hospitality and commercial projects throughout Canada, the United States and the Caribbean.

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