# NOTICE OF MURANO CONDOMINIUM TOWERS CLASS ACTION AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

#### PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AS IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS.

# WHAT IS THIS NOTICE ABOUT?

This notice is directed to all persons (the "Class" or "Class Members"), subject to certain exclusions detailed in the Settlement Agreement, who owned, rented and/or ordinarily resided in one of the 731 condominium residential units in the condominium located at the North Tower, at 37 Grosvenor Street ("North Tower") between November 30, 2010 to April 2011, and July 2011 to November 2012, and the South Tower at 38 Grenville Street ("South Tower" and, collectively with the North Tower, "Murano") between August 2011 and December 2012, who were not already opted out of the class proceeding.

This notice concerns the proposed settlement (the "Settlement") of a class action lawsuit against Bay Grenville Properties Inc., Lanterra Developments Ltd., Toro Aluminum Railings Inc., and H&R Developments Inc. (the "Defendants"). The lawsuit alleges in April 2010 glass paneling installed on the North Tower balconies fell into the street, necessitating the closure of the balconies and a lengthy repair process (the "Falling Glass Incidents") which lasted from November 30, 2010 to April 2011 for the first restoration period and from July 2011 to November 2012 for the second restoration period ("North Tower Class Period"). The lawsuit alleges in and around the same time that the glass panelling installed on the North Tower balconies fell into the street, the same was occurring on the South Tower, necessitating the closure of the balconies and a lengthy repair process which lasted from August 2011 to December 2012 ("South Tower Class Period" and collectively with the North Tower Class Period, the "Class Period"). The Defendants deny that they have violated any laws and deny that they have engaged in any wrongdoing.

# THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

The parties have entered into a settlement agreement (the "**Settlement Agreement**"). In order for the Settlement to become effective, it must be approved by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (the "**Court**"). If the Court approves the Settlement Agreement, the Defendants will pay \$2,700,000.00 (two million, seven hundred thousand) (the "**Settlement Fund**"), plus \$70,000¹ towards the cost of claims administration (the "**Administration Fund**") to settle the claims of the Class Members, including the Legal Fees and Disbursements and the costs of administering the settlement, in return for a release and a dismissal of the class action. If you would like a copy of the Settlement Agreement, it is available at:

- 1. www.muranosettlement.ca;
- 2. <a href="https://www.strosbergco.com/class-actions/fallingglass/">https://www.strosbergco.com/class-actions/fallingglass/</a>, and
- 3. https://www.charneylawyers.com/murano-towers-class-action

or a copy can be obtained by contacting Class Counsel as listed below.

The Defendants do not admit wrongdoing or liability. This Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims.

# **COMPENSATION FOR CLASS MEMBERS**

Eligible Class Members will receive an award calculated on the amount of the Settlement Fund remaining after payment of legal fees, disbursements, and taxes thereon, and administrative expenses for the settlement administration (the "**Net Settlement Fund**"). The Claims Administrator will calculate awards on a per unit basis. The award for units will be calculated at about \$2,000 per unit (the "**Awards**").

These amounts are based on an award per unit over the Class Period without consideration of (a) the number of people living in the unit, or (b) the size of the balcony in the unit. If after all eligible claims are calculated there remains a surplus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The amount of \$70,000 is a dedicated amount set aside to cover the cost of administration on this matter and on another similar matter, *Krishna et al. v. Bedford at Bloor Realty Inc. et al.*, CV-12-45562-CP00. If the combined costs of administration of both matters exceeds \$70,000, then excess costs of administration will be taken from the Settlement Fund in each matter *pro rata*.

in the net settlement fund, then the balance is to be allocated to the claimants who submitted an eligible claim and distributed proportionally. If the net settlement fund is insufficient to pay the Awards then the fund shall be shared proportionally amongst all eligible claims.

If unit owner(s) and/or a tenant(s) was in possession of the unit for all or part of the class period, the owner(s) and/or the tenant(s) will share the payment based upon the month(s) each occupied the unit during the Class Period. If, during the Class Period, a unit owner gave a rent abatement to a tenant, the owner will be reimbursed for that abatement in priority to the tenant.

You cannot make a Claim until after the Settlement is approved. If the Settlement is approved, further notice of the Settlement will NOT be given. You should monitor the Claims Administrator's Website and check it regularly at <a href="https://www.muranosettlement.ca">www.muranosettlement.ca</a> for the latest information on the status of the Settlement and the details and deadline for making a Claim.

# SETTLEMENT APPROVAL HEARING

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice will hold a virtual settlement approval hearing at the courthouse at Osgoode Hall, 130 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario on June 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM to consider whether the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the Class (the "Approval Hearing"). Class Members and members of the public may attend the virtual Approval Hearing but are not required to do so. The details on how to attend remotely will be posted to <a href="https://www.muranosettlement.ca">www.muranosettlement.ca</a>.

As a Class Member, you are entitled, but not obligated, to express your opinions about the proposed settlement and whether it should be approved. If you wish to make a submission to the Court supporting or objecting to the proposed settlement, you must send your submissions in writing by email to the Claims Administrator, at <a href="mailto:fallingglass@ricepoint.com">fallingglass@ricepoint.com</a>, and ensure they are received no later than June 2, 2023. The Claims Administrator will provide all submissions to the Court and the Defendants in advance of the Approval Hearing. Your written submissions should include:

- your name, address and telephone number;
- a brief statement of the reasons that you support or object to the proposed settlement terms; and
- whether you plan to attend at the Approval Hearing.

#### ADMINISTRATION COSTS AND LEGAL FEES

The Plaintiffs entered into contingency fee agreements with Class Counsel, providing that Class Counsel are to be paid only in the event of a successful settlement or judgment. Class Counsel will be asking that the Court approve legal fees of 30% of the Settlement Fund, plus disbursements and applicable taxes, in accordance with the contingency fee agreements. Class Counsel will also be asking that the Court approve an honorarium of \$5,000 to be awarded to each of the two Plaintiffs in recognition of their role in this litigation (the "**Honorariums**").

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions regarding this Notice or the proposed settlement, please contact Class Counsel as follows:

Kateryna Galts Charney Lawyers PC 151 Bloor St. W., Suite 602 Toronto, ON M5S 1S4

Tel: (416) 964-7950

Email: info@charneylawyers.com

Marietta Underwood Strosberg Sasso Sutts LLP 1561 Ouellette Avenue Windsor, ON N8X 1K5 Tel: 519.561.6294

Email: munderwood@strosbergco.com

# Please do not call the defendants or the courts about this action.

# **INTERPRETATION**

This Notice has been approved by the Court and contains a summary of some of the terms of the proposed settlement. If there is a conflict between the provisions of this Notice and the Settlement Agreement, the Settlement Agreement shall prevail.

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE.