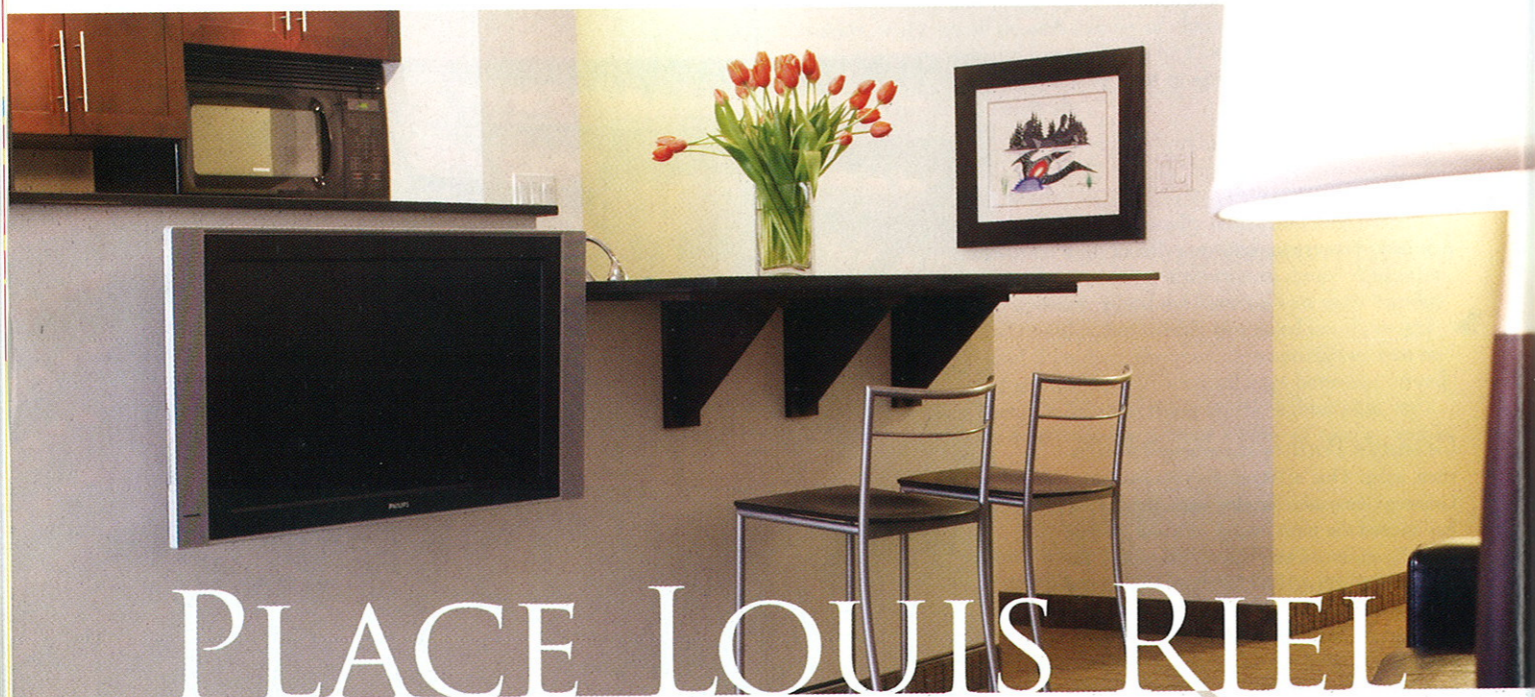




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Complete and Chic:

By Ian Mozdzen



Place Louis Riel Suite Hotel Reinvents Downtown Accommodation

"Here come the chairs," proudly announces Krista Mask, Place Louis Riel Suite Hotel's Manager of Marketing and Sales. An onslaught of lavish furnishings and cutting-edge appliances have just been delivered and are making their way up to yet another revamped floor. "More and more luxury," Krista affirms as the elevator whisks us up the 23-storey hotel for a tour of its new boutique-styled digs.

Adding momentum to downtown rejuvenation, this high-rise apartment turned suite hotel is ensconced in a startling \$15 million dollar upgrade thanks to Westcorp Properties Inc, the hotel's innovative new ownership.

"As one of Winnipeg's largest hotels, we are excited to push Place Louis Riel Suite Hotel past the competition and into a new level of luxury and comfort," says Westcorp Inc's Director of Hotels, Marina R. Kulba.

The first phase, including an extensive parkade restoration and dramatic six-floor renovation, is nearing completion. So begins the reinvention of the accommodation experience in Winnipeg ...



The moment the elevator doors slide open, the transformation is clearly stated. The hallway's sleek design, featuring dark wood paneling, energy-efficient contemporary lighting, and inviting colour palette evoke a warm and modern sensibility.

This sensibility naturally extends into the suites. Helmed by Kasian Architecture Interior Design and Planning, renowned for its inspired approach to space that synthesizes culture, functionality, and personality, each spacious apartment-sized

suite, ranging from the 450 square-foot open concept studio suite to the whopping 1,300 square-foot adjoining suites, boasts complete and chic kitchen and living facilities that rival the comforts of home.

The redesigned suites are decked out in a plethora of luxuries and encourage both nightly and extended stay visitors to kick it back with comfort and style: black granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, pillow-top mattresses with crisp linens and plush duvets, 32-inch HDTVs, aromatherapy bath products, deep soaker bathtubs, tan carpeting, handsome draperies, California-style closets and sophisticated leather furniture.

"Our guests have always deserved the best and now we will be able to live up to that commitment," states Marina.

Add to all these refined features Place Louis Riel's private collection of Manitoba and Northwest Ontario Aboriginal and naturalist

artwork attractively reframed and displayed in every suite, plus a stunning view of downtown, St. Boniface, the Legislature, and surrounding areas, and a reputation for friendly professional service, and you've got a hotel experience that redefines comfort for business and pleasure travelers alike.

"The renovations will accentuate Place Louis Riel Suite Hotel's already impressive selling features," Krista promises.

Looking to the future, the second and third phases will, in addition to ongoing guest floor renovations, add a touch of luxury to the lobby and public areas, fitness room, offices, meeting rooms, and commercial space. Hotel officials anticipate completion for the renovations in 2010. Place Louis Riel is set to soon put the city's finest foot forward.

Our tour of the hotel's new luxuries at close, Krista can indeed confirm, "People will see Place Louis Riel as a destination and a fabulous place to do business with style."

