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Award winners

Our most recent issue displayed all of the entrants in this year's RenoMark Renovators Council Awards. We are delighted to be able to share the results with you on pages 19-24. These renovation professionals are clearly concerned about getting the job done right and complete customer satisfaction.

Would you like your home to look like it belongs in a magazine? All of us would undoubtedly say 'yes,' but not all of us may be aware of how to go about accomplishing that in the most effective way possible. The pages of this magazine have always promoted doing it right the first time. What does that mean? Hire professionals.

We are most fortunate to have such a talented pool of renovators to call upon. The creativity and experience our professional renovators have acquired is clearly seen in the ads and stories we publish from issue to issue. When working on our editorial features, we speak with all of the homeowners and in 16 years have yet to hear any negative comments.

Working with a member of the Manitoba Home Builders' Association will ensure that you have a positive experience and that your renovation goals are achieved. A professional renovator works with you from start to finish, has the necessary technical know-how, and works with an experienced network of staff, subtrades and suppliers. A professional renovator will direct you to speak with past clients. This allows you to evaluate their work and learn of their reputation.

Don't be fooled by someone unqualified who is offering you the lowest price! In the end, you could very well be paying much more. Professional renovators will provide you with accurate pricing as well as a detailed written contract. They will also have liability insurance and workers compensation coverage.

The MHBA's adage to 'do it right, hire a professional,' is a wise course to follow. Instead of risking a failed renovation attempt, you will be confident knowing that your investment is in good hands.

MERLYN MINTY
MERLYN MINTY EDITOR

home decor & RENOVATIONS

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WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Home Décor and Renovations Magazine welcomes your comments, questions, stories and suggestions!

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10 WAYS TO BE THE *perfect party host* by SARA DUCK

Peggy Post, great-granddaughter-in-law to the famous American etiquette writer Emily Post, shares her top tips for entertaining with style and grace during this busy season.

INVITE CLEARLY

Include necessary information for your guests in the invitation, such as where the event will be held, what time and dress code required.

THE LIST

Preparing your guest list carefully is key to a successful party. Creating a congenial guest list ensures a comfortable and enjoyable evening for all.

KEEP CALM AND PLAN ON

Set your menu ahead of time, ensuring you've checked all of your guests' dietary restrictions and you have enough food for the entire evening.

ACCEPT OFFERS OF HELP

Throwing a party can be enjoyable, especially if you approach it with simplicity. If someone offers to bring something, look at your menu and ask accordingly.

WATCH THE CLOCK

Expect guests to arrive on time and plan to be ready 15 minutes ahead of time so that you can warmly welcome them. This includes having your table set, bar stocked and bathrooms ready with extra tissue and essentials.

THE SPARK

As host, you set the tone for making your guests feel comfortable and welcome. Make sure to circulate the room, introduce guests to each other, engage in interesting conversation. No talk of politics, please!

BE ATTUNED TO GUESTS' COMFORT

When it comes to your guests, be on the pulse to their needs. Offer seconds to those who may be a little shy to ask for more and look out for wallflowers shying away from conversations.

FLEXIBLE AND GRACIOUS

Your soufflé falls. Or one friend arrives with an unexpected guest. The ruined dessert? Have a fallback. The uninvited guest? As discourteous as it is for someone to spring a surprise on you, be gracious. No polite host would ever send an uninvited guest packing.

START THE MEAL GRACEFULLY

Signal when guests can start the meal, you may need to finish off the last details in the kitchen and don't want the food to get cold. Give a welcome speech and tell everyone to start.

SHOW APPRECIATION

Thank people for coming as you bid them goodbye. And don't forget to thank anyone who brought you a gift.



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Jillian Harris

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In town to promote LG's cool new door-in-door refrigerator, designer, blogger and TV star Jillian Harris shares some of her inspiring entertaining tips – causing a serious fangirl moment along the way.

by **SARA DUCK** / photo by **KAROLINA TUREK PHOTOGRAPHY**

Tell us about your partnership with LG

J: LG approached me about six months ago to be the ambassador for its new door-in-door refrigerator. Given my love of design, food and entertaining, it seemed like the perfect fit. The refrigerator is amazing for entertaining; it can act as a beverage centre, where guests can help themselves!

When it comes to kitchen essentials, what is your favourite item?

J: For a bit of luxury, I would say a wine fridge. I pretty much bought my house because it came with one. I also think a great big kitchen island is so important for everyday cooking, as well as entertaining.

Describe your dream kitchen style

J: All white with some gritty elements, such as exposed beam, an industrial chandelier, large windows and open shelving. Oh, and a few French baguettes in a basket on the counter!

If you could cook with anyone, who would it be?

J: My grandmother, she is my muse. We cook together all the time, and she is so inspiring.

You love to entertain and throw beautiful, inspiring parties. What are your top entertaining tips?

1. Making food ahead of time – it is a huge sanity saver.
2. Use rental companies for tables, chairs, glassware, utensils and linens – it is a lot less expensive than people realize.
3. Being present in the moment. I can spend so much time preparing and hosting the party, that sometimes I forget to enjoy it. Do your hosting, and then be resolved to enjoy yourself, too!

Where do you look for inspiration when planning a party?

J: I love to look at my cousin Tori's blog, fraichenutrition.com – she's a dietitian and an incredible cook, she inspires me with her euro-rustic approach to food, which I love. And, in terms of decor, I look to Monika Hibbs. She has beautiful style.

What do you love most about entertaining?

J: I love to treat people. I love having guests come over and serving them the best food I can make, putting on the best party I can. I want people to leave having had a really great time. That makes me really happy.

How can you use existing decor to make a party hosted at home, comfortable and stylish?

J: Using your kitchen island as a serving station or buffet is a great idea. Bring your indoor furniture outdoors, and create an interesting set-up to stage your food (weather pending of course!).

What are the top entertaining trends this season?

J: For decor, an all white palette is still big this year but mixed with rustic elements and metals, such as serving food on an antique cutting board. And for food, the mini trend (think one-bite apps) is still going strong!

You are known for your fabulous sense of style.

How do you like to dress when you entertain?

J: When I throw parties, I usually pick a theme and get everyone to dress accordingly – which makes for great, fun photos.



Chilled caprese tomato bites

This ideal finger food is a no-cook, little-prep, hand-made crowd pleaser created by Jillian Harris and inspired by the LG Door-In-Door Refrigerator. The tomato gives a farm-fresh feel while the creamed mozzarella adds a rich taste.

Ingredients

- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
- 3 tbsp. heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 pound fresh mozzarella cheese, sliced
- 6 fresh basil leaves
- 1 garlic clove, minced

Preparation

- ◆ Scoop out and discard pulp of cherry tomatoes.
- ◆ Invert tomatoes onto paper towels to drain and insert skewer.
- ◆ In a food processor, combine the cream, mozzarella cheese, basil and garlic; cover and process until blended. Cut a small hole in the corner of a pastry or heavy-duty resealable plastic bag.
- ◆ Fill with cheese mixture.



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Harwood Design Builders

GOOD WORK PLUS GOOD WORKS

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR** / photography by **DUALITY PHOTOGRAPHIC**

Besides building award-winning renovations, Harwood Design Builders has been steadily building a company culture based on measured growth, excellence of workmanship and a 'pay it forward' business philosophy that enriches the community.

Fresh from the 2014 Manitoba Home Builders Association Awards event last month, the company

was recognized by industry peers, taking away two additional gold awards in the kitchen category. This adds to their already extensive list of awards.

On the national scene, the company garnered its 6th consecutive SAM top five in Canada awards for best kitchen renovation. The SAM awards are held by the Canadian Home Builders Association, an industry



Renomark | Gold award winner

WE'RE TRYING TO FOCUS MORE ON LARGER, INTERESTING AND CHALLENGING PROJECTS, LIKE WHOLE HOUSE RENOVATIONS AND ADDITIONS AS THAT'S WHERE WE CAN REALLY SHINE.

organization that celebrates excellence in new homes, home renovation and construction across Canada. Harwood Design Builders is in the running for a 7th this year.

But awards aside, Wayne Sage, President, is always the first to credit the company's success back to the work that it accomplishes each and every day in building a renovation business that's here for the long term.

In 2014, the company moved to a new location at 1080 Waverley Street, an enlarged facility that offers increased customer service amenities. "The large screen computer monitor in the office makes reading 3-D models more realistic by showing our clients exactly how their renovations will look. Of course, we still visit clients' homes and walk them through their future renovations on a laptop screen," says Wayne.

Wayne emphasizes the one-stop-

shop convenience that the design build model provides.

"We offer services based on what our clients want. Some people want us to do everything for them while others prefer to shop on their own while we come up with a plan and confirm their choices. So we always take the cue from them." Genevieve Joyal, in-house interior designer, continues to provide outstanding design service to clients and as an in-demand designer is now sharing her expertise in a regular feature in *Manitoba Home Decor & Renovations*.

Wayne bestows praise on his 12 member team for the dedication and craftsmanship they bring to every project they take on. Having a long-term crew is the mark of a quality employer and Wayne adds that sub-trades are all screened beforehand to ensure reliability.

Keeping on top of budgets is another advantage of the design/

build model in terms of delivering the numbers at any point in the renovation process. "We are fully transparent in our costing and work with the client to deliver a project that's always on track according to their budget."

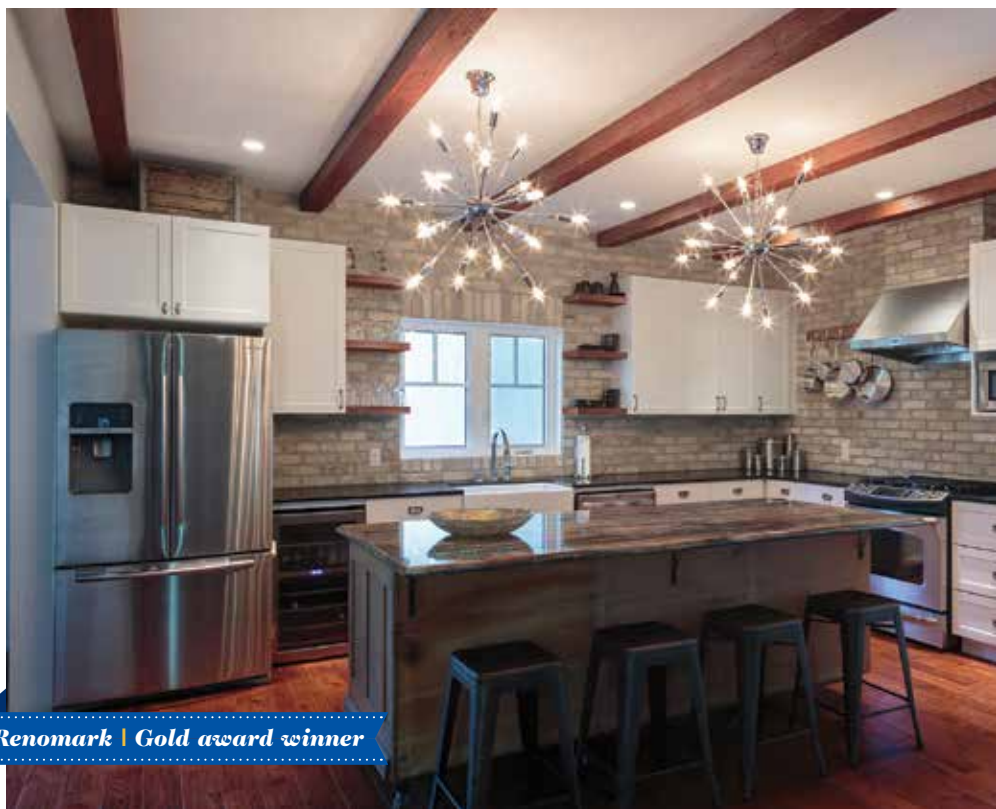
In terms of the company's projected growth, Wayne adds, "We're trying to focus more on larger, interesting and challenging projects, like whole house renovations and additions as that's where we can really shine. Older homes account for a large percentage of what we do. Currently, we have lot of designs in the works for homes in River Heights and Charleswood."

"Because we don't take on every job that comes along and believe in quality over quantity, some projects are having to be booked up to a year in advance. However, with some projects it takes this long to go through design development and engineering."

The Harwood Foundation continues to do good works within the province. Last year the Foundation hosted a golf tournament with all proceeds going to the Movement Centre of Manitoba, a registered charitable organization that uses conductive education for children and adults with neurological conditions to gain or regain physical mobility, increased confidence and functional independence.

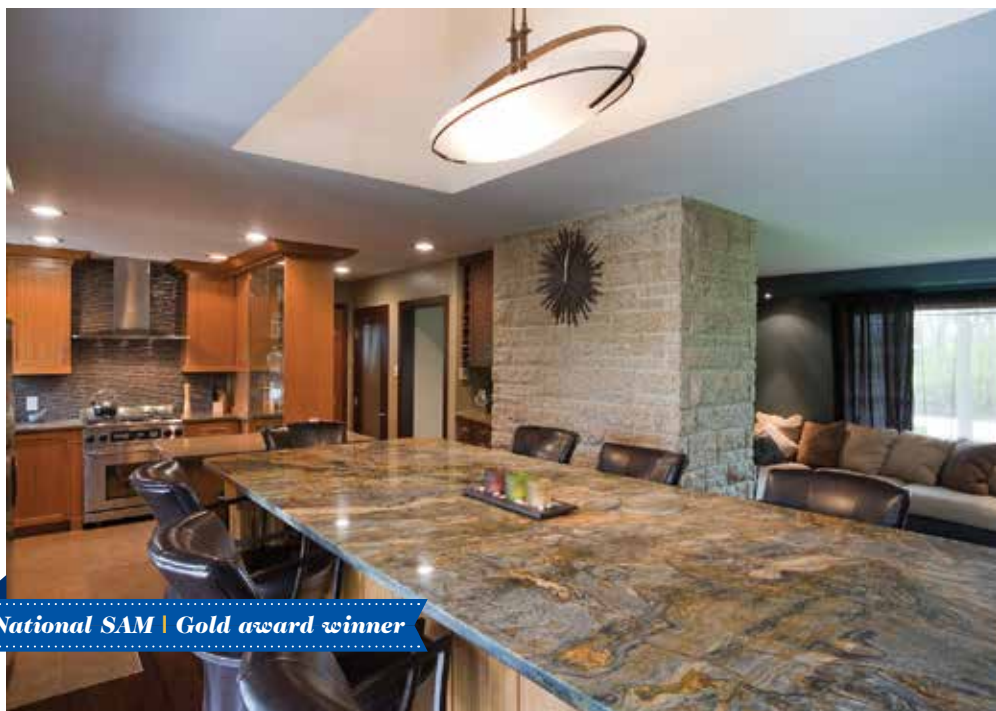
"The Harwood Foundation was started to focus on lesser-known charities that don't always receive public funding," says Wayne. "We respond to those spontaneous needs that arise in the community that can benefit from our help on an as-needed basis. That's been our intention from the very beginning."

For further details on Harwood Design Builders, visit www.harwoodbuilders.com or call 204.338.3151.



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TOP 10 REASONS

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10

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9

WE ENJOY WHAT WE DO!

At Harwood we love what we do and we try to make our work fun, creative and innovative. It's important to us that work is enjoyable, because when we're happy at work it shows in our final product.

8

AWARD WINNING!



5 National and 10 Provincial Gold award recognitions.

7

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6

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5

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4

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

The Harwood team has over 150 years of combined industry experience working on projects ranging from new homes, additions, basements, kitchens, cottages, sun rooms, bathrooms and wine cellars.

Our expertise and attention to detail ensures your new home or renovation meets our high standards of quality and craftsmanship.



3

RAVING FANS

"Our family has had the perfect result from our renovations, an amazing living space, and friends we will be forever thankful too. We sincerely thank Wayne and the Harwood family for converting our house into a home!" - Claudia & Neil D.

2

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RENOVATION OF THE *Year Awards Celebration*

by **MIKE MOORE**, PRESIDENT, MANITOBA HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION



Mike Moore is president
of the Manitoba Home
Builders' Association



NOVEMBER 5 WAS A NIGHT OF CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AS THE RENOVATION of the Year awards were presented at the Norwood Hotel. All of the entries were on display and the crowd spent a great deal of time admiring the outstanding work that had been done by the various renovators in the past year. The best of the best in the renovation industry were being presented to everyone in attendance.

This year's competition featured 30 entries. There were 6 categories for entries; Kitchens, Bathrooms, Exteriors, Additions, Basements and Whole Houses. Within each major category, there were a variety of sub-categories grouped according to dollar value in order to keep the competition equitable. Each entry consisted of before and after photos, blueprints and drawings, a detailed description of the work done, design details and any additional information that might contribute to this comprehensive package.

Judging was done by a panel of professionally qualified judges who reviewed every entry in every category. This was a detailed and exhaustive process that took a number of days to complete. Scoring was extremely close with many recipients being separated by only a few points. To even qualify for entry, one had to be a Manitoba Home Builders Association RenoMark renovator, the benchmark for excellence. Only the most professional renovators adhere to the RenoMark standards and Code of Ethics, the highest in the industry. They must provide a detailed written contract including the scope of work for all jobs, offer a minimum two year warranty, carry at least \$2 million liability insurance, have coverage for workplace safety and employer's liability plus only work with subcontractors who carry similar coverage, take out all applicable licenses and permits, maintain a professional level of knowledge of current building codes, permit procedures and technical skills through continuing education and maintain a safe and organized worksite. The Manitoba Home Builders Association prides itself on being the first provincial association in Canada to adopt the RenoMark standards for all of its members. For more information on RenoMark, go to (www.renomark.ca) or access via the Manitoba Home Builders Association site at www.homebuilders.mb.ca.

On the following pages, you will see some amazing projects and examples of superior work. These are your MHBA RenoMark renovation of the Year award winners. Look carefully and then envision your next renovation project for your home. The ideas that you get from this magazine are certain to point you in the right direction. Your renovation might just end up being featured as the Renovation of the Year.

All of the Renovation of the Year entries will be on display at the Kitchen Bath and Renovation Show at the RBC Winnipeg Convention Centre from January 9 – 11. The Ask a Renovator booth allows you to spend 15 minutes with a RenoMark renovator free of charge to discuss your renovation plans, ideas or dreams. For further details, go to www.kitchenandbathshow.com.

BATHROOMS - CATEGORY A



OVER AND ABOVE CUSTOM HOMES AND RENOVATIONS Fort Richmond

This large bathroom renovation began because the clients were tired of not having a light in their shower. This was corrected by adding two pot lights in the shower, which was also enlarged, complete with a custom bench and waterfall tiling pattern. The rest of the bathroom received updated cabinets, marble countertops and square vessel sinks. Pot lights were installed in the vanity to brighten the space and in-floor heat was installed throughout the bathroom. A new soaker tub is now regularly used by the clients.

BATHROOMS - CATEGORY B



MAKE IT HOME LTD. East St. Paul

This homeowner wanted his own bathroom space to relax. The basement had already been developed, but the bathroom space was never finished. The client wanted a large steam shower and beautiful finishes. In the end we were able to include all the options the homeowner wanted. We installed a steam shower unit with a lineal drain at one end, body sprays, a rain shower head and a shower locker for shampoo bottles and soap. The colour selections were kept subdued for a cocooning effect. The result is a completely calm space and the homeowner loves it.

EXTERIOR - CATEGORY A



CHARACTER HOMES East St. Paul

The house was fairly dated from the exterior and the clients wanted to bring it into this century. The addition of the bedrooms helped to drive the look of the new front. The entire roof was redone with overhangs added on the gables. The exterior was stripped, rigid insulation was added to all the existing structure to enhance energy efficiency and new stucco was installed to the sides and rear. The front entry gained some pizzazz in the form of a new entry door and detailed timber framing. New oversized garage doors, stone and siding on the front and the new roof shape and dormers complete the transformation of this home.

KITCHENS - CATEGORY A



DYNASTY BATHROOMS East Kildonan

In this kitchen renovation the homeowner wanted to completely transform this 80s style kitchen with white cabinetry and vinyl flooring into an efficient, modern, open-concept layout. High-end cabinetry to provide ample storage space was installed in a rich ruby shade, complementing the granite-look laminate countertop and trendy glass and metal listello wall tiles. The brown hues between the flooring, cabinetry, countertop and wall tiles complement each other nicely. The new open-concept of this space provides more natural light during the day and allows the homeowner to stay engaged with the dining and living rooms while cooking in the kitchen.

KITCHENS - CATEGORY B



MAKE IT HOME LTD. Wolseley

This homeowner wanted a more efficient and modern kitchen layout. The tired cabinets had been painted several times and although the clients had maintained them perfectly, the need to replace them was evident. This budget-friendly kitchen update included:

- Moving the fridge from an entry point to the corner
- Moving the sink to the other side of the kitchen
- Moving the stove to the opposite side of the room
- Creating an opening where there was once a half-wall to connect to adjacent spaces
- Replacing all cabinets, countertops and flooring

The finishes were kept light and the contrast of dark countertops and flooring was a perfect match to the styling of the rest of the house.

KITCHENS - CATEGORY C



HARWOOD DESIGN BUILDERS River Heights

The client wanted to modernize their home and design a space for entertaining friends and family. Therefore, the design called for completely removing two walls and creating an open luxurious kitchen/dining area to fit their busy lifestyle. The new design features beautiful clean lines with dark maple cabinets and casings contrasted with high gloss chic cabinet doors and bright white countertops. A large white island with waterfall side, in-counter sink and dining overhang, gleams as the centrepiece of the kitchen. Light hardwood floors throughout give the new modern kitchen a warm inviting atmosphere.

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KITCHENS - CATEGORY D



HAMMERDOWN HOME RENOVATIONS Garden City

The objective of this renovation was to remodel a tired old kitchen/dining room area and create a nice, clean, open design with a functional island as the focal point. The space was a complete gut. We elevated the dishwasher to make it comfortable to use as the clients enter retirement. For all drawer boxes we used a solid wood dove tail construction with full extension drawers. Other additions include a pantry with full extension drawers, as well as under-cabinet lighting, quartz countertops, stainless steel appliances and a built-in television. Lastly, large windows allowed for an open feeling kitchen with lots of natural light and a great view of their backyard

KITCHENS - CATEGORY E



HARWOOD DESIGN BUILDERS River Heights

The monochrome colour palette of this kitchen was carried throughout the area in white high gloss cabinets, black bar stools, black granite countertops and matching backsplash. More light was added into the kitchen with strategically placed pot lights and new windows above the main kitchen cabinets for a natural light source. Gray/black hardwoods warm up the space and add a welcoming comfortable feel. To maintain the sleek modern design, custom cabinets were built with under pulls and no handles. A matching buffet added new storage space to this bright welcoming kitchen.

KITCHENS - CATEGORY F



REMPEL BUILDERS St. James

We wanted to create an open concept, modern kitchen. A load bearing wall was removed creating a great open space to cook and entertain in. The old mahogany cabinets were replaced with rift cut, horizontal grain walnut cabinets. Laminate counters were replaced with Cambrian black granite along with matching granite wall panels. A custom millwork 'sleeve,' was built to disguise the support post, now carrying the load bearing beam overhead, transforming it into both a focal point and conversation piece. A one of a kind, custom built range hood completed the look in this state of the art kitchen.

WHOLE HOME - CATEGORY A



CUSTOM TOUCHES St. James

A new front door welcomes you into this newly refinished residence. The entire interior was remodelled including new paint, four-inch baseboards and new lighting throughout. The kitchen was gutted and remodelled with custom maple cabinetry, laminate countertops, glass and tile backsplash and stainless appliances. The two washrooms were also gutted and received new fixtures and a glass and tile tub surround. Hardwood floors were refinished and the balance of the home received new laminate flooring and vinyl composite tile. The bedrooms received new closet doors and closet organizers. In the basement a laundry room and a cozy rec room was created, including a new dry bar which hides the water meter. A built-in custom work table was installed in the laundry room to hide pre-existing plumbing pipes.

WHOLE HOME - CATEGORY B



MAKE IT HOME LTD. St. Vital

From the very beginning the homeowner's styling was evident. This homeowner was fun and elegant and the home did not match. The kitchen layout was from an era gone by long ago... so we improved it! In the kitchen we added a large island and a window for a great view of the backyard. The main bathroom and ensuite received all new fixtures, double sinks and ceramic tile with in-floor heat. The existing wood beams, interior doors and casings were a great colour and were all in super condition so we retained them, which kept our costs down for the homeowner.

WHOLE HOME - CATEGORY C



REMPEL BUILDERS Tuxedo

Our objective was to reconfigure the existing space and provide a much needed update to an aging home. By building a small addition behind the existing rear entrance, we were able re-configure the space, allowing for a larger ensuite bathroom and a large kitchen pantry. The new kitchen boasts custom Tree Frog veneer cabinets, quartz countertops and an oversized island. The ensuite incorporates heated tile flooring, custom floating vanity and a luxurious soaker tub. As a finishing touch, the existing fireplace was refaced with new Realstone veneer, custom fireplace doors and a custom maple mantle.

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WHOLE HOME - CATEGORY D



SAKIYAMA CONSTRUCTION Charleswood

The owners of this former country lodge had Sakiyama Construction Ltd. create newfound living space from an underutilized attached garage. Details of the family room include a limestone faced fireplace, bright energy efficient windows and a custom-built entertainment centre. Structural modifications allowed the existing kitchen to open up into the new family room. A luxurious new ensuite was developed in the space directly above. As well, a new front foyer and main floor laundry room were constructed. Architectural design was by Gerri Stemler of Elm Street Design and Bev Zimmerman of Interior Dynamics provided interior details.

WHOLE HOME - CATEGORY E



SAKIYAMA CONSTRUCTION Linden Ridge

Although only 11 years old, this custom built house begged for improved functionality, space and design. Sakiyama Construction, working with Lynn Fenwick and Company, Part 9 Design, and Legacy Original cabinets, redeveloped this home's floor spaces into a work of art, Venetian style. Featured changes include elaborate millwork details and new high technology lighting throughout. Massive floor to ceiling fiberglass windows by Duxton bring in much needed light and scenic views. Stonework and tile work by Cararra Tile is sleek and modern. Combined with a rear 2-storey addition, these changes have resulted in a vastly improved floor plan and elegant look.

ADDITIONS - CATEGORY A



CHARACTER HOMES Fort Richmond

The clients needed more room for their family, more storage/landing space for the kids' school and sports equipment, a bigger kitchen to cook in and a space for Mom & Dad to entertain. The family room now features a vaulted ceiling that is 12' at the peak and an abundance of windows, including rake windows on the walls facing the yard. These give the room a sunroom feel. A gas fireplace and entertainment niche area is the focal point of the room. The components for the entertainment system are hidden in the mudroom. The mudroom is the landing strip of the home with built-in lockers for each of the boys and massive storage spaces. The kitchen includes a large pantry, drawers, drawers and drawers. An expansive island top allows for casual eating, homework projects and entertaining with friends and family. The goal of creating a feeling of space and volume was successfully achieved.

ADDITIONS - CATEGORY B



REMPEL BUILDERS Tuxedo

The objective was to expand the indoor & outdoor living space and to provide the home with a much needed facelift. The solution was to build a modest 200 sq ft addition, allowing for the roomy expansion of the existing master bedroom and a new open concept kitchen (with the removal of a load bearing wall). The new kitchen boasts high gloss cabinets, stunning quartz counter tops and ceramic tile flooring. The ensuite, main bath and master bedroom followed suit, where old was replaced with new. Three sets of oversized patio doors provide easy access to the luxurious 800 square foot three tier composite deck beyond!

BASEMENT - CATEGORY A



SHELDON'S HOMES AND RENOVATIONS Norwood Flats

This basement renovation turned an undeveloped walkout basement into a fully functional living space. Our clients wanted to develop the space as a full entertainment area complete with bar, pool table, fireplace, TV lounge and poker den. The basement also includes a bedroom and full bathroom with ceramic tile floors and shower/bath combination. The space also features a pool table and a dry bar with quartz countertop and glass tile backsplash. The entertainment area includes a floor to ceiling fireplace with a cultured rock finish.

BASEMENT - CATEGORY B



REMPEL BUILDERS The Maples

Exterior walls were stripped back to the foundation. Walls were re-framed and insulated, joist ends were spray foamed, Dricore sub floor was installed throughout and the windows were replaced with new energy efficient models. The layout allowed for a combination of storage including built-in linen closet and pantry. It also allows for increased productivity with the construction of a private office. Entertaining was also a focus with a walk up bar/kitchenette, a games area, a home theatre, and the ability to house guests with a legal bedroom and 3 piece bath.

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Simple elegance with an edge

The details are not
the details. They make
the design. *-Charles Eames*

by **LYNN FENWICK B.I.D.** / photography by **MERLIN BRAUN PHOTOGRAPHY**

ELEVEN YEARS AGO, Sid was building his first home. He invited Fenwick & Company to design the main floor of this walk out bungalow. Following the move-in, Sid hired us to renovate the lower level. Several years later, we received another call from Sid.

The mandate was simple: re-invent the whole home! Life took Sid in a different direction and he wanted his home to reflect that. There was now a second opinion involved in the design of this home and we were presented with the challenge of creating a space that reflected both personalities. Nancy - Traditional and classic. Sid - Modern and minimal

The hardest part was for them to find common design ground. I

asked them to do some homework by researching in shelter magazines and on the internet. They were to separately select interior spaces that appealed to them and then compare and agree on a style that they both felt comfortable with. A picture is worth a thousand words. With an image that reflected common design ground, we would be able to hone in on the perfect synthesis of Classic and Contemporary.

Their daily routines and lifestyle created the model for the floor plan. It was to be a space for 'adult living.' A place to relax and enjoy and a place for entertaining. It was to be a space that brought the view of the outdoors to the edge of the interior,

OPPOSITE
The Principal
Bedroom and
Bathroom concept
was 'luxury hotel
room.' The result
was a sense of
refuge with a
more classically
contemporary
atmosphere.





blurring the lines between inside and out. The concept was a complete amalgamation of two independent styles and a designer's imagination. The clients worked on expressing what they wanted and Fenwick & Company worked on the plan, design and details that would make that happen.

This plan and the details was a year process. We then called in the contractor, Grant Sakiyama of Sakiyama Construction. Grant has a terrific in-house crew and suggested a couple of professionals he had successfully worked with in the past that would complete the team. Chris Leverence of Part 9 Design (for the structural) and Stuart Reimer from Legacy Originals (for the millwork) came on board.

The team blended extremely well and everyone involved was focused on one goal: the complete satisfaction of the client.

It was determined that we would need a small addition to create the spaces that the client was looking for. The principal bedroom needed to be expanded and consequentially, that created room for an office with a view in the lower level. Some features from the original design blended with our new design, so they were not disturbed: the hardwood floor, the dining room

and great room placement, the kitchen, the bar and the bathroom in the lower level. The fish tank was designed by Fenwick & Company originally, and was to remain, although it needed to be designed with easier access for cleaning the tank. Fenwick & Company conferred the challenge to Grant and Stuart. Their ingenuity transferred the idea to a reality and Stuart built the fish tank with sides and panels that would retract from the glass.

The front door and foyer area was renovated to create a clean elegant entrance with the fish tank creating a focal point and a barrier to establish intrigue. The columns were clad with mouldings that were modified in detail but not in form. This created the traditional shadows of panelling using linear clean lines.

Beyond the fish tank is the dining room, raised and facing the lake. The table was designed from an image the clients had found. Fenwick & Company detailed and modified it to work for the space. It weighed 1,100 pounds and was resting on 6 legs! It took Stuart and Grant to make sure it would not end up in the lower level!

The windows along the wall facing the lake were expanded in all directions, to blur lines between the interior and exterior. The interior became the backdrop to the outside



LEFT
The windows along the wall facing the lake were expanded in all directions, to blur lines between the interior and exterior. The interior became the backdrop to the outside views.

ABOVE
Site lines are carefully placed in this home. There is never a dead end visually.



views. The clean lines of the living room furniture allows for comfortable entertaining, taking minimal visual space to maximise the view.

An interesting feature in the living room is the glazing between the living room and the principal bedroom. Nancy wanted to feel physically connected to the rest of the home when sitting in the new addition in the

principal bedroom.

A solid wall would disconnect her from what was happening in other areas of the house. The solution was a glass window into the living room with a soft sheer curtain that can be opened to allow that visual flow for daily living, or closed for privacy or when entertaining. The sheers also soften the look without cutting the light.

Site lines are carefully placed in this home. There is never a dead end visually. Sometimes in the design process, this conscious detail provides dilemmas! The powder room was destined to be unconventional. Sid's vision was to see a large piece of artwork at the end of the hallway. The width of the hall could not be altered and



In the principal bathroom, the use of texture in the backsplash and fireplace, combined with the warm tones of the millwork, offset the cool smooth floor and wall tile to create a sense of calm. The principal bathroom boasts a sculptural tub with a bulkhead containing small starlight-like lights (called beauty spots) and a curbless grand shower with an integrated drain. (My personally favorite detail in the shower is the tilt out shelf. Hint: legs!) The cabinets are generous for storage and the area is lit for various needs including a light in the mirrors.

The walk in closet is seamlessly integrated with the bathroom. Originally a bedroom, the painted glass doors keep the space bright. There is detailed space for every item, including a built in shoe storage, custom designed tie and belt racks and an ironing board! Like every item in this home, it was designed to the very last detail.

So much more to tell! The Downstairs renovation will have to wait for another article.

The results are a home suffused with warmth and an elegant blend of modern and traditional. The creamy walls and clean lined details are set off by playful accents, hits of soft blue and colourful shots in bedding, accessories and artwork. I call it simple elegance with an edge. Sid and Nancy call it home.



ABOVE
In the principal bathroom, the use of texture in the backsplash and fireplace, combined with the warm tones of the millwork, offset the cool smooth floor and wall tile to create a sense of calm.

BELOW
Electromagnetic glass makes this powder room a conversation piece.

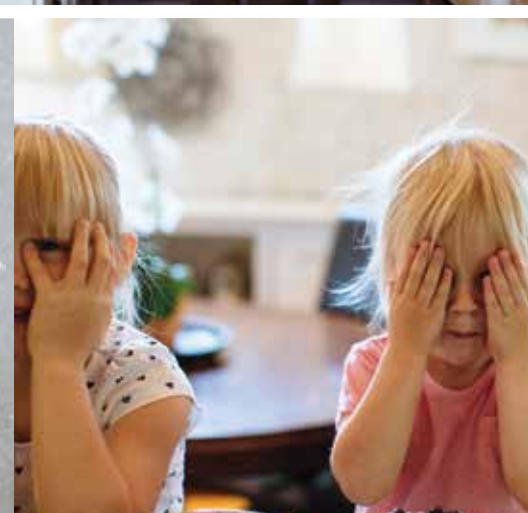
did not allow for the size of the existing artwork...

Light bulb moment! I had been to a washroom in Vegas with electromagnetic glass that frosted over when the door was locked. The artwork would be visible through the glass and create drama at the end of the hall... in more ways than one! It is one thing to have a concept, it is another to make it a reality. Grant and I had a conversation to which Grant replied that he would "make it happen," and he did! The result of that decision is breathtaking! The combination of the internally lit cylindrical sink, floor mounted faucet, the pendant light and ornate gilded mirror to the floor personifies the juxtaposition of styles we were asked to create. Nancy requested all towel and supplies hidden. The solution was to have the panels beside the sink open up to personal hand towels, disposal of hand towels and a tissue box.

The Principal Bedroom and Bathroom concept was 'luxury hotel room.' The result was a sense of refuge with a more classically contemporary atmosphere. The highlights of the principal bedroom were the magnificent Modular Arts headboard and the 3 way fireplace connecting the bedroom to the bathroom.



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FURNACE**



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COST TO RUN
\$17,000

Cost to buy & install

\$800
TO
\$1,200 **CONVENTIONAL
NATURAL GAS
WATER HEATER**



10-YEAR
COST TO RUN
\$1,400

TOTAL INVESTMENT:

**\$25,000
OR LESS**

ELECTRICITY

Cost to buy & install

\$2,000
TO
\$3,000 **ELECTRIC
FURNACE**



25-YEAR
COST TO RUN
\$30,700

Cost to buy & install

\$800
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\$1,200 **60 GALLON
ELECTRIC
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10-YEAR
COST TO RUN
\$2,800

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KITCHEN CRAFT
'GETS' COUPLE'S VISION

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR**
photography by **DUALITY PHOTOGRAPHIC**

THE KEY TO THE RENOVATION WAS THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ANGLED PENINSULA FROM THE BACK WALL THAT PROVIDES SO MANY FUNCTIONS WITHIN THE SPACE.



It was a rather fine line that Celine and Nick were walking when they first decided to launch into the renovation of their newly-acquired Southdale house. Built in 1976, the kitchen was typical of the times, with a u-shaped sink and cupboards with obstructive uppers that blocked the sun from fully entering the room.

The couple was looking for a modern update but one that wasn't so modern that it would not blend in with the traditional aspects of the remainder of the house.

When they discovered the Kitchen Craft Cabinetry website, went down to the showroom where they met with designer, Leo Conrad, and explained their intent, they knew they had found a kindred professional who could help them achieve their vision. "Leo offered a layout that was very nice, smart and functional and it was what we were looking for," says Celine.

The key to the renovation was the construction of an angled peninsula from the back wall that provides so many functions within the space. Leo remembers that Celine and Nick fully embraced his suggestion.

The 86 inch Diamante quartz counter peninsula with overhang is the place the couple now takes meals, gazes out the windows to their backyard full of trees and birds, prepares food and generally hangs out.

Celine and Nick chose thermofoil slab-style cabinets in Chillagoe, a warm dark colour with subtle striations that add interest without being overwhelming. Brushed nickel hardware was





WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THE KITCHEN IS THAT IT'S A PRETTY GOOD MIX OF MODERN AND TRADITIONAL WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT WE WERE GOING FOR.

chosen for its more subdued effect. "Chrome would have been too much," says Celine. The drawers and doors are equipped with full extension soft-close, making for a very quiet kitchen overall.

"There was an upper cabinet on the original design between the two kitchen windows, that I thought it was too heavy looking," says Celine, "so I asked Leo if we could do something lighter and he suggested 2 open shelves that worked out so well," providing a decorative, practical solution without giving up any real storage capacity.

On the opposite wall, the plan called for angled cabinets at the kitchen entrance. "That was Leo's idea and it was very smart, because it cut the angle and made more of a flow to go inside the kitchen," says Celine. "Our refrigerator looks built-in and we installed a wall oven and a microwave hood over the range."

Nick is equally pleased with the final result. "What I like about the kitchen is that it's a pretty good mix of modern and traditional which is exactly what we were going for.

"We were able to have a few things that we wanted in terms of the installed wall oven that you don't need that often, yet it's nice to have. We have a super large sink that's very practical when we have to do the dishes."

Leo adds, "We positioned doors and drawers so that it made sense. The cooking space is on the left side and the cleaning is on the right side of the sink. One is the cook; the other is the cleaner and they have their own zones to work in. Next to the sink where all the food prep is done, we positioned the garbage receptacle and recycling bin beside the dishwasher so that

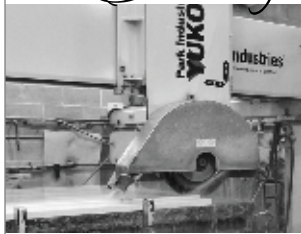
when they're clearing things up after eating, it's easy to put things where they belong."

As for challenges, "really there were none," says Leo. "Celine and Nick were absolutely fantastic to work with! This was a couple that was able to see outside the box and be open to some different ideas that really worked for their space."

And Celine and Nick return the sentiment. "Leo was so good, so helpful. We talked by email. He was always there to answer our questions. It went great!"

To learn more about Kitchen Craft visit their website at www.kitchencraftwinnipeg.com or phone 204-661-6977 for their 1500 Regent Avenue West showroom or 204-489-0455 for their 1650 Kenaston Blvd. showroom.

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Fort Rouge Glass **WHERE QUALITY IS JOB ONE**

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR**

Since its humble beginnings in 1968 Fort Rouge Glass (FRG) has grown into Winnipeg's leading glass service provider. Located at 380 Osborne Street South, FRG employs 20 people including office staff, installers, helpers and a dedicated crew for SSG Notion railings. The company is a long-time member of the

MHBA and has consistently added to its list of products and services. After 46 years in business they can confidently say "We can provide for all your glass needs."

Brendan Berntt, President, represents the third-generation of the company that lists residential, commercial and auto glass as the three pillars of its operations. "We've

always been a diversified company, not just automotive... our previous name used to be Fort Rouge Plate and Auto Glass and people assumed that we were just automotive. When I assumed ownership the name was changed to Fort Rouge Glass to address the misconception."

FRG specializes in custom mirrors and custom showers and deals

directly with many of the leading home builders and renovators to provide the quality finishing touch to Manitoba's most beautiful homes. Seamless showers are very much in demand for homeowners who are renovating their bathrooms. Constructed of tempered glass, dual-action shower doors and hand rails, the showers provide the coveted high end look that transforms today's bathrooms.

Brendan adds that Fort Rouge Glass provides nearly 80 per cent of wall mirrors to new homes in Winnipeg. "We have two mobile mirror trucks staffed with 2 technicians per van that show up right to your home or site. We stock all the mirrors on our trucks, measure them, do cut-outs for light switches, wall plugs, or lights and cut them out right on site and then bring the mirror in for installation."

In current design, less is definitely more and glass provides endless possibilities for opening up your home while still maintaining acoustic privacy and safety. Glass entrances provide an alternative to typical doors, glass partitions replace walls, and the space can be opened allowing light to suffuse interiors.

Glass backsplashes are definitely on the rise. They provide a cleaner alternative to typical tiles and grout, they are easy to wipe down, and there are an infinite variety of decorative films that can be applied to the back to give your kitchen the impact it needs in today's open concepts. "The film gives our clients an opportunity to put their own personal touch on the design; there are so many options," says Brendan.

In 2012 Fort Rouge Glass added stainless steel and glass staircases and railings to their list of services with the purchase of SSG Notion. Once reserved just for office buildings and shopping malls, these contemporary design elements allow an unobstructed view of the whole home and are the highlight of many modern residential interiors.



Wood railings teamed with glass inserts are another very popular blending of the old with the new for transitional interiors. "It still gives you that open look but you have the beauty and warmth of hardwood railings. As an added bonus, wood railings with glass inserts are slightly less expensive than an all-wood staircase and a great way to add subtle

modern touch. Wood and glass railings are an excellent option for exterior railings too, as they provide safety and unobstructed views whether overlooking a park in the city or a lake in cottage country," says Brendan.

For further details visit their website at <http://frg.ca> or call 204-475-2774.

MARIC HOMES



ARTISTA HOMES



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Kelly's *world*

by **SARA DUCK** / photos by **MEL**

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WITH 38 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE UNDER HER BELT, a cache of celebrity clientele, eight highly successful interior design books, and her own furniture line, iconic British designer Kelly Hoppen is a tour de force! HD&R catches up with this designing wonder woman and learns, among other things, the importance of the colour taupe.

In your latest book *Kelly Hoppen: How To Achieve The Home Of Your Dreams*, you give advice on how to perfect a signature style for your home. What is your signature style?

A My design ethos is to create timeless elegance. I use neutral tones, layering and sumptuous fabrics.

Where do you draw inspiration from?

A I find inspiration everywhere, from travelling the globe sourcing accessories and seeing an exhibition to reading books and watching films while I relax at my cottage in the beautiful English countryside. Inspiration mainly comes to me when I take a few minutes away from my normal routine to just sit back and reset my mind.

What do you love about being a designer?

A Since I was a child, I have always wanted to be a designer. My mother always tells me that as a child I was constantly shifting furniture around our home, displaying everything at its best. I am very lucky to be doing a job I love and to have such supportive family and friends.

What is your go-to hue?

Taupe is my favourite colour! I love a neutral palette. Neutrals form the base of all my designs and are calming and harmonious.

*** Hoppen has been called the Queen of Taupe!**

Favourite city? Why?

London is definitely my favourite city in the world to live in and Paris is my favourite city to visit – it is not far from London and the shopping is fantastic.

If you could design a space for a famous person (past or present), who would it be?

I am a very big fan of Pharrell Williams and would love to work with him.

What exciting new projects do you have on the horizons?

I am very excited for my new projects coming up in India and Beijing. And the continuing new additions to my kellyhoppen.com



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That 'new-home' feel

ISLAND LAKES KITCHEN RENO WAS SMOOTH SAILING

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR** / photography by **JOHN JOHNSTON**

There's a definite 'new-house' feel to the Island Lakes home that Bob and Rachel have lived in for 20 years. After 5 years planning for the renovation to the original kitchen, they both feel like they're sitting in a brand new home but without all the expense, inconvenience and readjustment that it would entail.

The couple bid a fond farewell to their 90's golden oak kitchen and hired All Canadian Renovations (ACR) headed by Tony Teunis to write a new chapter in the story of their beloved bungalow.

A good kitchen layout was the touchstone for the project as Tony worked out a plan that created a highly functional space including a more efficient working triangle but also introduced a kitchen island where the former kitchen table and chairs once occupied. "We wanted an island but I didn't know if it was possible until we met with Tony," says Rachel. "He assured us that it would be do-able."

Tony took the couple on a shopping trip that helped them have confidence in their selection of finishing materials. Their final choices included Shaker-style painted maple cabinetry in Seashell White, brushed nickel hardware for a subtle hit of sheen, stunning Blue River granite slabs for counters and island and a backsplash of glass subway tiles in combination with a unifying ribbon of stone and glass inset for extra dimension.



OPPOSITE PAGE

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ABOVE

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BOTTOM RIGHT

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Bob adds, "We actually went to the quarry in Lac du Bonnet with Tony to pick our granite slabs and we used the floor tile to match up with. We chose to go with a lighter granite countertop and were quite pleased with the effect."

There are many features within the kitchen, some subtle some bold, that Bob and Rachel enjoy. They both agree that the new island is a fave. "We didn't have one before and it's a different concept for us," says Bob.

He also enjoys that the kitchen is much brighter and more spacious looking. "The under cabinet lighting makes a huge difference especially since they are all on dimmer switches which allow us to control the amount of light we want."

For Rachel, the island scores big not only on aesthetics but for practical reasons. One side has 3 drawers, so storage is never a problem. The other side has more drawers but also a door that opens to reveal a hydraulic-lift shelf where she keeps her KitchenAid mixer very accessible. "It means that I never have to move it."

Small changes create big impact according to Rachel. "When you come into the kitchen, there's a small cupboard set on an angle. That one detail gives the impression of more space when you're entering the kitchen. The upper display cabinet with glass is a nice detail and adds to the effect."

The previous oak spindles that defined the kitchen space from

WHEN YOU COME INTO THE KITCHEN, THERE'S A SMALL CUPBOARD SET ON AN ANGLE. THAT ONE DETAIL GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF MORE SPACE WHEN YOU'RE ENTERING THE KITCHEN.



the family room were removed and a half-wall with cap was built to remove any vestige of the 90s in the combined space.

Started in mid-September, the renovation was recently completed at the beginning of November and for Bob and Rachel, the entire experience was 'a dream project.' "All the trades people bent over backwards to please us," says Bob. "They were professional and courteous. Before they left, they'd always ask if we were happy with what they had done that day. Tony was on top of everything. If I sent him an email in the morning, I'd have an answer by 2 pm the same day. It gave us total peace of mind knowing that everything would be handled right."

Tony agrees that the project unfolded very well. "For us it was one of those nice jobs where everything flowed well and everything was on time. They were really nice people to work with."

To learn more about All Canadian Renovations visit their website at www.acrltd.ca or phone at 204-779-6900.

ABOVE
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QUICK-CHANGE ARTISTRY

Clei furniture @ For Space Sake

by **CHARLIE GREER**





For Space Sake, the store for Organized Living, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Pauline Boisselle, owner and President, is excited to be sharing this milestone with all of her customers who have supported her during this time.

Getting organized has always been so much fun, and now, with the evolution of new products that have recently been introduced to the market, the fun is getting even better!



RETAILING IS LIKE THEATRE

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WITH SCENERY, LIGHTING,
AND MUSIC.

THE PRODUCTS ARE THE
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ACTORS WHO MAKE IT
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Enter Clei Furniture (pronounced CLAY), an Italian furniture line specifically designed for small spaces. Clei pieces transform with such ease that even master magician David Copperfield would be amazed by how quickly what appears to be a beautiful bookcase suddenly becomes a queen size bed. Or how a subtle high gloss cabinet becomes the home office that you have always dreamed about! Visualize a wall mounted cabinet that opens up to reveal bunk beds, complete with ladder, overhead storage and a drop down desk as well. These are only a few examples of what is available in this incredible line of furniture.

With so many small condos now on the market, Clei appeals to a customer who is looking to maximize their space, yet is not willing to compromise on style and design. "Clei appeared on the sales floor three years ago and has found a faithful customer following," says Peggy Brooke, For Space Sake store manager.

For Space Sake's expertise is well known in Winnipeg and has been recognized by some of Winnipeg's premier builders, such as Daytona Homes, Maric Homes, Huntington Homes, Southwynn Homes and Gino's Homes. The show homes provide a perfect background for some of For Space Sake's most innovative designs for closets, pantries, laundry rooms, home offices, and garages. The retail store continues to be a showcase for ORG closet systems, Komandor sliding glass doors and EcoSmart ventless fireplaces, as well as a wide array of decorative, design oriented products.

Visit our website www.forspacesake.com

Location 1824 Grant at Centennial

Store Hours: Monday - Saturday 10 - 6, Sunday 1 - 5

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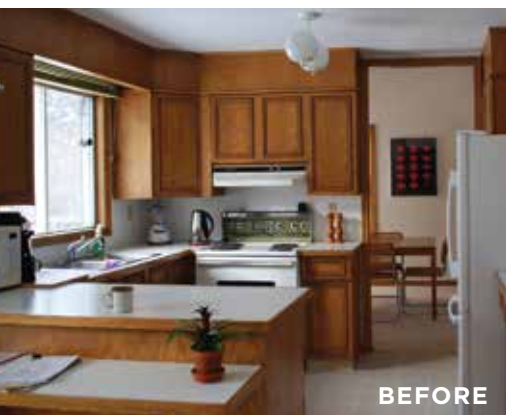
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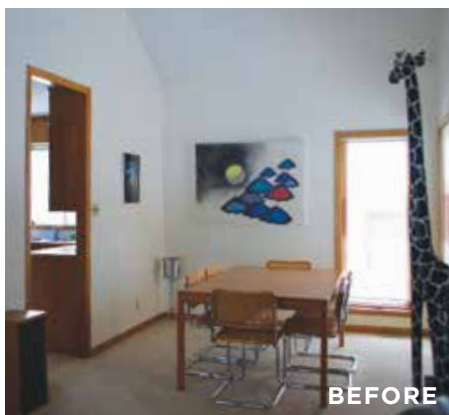


Reno Q&A

by GENEVIÈVE JOYAL B.ENV.D.



BEFORE



BEFORE

Q My husband and I are moving into the house I grew up in! However, it hasn't changed much since my childhood. In general, the main floor layout works for us but we want to take this opportunity to make it our own. We love the high ceilings and split levels but all the finishes desperately need to be updated. Our goal is a super sleek aesthetic where we can unwind after work and entertain on weekends. - Dana



BE INSPIRED ...



A The double ceiling height enhances the drama of the lacquered feature “wave” wall, a definite wow factor and conversation piece when guests arrive. Certain sections of the shared kitchen, living and dining room walls have been strategically carved out to offer an open concept feel without sacrificing a wide pantry space. Although narrow, the six foot island packs tons of drawer storage and is a great area for prepping. A wider and lowered counter has a built in look and works well for casual everyday meals as it overlooks the sunken family room. Stainless steel elements like the island hood fan, round table post and custom handrail accentuate the contemporary setting – not to mention the stunning glass guardrail! Espresso stained elements, such as the beam, coordinate with the very durable luxury vinyl plank flooring and warm up this ultra-fresh style.



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FROM MILAN TO MANITOBA Top-flight Italian design at M-concept

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR**

Fresh from this year's kitchen and bath show in Milan, Italy, Artur and Edyta of M-concept have returned to the Winnipeg marketplace with an exciting new opportunity for customers looking to embrace the best and brightest in Italian design thinking.

"We were blown away when we were in Italy," says Artur. "The products were unbelievable and the price points were simply incredible. While we were doing well with our Aster line, I want everybody to enjoy our product. Not everyone has the budget to buy an Aster product, but now they can have comparable quality with MITON and BINOVA, both innovative Italian designs that are simply gorgeous but for less money. Less is definitely more in this case."

Stoked about the amazing products they viewed at the show, the couple is proud to announce that M-concept will now be carrying these new Italian kitchen lines that live up to



Artur adds,
“SMEG IS KNOWN FOR THEIR 50S RETRO-STYLE FRIDGES BUT THEY ARE EQUIPPED WITH THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FEATURES. WE ALSO CARRY 5 OTHER BRANDS OF EUROPEAN APPLIANCES INCLUDING INTEGRATED AND FREE-STANDING FRIDGES, RANGES AND HOODS - EVERYTHING THAT TODAY’S MODERN KITCHEN REQUIRES.”





the company's exacting style standards while offering attractive price points that will make Italian style more accessible to a broader segment of the Winnipeg market. Case in point, a 10' by 17' kitchen from MITON Cucine will retail at \$15,000 dollars compared to the previous Aster Cucine line that sold for \$30,000.

Another new line, BINOVA is renowned for its avant-garde design combined with a focus on quality and technology. These kitchen-systems are an ideal mix of functionality, ergonomics, and aesthetics and will become part of the kitchen cabinetry selection on display at the M-concept showroom at 1783 Portage Avenue.

The new MITON Cucine line will be officially introduced to Winnipeggers during the upcoming 2015 Kitchen, Bath and Renovation Show in January at the M-concept booth.

In the meantime, the M-concept showroom is in the throes of making room for the new MITON and BINOVA product lines so fans of the store can look for significant changes as the store brand continues to evolve. Artur reminds that current show floor models are being discounted by 40 per cent and expects great customer interest at such an attractive price.

FRESH FROM THIS YEAR'S KITCHEN AND BATH SHOW IN MILAN, ITALY, ARTUR AND EDYTA OF M-CONCEPT HAVE RETURNED TO THE WINNIPEG MARKETPLACE WITH AN EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR CUSTOMERS LOOKING TO EMBRACE THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST IN ITALIAN DESIGN THINKING.

Another major change, M-concept now sells Italian-made appliances so that customers can enjoy the ease of buying everything they need in one place. The SMEG product line includes wall ovens, steam ovens (a microwave and convection combination), regular ovens and refrigerators.

Artur adds, "SMEG is known for their 50s retro-style fridges but they are equipped with the latest technology features. We also carry 5 other brands of European appliances including integrated and free-standing fridges, ranges and hoods - everything that today's modern kitchen requires."

Other exciting product initiatives are afoot including Pravada flooring that manufactures a new line of engineered hardwood flooring in 7 ½ and 9 ½ inch plank widths. "Pravada flooring is designed to be installed over in-floor heating. Not every flooring manufacturer does that," says Artur.

The Italian theme continues with kitchen and bathroom faucets and sinks from RUBI by Soligo. The RUBI line also includes bathroom vanities, bathtubs, and toilets and joins the range of Wellstyle bathroom products already in the showroom. Artur reminds customers, "Whatever we sell, we can also install for you."

To see what's new at M-Concept view their website www.m-concept.ca for showroom hours.

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Dynasty Bath & Kitchen Centre

‘CUSTOMER-FIRST’ SECRET TO BUILDING A DYNASTY

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR**

Dynasty Bath and Kitchen Centre’s thirty year history at 369 Logan Avenue reflects on a brand of service, products, installation and customer service that have endured and prospered since opening in 1984. A family business started by Ken Onsowich and wife, Margret, Dynasty Bathrooms is now set for its next phase as General Manager and daughter, Tina Driscoll, is poised to assume the helm into the future after Ken’s retirement.

Tina’s future vision is based on what Dynasty has brought to the marketplace over the past 3 decades. “The secret to Dynasty’s success resides in knowing customers by name, not as numbers,” she says. “When you come to Dynasty you will be given great customer service. Our staff will walk you around our showroom, listen to your wants and needs, help you with your choices and give you the attention and information required. No job is too big or too small for us.”

Inspiration is easy to find within the Dynasty showroom thanks to the array of bathroom vignettes designed to engage customers. “Customers can get into a tub to get an idea of what it’ll be like taking a bath or turn on our working showerhead display to feel the pressure of different settings. You can flush a toilet, turn on a faucet, or try out a garburator,” says Tina. “There are many products to suit any style and all budgets.”



CUSTOMERS CAN GET
 INTO A TUB TO GET
 AN IDEA OF WHAT IT
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 DISPLAY TO FEEL
 THE PRESSURE OF
 DIFFERENT SETTINGS.

The Dynasty team represents 100 years of combined experience in bathroom and kitchen renovations with 15 employees including design consultants, estimators, administrative and warehouse associates to installers and helpers in the field.

From day one, it's always been important that Dynasty actively participates in the Winnipeg community. "We have been friends with the Ronald McDonald House for 20 years and for the last 5 years we have been partners in our annual Santa Claus Parade float." From May to September, the Dynasty Bathrooms Super Truck makes laps around the competition at the Red River Coop Speedway. "This year we were out to support the Lions Club at the 2014 Show & Shine with our 'Throw to the Throne' contest and most recently collecting Koats for Kids," says Tina.

Tracking trends is vital to stocking products that customers want and need. "One of the new trends we're seeing right now is Aging in Place. Baby boomers are looking to change their homes to be more limited-mobility friendly. We have walk-in tubs, roll-in shower bases, grab bars, comfort height toilets and touch faucets. A



WE'RE ALSO PROUD TO CARRY AN A+ RATING WITH THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU AS A TRUSTED LOCAL COMPANY.

new line of Delta accessories have been made available from toilet paper holders to corner shelves that function as assist bars, supporting loads exceeding 250 pounds. They're not only functional but very stylish as well."

Tina emphasizes that keeping the team on top of trends and new products is important. "In some cases we go out of the showroom as a group to manufacturers to see how a product is made. I think everyone can agree it's a great way to stay on top of things."

Dynasty values its status as an accredited member of Manitoba Home Builders Association and the Canadian Home Builders Association, prestige designations that identify the company as a professional renovator of high quality. "We're also proud to carry an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau as a trusted local company."

"As a locally owned and operated full service renovation centre, we strive to make our renovations as exciting and smooth as possible; ensuring our customers' experience with Dynasty Bathrooms makes us their Renovation Destination."

To learn more about Dynasty Bathrooms visit their website at www.dynastybath.com or 204.947.0986.



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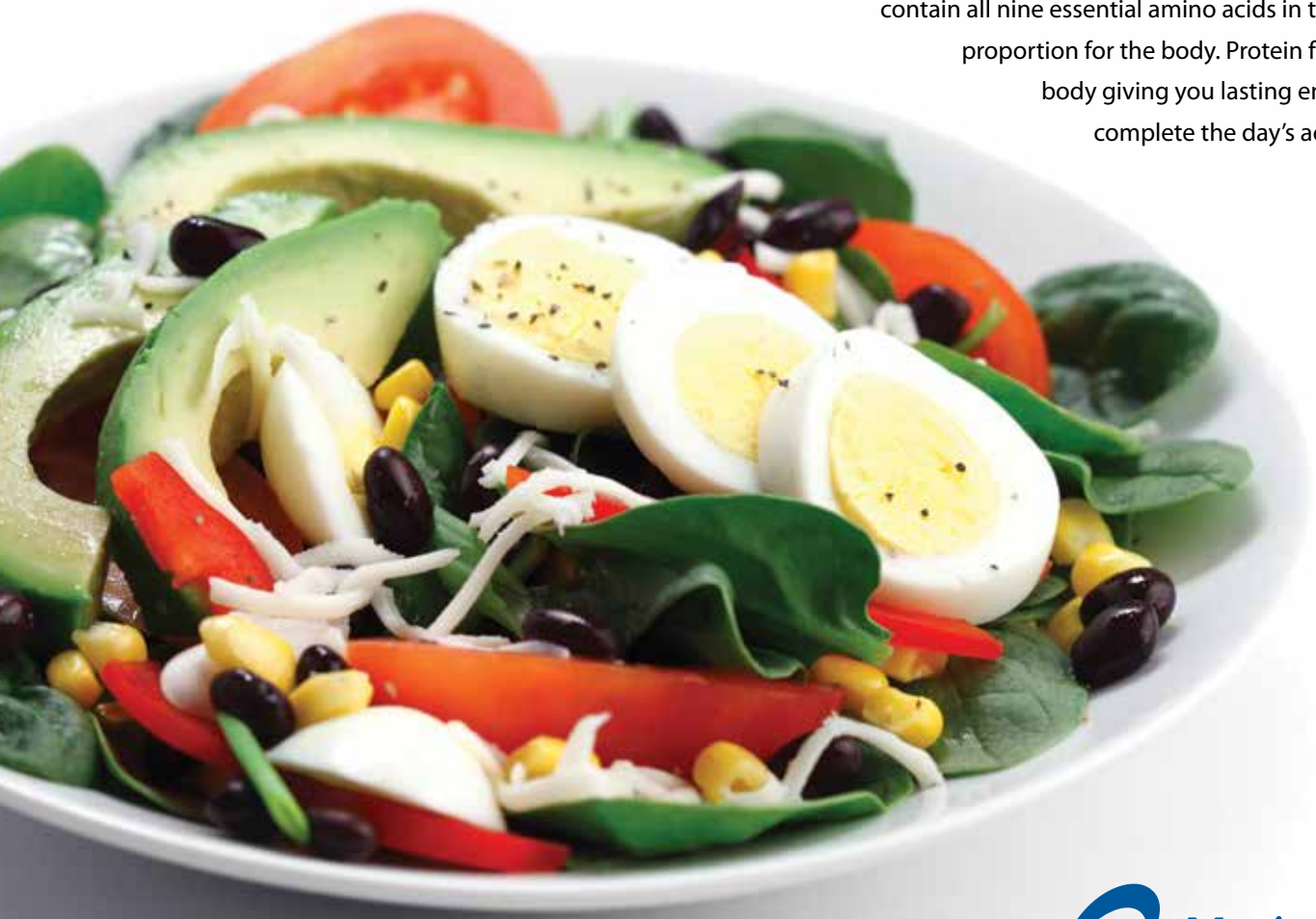
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Café Pot au Crème and
Meringue Treats

Café pot au crème

MAKES 8 1/2 CUP RAMEKINS

Ingredients:

1 tbsp (15 mL) instant coffee granules

1 tbsp (15 mL) hot water

5 ounces (140 g) semi-sweet chocolate

2 cups (500 mL) whipping cream

6 eggs, divided

1/2 cup (125 mL) sugar

1/2 cup (125 mL) 2% milk

1 tsp (5 mL) vanilla

Meringue Treats (see recipe following)

Cinnamon

Preparation:

◆ Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Line a large roasting pan with a folded kitchen towel. In a small bowl or mug, dissolve coffee in hot water; set aside. In a medium bowl over simmering water, or using a double boiler, stir together chocolate and 1 cup (250 mL) whipping cream until chocolate is melted. Remove bowl from heat. Gradually stir in remaining whipping cream and coffee.

◆ In a large bowl, beat together 6 egg yolks and 1/2 cup (125 mL) sugar until thickened and light coloured, about 3-4 minutes. Stir in chocolate mixture, milk and vanilla. Pour into eight 4 oz. ramekins. Place custard cups in prepared roasting pan. Pour enough boiling water into the pan to come halfway up the sides of the ramekins. Cover pan with foil. Place the pan in preheated oven. Bake, in hot water bath, until mixture around the edges is firm when lightly shaken, 35-40 minutes.

◆ Remove from water bath, cool, then refrigerate 2-3 hours before serving to allow centres to firm up. Serve Pot au Crèmes garnished with **meringue treats** and dusted with cinnamon.

Meringue treats

2 egg whites

Pinch of cream of tartar

1/2 cup (125 mL) berry sugar

Preparation:

◆ Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper; set aside. In a small bowl, beat

egg whites and cream of tartar until soft peaks form, about 1 minute. Beat in sugar, 2 tbsp (30 mL) at a time, until glossy, stiff peaks form. Using a kitchen tablespoon, drop spoonfuls of meringue onto prepared baking sheet. Bake in 200°F (100°C) oven for 1 hour. Remove from oven and let sit on baking sheet until room temperature. Treats can be kept in an airtight container for up to three days. **Makes 10-12 treats.**

Breakfast bites

MAKES 12 SERVINGS

Ingredients:

12 slices whole-wheat bread

Butter

4 eggs

3/4 cup (175 mL) 2% evaporated milk

1 tsp (5 mL) Dijon mustard

1/4 tsp (1 mL) cayenne pepper

4 slices bacon, diced

6 green onions, finely chopped

2/3 cup (150 mL) Swiss cheese, shredded

Preparation:

◆ Remove crusts from bread and, using

a rolling pin, roll each slice of bread to approximately 1/4 inch (1 cm) thick. Spread one side of each bread slice with butter. With the buttered side facing down, press each slice firmly into muffin cups (large, 12 muffin cup size). Bake at 325°F (160°C) for 10 minutes.

◆ Meanwhile, combine eggs, milk, mustard and cayenne pepper in a large 4-cup (1000 mL) measuring cup or medium sized bowl. Set aside. Sauté bacon until almost crisp. Add green onions and continue to cook until onions have softened. Drain fat. Divide bacon and onion mixture evenly into the 12 bread cups. Pour some of the egg mixture into each cup, allowing mixture to be partially absorbed. Continue to add more egg mixture, filling to about 3/4 of each bread cup. Sprinkle each cup with cheese. Bake at 325°F (160°C) for 15-18 minutes or until golden and puffed.

◆ **Makes 12 breakfast bites.**

For nutrient analysis visit eggs.mb.ca



Learn a lot FROM THE SCOTS

by STEPHANIE MACDONALD / photos by BRANDON BARRÉ



Fresh from taking on a rustic cabin in Ontario, we catch up with Colin McAllister and Justin Ryan to ask them a few important questions about everything from design casualties to design influences.

1 You've been credited with introducing laminate flooring to the UK, what do you think the next revolutionary material for interior design will be?

Our big thing at the moment is glass, glass and more glass – we're currently renovating a cottage in Haliburton, Ontario, and removing the rear walls of two bedrooms and replacing them with floor-to-ceiling glazed sections. It's all about connectivity to the great outdoors.

2 You quite famously spent time restoring and upgrading a Muskoka cottage on your show "Cabin Pressure" on Cottage Life network. Did you actually get a chance to sit back and relax in the cottage?

Yikes – there's no chance of relaxation as we've just bought another cottage (the Haliburton one in the previous answer) to film season two! Double yikes! This time we're on our own – just two wee Scots in a collapsing cabin so in need, we call it the 'slanty shanty.'

3 Is there any design in particular that either of you look back on with regret? What do you think are some of the design principles that you've learned as a result of designs that didn't really work out?





Now there's a question. We once added a wall of sawn birch branches from the floor to the ceiling of a small, city home (it was our 'bringing the outdoors in' phase) and was perhaps just a step too far!

Here are some tips we've learned over the years:

- › Design can influence your home, so make decisions based on creating pleasure for both parties.
- › Share in the decision process. Communication is key, if you can share a life, you can share a sofa decision!
- › Provide for each party – good lighting and bedside tables on both sides of the bed.
- › Incorporate each other's tastes. Look at home decor like a child you've made together – it shares both your features to create one new, unique look.
- › Create sharing spaces – a great comfortable sofa to cuddle up in is perfect.

› Have as large a bed as your room with allow – great for space when you need it, roll room when you don't!

4 What do you find are the most common mistakes people make when they decorate? What's the worst example of this mistake that you have encountered? (The insane Scottish house of 1,000 wallpapers comes to mind from Home Heist).

Like the man who built his house on sand, most people live with negatives that they don't like and try to design around – this wastes time and effort. If that 1970s big brick fireplace dominates your room, then reach for the sledgehammer and start again – don't think you can just paint around it!

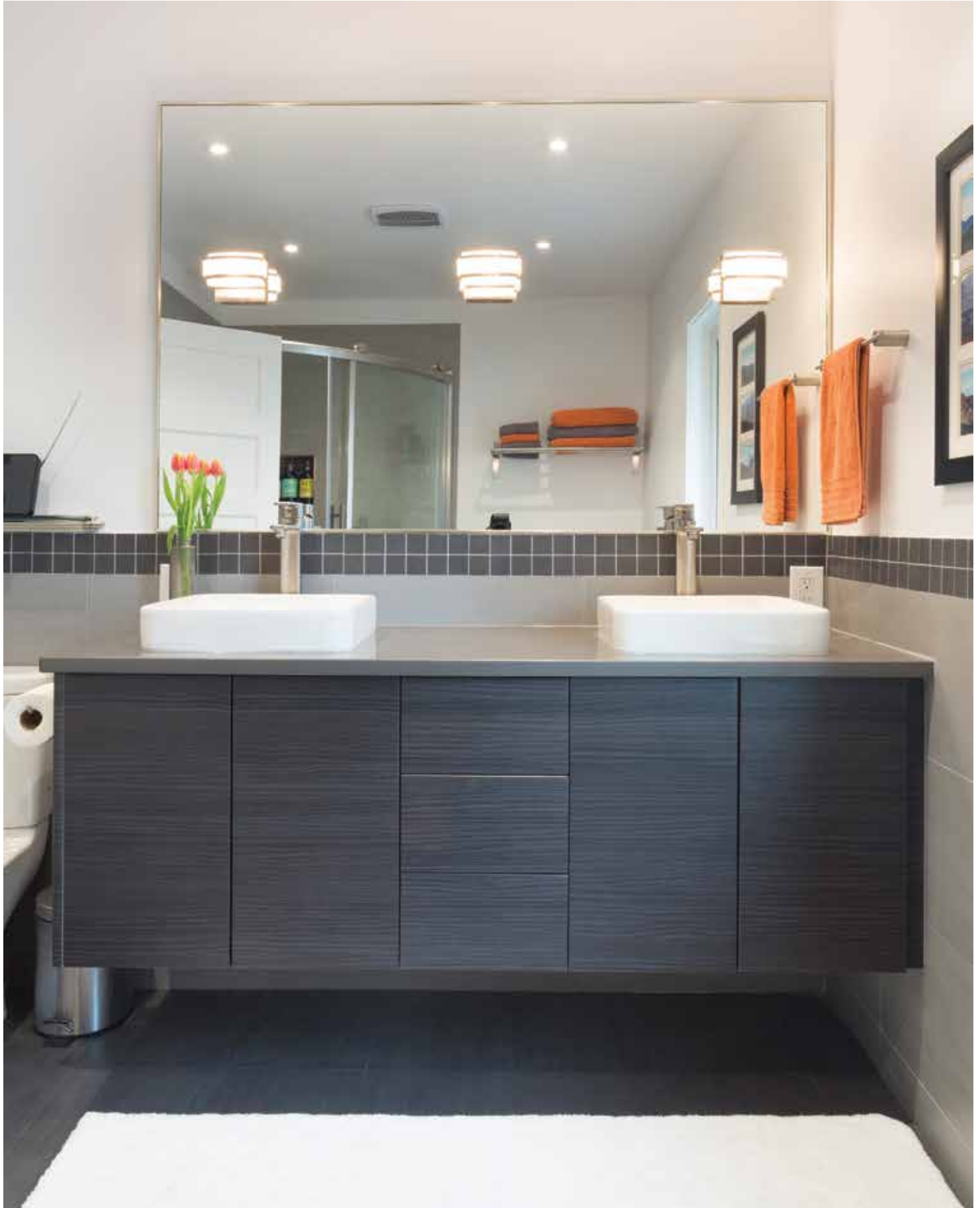
5 Who were your earliest design influences and who inspires you now?

Our earliest influences come from holidays to France (Paris, Bordeaux, Biarritz) and from the music we loved as teenagers – Adam Ant, Duran

Duran and the New Romantics – it was all about the glamour! Now our influences come from hotel style – your home should be a five star experience – and from movies like The Hunger Games and The Cook, The Thief and His Wife & Her Lover. Oh and from holiday destinations: we've just spent a month in Australia – it has an amazing design scene and some wonderful architecture.

6 What's in the future for the Colin and Justin line of products and where can we find them here in Canada?

We're always at the drawing board, exploring new home looks for Colin & Justin Home (our home decor and furniture line) – black metal and blond timber is a mix to watch out for, as is Mid-Century Modern with a colourful twist. We sell through select boutiques in the UK and you'll find nuggets of C&J in stores like Winners, Marshalls and HomeSense in North America.





Understated, warm and timeless

WC POTTS EXPERTISE NOTHING SHORT OF 'BRILLIANT'

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR** / photography by **DUALITY PHOTOGRAPHIC**

When you're the owner of a character home, it seems there's always an ongoing wish-list project that needs attention. Lisa and Tom have taken on a series of home improvement projects over the last 20 years and since they are very content with their Crescentwood neighbourhood and plan to age gracefully in their beloved 1911 built house, the couple decided it was time to tackle another item on their to-do list – the main bathroom.

"Having worked with WC Potts before when we renovated the basement bathroom and upon receiving their quote, we decided to go with them, because we already knew what they could do for us," says Lisa.

The couple was looking for solutions for the space that was

dominated by the large Jacuzzi bathtub set in the corner. "It was really difficult to get into and didn't suit our vision for the new space," says Lisa. "We were somewhat resigned to having a combo bathtub/shower again because of the cramped space but what we really wanted was a separate tub and shower configuration."

When the WC Potts team arrived to check out the space, they made a suggestion that Lisa calls nothing less than 'brilliant.' Why not remove the cumbersome heating radiator and install in-floor radiant heating, freeing up precious floor space for a dedicated bathtub along with a separate corner shower. The answer was obvious, let's do it!

That single decision directed the open-concept design of the bathroom that allows for



simultaneous use of the space by family members. “We wanted clean, classic lines within the space,” says Lisa, “since that’s our personal design aesthetic, understated and warm at the same time.”

The couple chose a soaker tub by Alcove, a longer than normal tub at 5’ 6” because now there was extra space. Lisa loves the ease with which she can now slip into a relaxing bath. “I made sure to do a try-before-you-buy demo in the WC Potts showroom, by getting in to the tub to make sure it fit me since I’m taller than average.”

Opposite the bathtub is the free-standing shower with fixtures by TOTO including sliding shower doors, thermostatic valves, chunk-style faucets, sliding bar showerhead and above, a rainhead shower.

The original plan called for a two-wall square shower, but Randy Mandelik, WC Potts President, made the suggestion of a curved shower enclosure to make for easier entry by freeing up space between shower and tub. A built-in shower wall niche makes room for bath products and TOTO shower door frames, faucets and hand-held

THEY KEPT THE LABOUR COSTS SEPARATE FROM THE FIXTURE PRICES. IT REALLY MADE IT EASY FOR US TO CHOOSE THE PRODUCTS WE WANTED

shower are all brushed nickel.

The floating vanity adds space of its own, this time releasing negative space below that contributes to an open, airy feel. The vanity, constructed of rigid thermofoil, perfect for high-humidity spaces and easy to wipe down, is topped with double low-profile vessel sinks set in the Caesarstone countertop.

The overhead mirror spans the vanity and a pair of quasi-industrial style lights set on the mirror surface provides shadow-free illumination and an interesting optical effect in its own right.

The couple chose a restrained colour palette for floor, walls and decorative tile insets - 1’ by 2’ black porcelain floor tiles, grey wall tiles and matching 2’ by 2’ inset tile ribbon that travels the room perimeter unifying the decor.

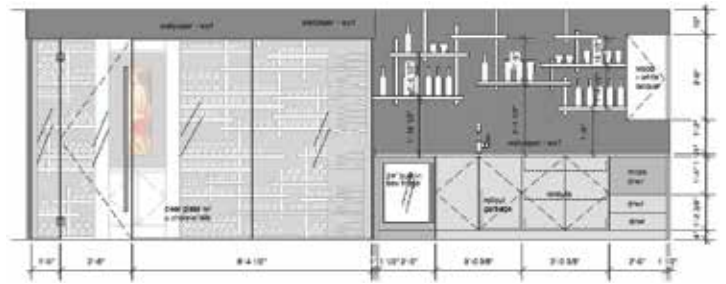
Lisa and Tom are thrilled with

the results and the bathroom is performing exactly as they had hoped. Lisa particularly appreciated WC Potts billing estimate when the job first began. “They kept the labour costs separate from the fixture prices. It really made it easy for us to choose the products we wanted.”

As for Randy, there’s not much he hasn’t seen in the 20 years he’s been transforming bathrooms in Winnipeg and environs. “There were no real issues in this job. This was an older house so it’s always a little tougher to handle, things like insulation and some wood rot. But overall, it went pretty smoothly. We’re glad to continue to do work with repeat customers. That means that people trust us and feel easy dealing with us.”

To learn more about WC Potts visit their website at www.wcpotts.com or phone 204.774.2626.

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AFTER

DESIGN IN DETAIL

by KIM SCHROEDER B.I.D.

INSPIRATION: Blue.. the client's favorite colour and rustic modern... the style of the home.



CONCEPT



❶ The bedding ensemble was the first item selected for its tailored details and colour tones.

❷ A coordinating fabric was selected for the custom made grommet sidepanels which frame all the windows. The panels were fabricated to hang floor to ceiling to distract from the 2 different window sizes and for a feeling of grandeur.

❸ The feature wall, fabricated by an artist out of wood slats stained numerous colours, ties all the colours and textures together.

❹ Wood blinds provide a feeling of warm, privacy and sun control.

❺ The bed and night stands are not a matching set but coordinate in colour.



KIM SCHROEDER B.I.D.

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Make it Home Ltd

ACHIEVING RENOVATION BLISS

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR** /
photography by **DUALITY PHOTOGRAPHIC**

Make it Home Ltd is the brain-child of Doreen Gauthier who started the Winnipeg based design/build renovation company back in 2005. The concept behind the company was to create an exceptional one-stop-shop model by facilitating the residential home renovations experience for her clients.

Trained as an architectural drafts person and employed for various engineers, architects and designers, Doreen had seen the good, the bad and the ugly of renovations and construction projects gone awry for any number of reasons, and over time, developed her own concept of what it would take to facilitate the process for homeowners.

Make it Home Ltd was born and Doreen emphasizes that “we are so much more than general contractors. We design, build and guide our clients through material selections too.”

The projects that Make It Home Ltd takes on include kitchens, bathrooms, basements and





OPPOSITE PAGE:

TOP

**2014 Kitchen Category B:
Gold Award**

BOTTOM

**2014 Whole House B:
Gold Award**

THIS PAGE:

TOP

**2013 Whole House Category B:
Gold Award**

BOTTOM LEFT

**2014 Kitchen Category A:
Silver Award**

BOTTOM RIGHT

**2014 Bathrooms Category B:
Gold Award**

additions, but more and more of their projects include the entire home. Good design is the crucial first step where details are worked out by putting pen to paper and solving issues like space planning, cabinetry and lighting details and structural changes. "Most of our projects include some sort of structural alterations. Our clients sometimes don't see the potential that exists in their homes. It's our job to bring that to light and to reality. As a design-build company, we design what we know we can build."

Doreen credits her process as the key to making sure that all aspects



of renovations proceed without a hitch. "Every project develops in the same way and client involvement is critical at every stage. As the project designer, I am the constant contact for the client during their renovation project. I'm involved from start to finish. For the home owner, it's the best-case scenario and that's where trust is built and earned."

"On the delivery side I have developed great relationships with a large network of professionals and together we know how to get things done. I've assembled a reliable, experienced team that includes my own carpenters, sub-trades and suppliers who are established companies with a long track record here in Winnipeg. Building relationships based on knowing what everybody needs and how they and I want to work, brings out the best in everyone," says Doreen.

Now nine years later, Make it Home Ltd has achieved a solid momentum in the local marketplace garnering industry awards and attaining glowing testimonials along the way.

Renomark, the Manitoba Home Builder Association's division for excellence in home renovations, has recognized the quality of Make it Home Ltd projects with two awards in 2013 and this year Make It Home walked away with three awards capturing Gold in bathroom, Category B, whole house Category B and kitchen, Category C.

A prior honour in 2010 saw Doreen win a business award from the Women Business Owners of Manitoba as the Woman Entrepreneur of the Year, a distinction that recognizes pacesetters who stand as inspiring role models to tomorrow's emerging business leaders.

The Make it Home Ltd testimonials at www.makeithome.ca/testimonials_000.htm are eloquent tributes to Make it

Home's client satisfaction levels where words like 'patient,' 'professional' and 'talented', show up a lot among the roster of customer comments.

Nearing the company's 10 year anniversary in 2015, Doreen views every renovation project that she's taken on as both meaningful and exciting and looks forward to many more!

For further details on Make It Home, visit www.makeithome.ca or call (204) 290-8113.

TOP
Make it Home Ltd is the brain-child of Doreen Gauthier who started the Winnipeg based design/build renovation company back in 2005.

BOTTOM
2014 Whole House B: Gold Award





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Craft Line Countertops

NEW SHOWROOM THRIVES ON REGENT

by **MARGARET ANNE FEHR**

Craft Line Countertops has been manufacturing laminate tops and fabricating acrylic tops for over 35 years in Winnipeg. Some 20 years ago, Craft Line started a showroom on Archibald Street and opened to the public.

The new factory-owned showroom is having another successful year as it marks the fifth anniversary of its new location at #16-1500 Regent Avenue. The showroom has benefited from the more prominent mall location on the Regent strip, from its previous Archibald Street site, and has been attracting more browsers, who have in turn, become satisfied customers.

The spacious 2400 square foot showroom "has been set up to encourage easy, relaxed viewing," says Jerry Monastyrski, Craft Line Countertops National Sales Manager, "that along with competitive prices ensure that customers will find exactly what they need." The spacious floor plan allows for an outstanding display of large-size countertop samples that takes the guesswork out of how a countertop will look once it's installed in the customer's home.

The product selection at Craft Line is prolific and homeowners can browse and purchase countertops



made either from laminates, acrylics, quartz, veneers or granite. Vanity marble tops are also available.

The showroom also offers the service of measuring and installing of countertops. A variety of quality sinks and faucets are also on display and can be purchased with the countertop making for an efficient shopping experience.

Countertops are made according to the sizes, shapes and colours required by the customer

"Most laminate tops are made within 6 business days from any one of the 205 colours stocked at the factory, and then are ready for pick

up at the factory," says Jerry. "Many people decide for a do-it-yourself option, but we also supply additional services that include removal of existing countertops, installation of new required plumbing, as well as a wide variety of sinks and faucets."

A huge Craft Line asset is the friendly, non-commissioned sales staff who provides guidance, ideas and answers. "Customers feel at ease knowing that the staff will likely be the same the next time they come in to visit and that they are dealing with factory-trained employees," says Jerry. "We want our staff to help our customers



make their purchases as opposed to 'selling' them. It means that our sales people really explore the customer's needs and try to match them with the correct product.

"As well as serving retail customers, the Winnipeg factory manufactures and supplies economical, quality laminate countertops to dealers, home builders and contractors across most of Canada in addition to homeowners in Winnipeg and beyond the Perimeter highway.

"See us first or see us last for knowledgeable advice and friendly service," says Jerry.

You won't be disappointed with the options, the selection and the service."

Craft Line can be seen on their website www.craftlinecountertops.com or viewers can LIKE them on Facebook to follow the latest in upcoming trends, weekly or monthly specials and events as well as access direct links to many of the suppliers to look for colours and materials.

Call Craft Line at 204-233-3097 or drop into the showroom at #16-1500 Regent across from Costco. Hours: 8 am to 5 pm daily except until 8 pm on Thursday and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturday



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1

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2



3



3 & 4 **PACIFIC ENERGY NEO 2.5 AND ALDERLEA T5 WOOD STOVE**

The Neo 2.5 is the newest wood stove design to grace the Pacific Energy line up. It's sleek, modern design is extremely well suited to today's aesthetic choice and this is heightened by the ability to choose from various colors and material selections for the modular decorative panels. The Alderlea T5 cast iron wood stove highlights the beautiful detailing that you would find in more period or rustic homes. This style stove is available in a beautiful Antique White finish, as well as the Ebony black, Marjolica brown, and Cast Iron black. Both stoves incorporate the non-catalytic EPA technology which gives you the high efficient fuel economy that is so sought after today.

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Transformations ahead at KBR15...

by **JAN CURRIER**

SHOW MANAGER, MANITOBA HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION

AS WE PREPARE FOR THE 14TH Annual Kitchen Bath and Renovation Show, it is a very busy time!

Not only do I have the Kitchen Bath and Renovation Show to create and execute, but I also have some personal renovations and big changes coming my way too! By the time you read this, all of the anticipated changes and excitement will be well underway.

Our youngest daughter and son in law just purchased a new home and they are expecting their first child (a little girl) on December 24th! So lots of changes are coming our family's way. There are rooms to decorate, furnishings to buy and oh the excitement of a new baby in the family! Then there are the endless ongoing Reno projects in our 86 year old character home in River Heights. Yes, life is busy, but I wouldn't have it any other way.

From a show perspective, KBR is the younger sister to Home Expressions, with each show having its own personality. KBR15 offers you all of the newest, most innovative and interesting products and services in today's renovation and design market. If you are looking to renovate your kitchen or bathroom, or thinking about an addition or developing your lower level... you need to come to our show!

In this day and age of social media, Consumers are savvier than ever before. You know what you want. We encourage you to come to KBR... bring your plans, talk with the experts and get ready to make your house the home you dream of. KBR creates a sensory experience for you, allowing you to touch, see and feel before you make those important renovation decisions.

The Lifestyle Stage presented by Kitchen Craft will be jam packed with informative speakers all weekend long. To name a few... we are excited to welcome Ramsin Khachi. He is a familiar face on CTV'S Marilyn Denis Show and also on Cityline on City TV. Ramsin is a member of Renomark in Toronto and is an engaging presenter. A special thanks to Floform Countertops and Cambria for bringing Ramsin to KBR. Back to the Lifestyle Stage — by popular demand — will be Chef Rob. If you are a foodie and love to taste and sample, make sure you join Rob for a culinary experience. Check out our website for a complete listing of presenters.

Always a highlight at KBR is the "Ask A Renovator" and the "Ask A Decorator" booths. Members of the Manitoba Home Builders' Association's Renomark program will be on hand for 15 minute consultations. You can go online and book your appointment today or stop by their booths at the show #102,104,106. Sherri



KBR CREATES
A SENSORY
EXPERIENCE FOR
YOU, ALLOWING
YOU TO TOUCH,
SEE AND FEEL
BEFORE YOU MAKE
THOSE IMPORTANT
RENOVATION
DECISIONS.

Cowlthorp from Inclusive Design Group will be offering design consultations in her booth at #434. They welcome all Reno and design dilemmas. Nothing is too small or too big to discuss with our experts.

Don't forget to pick up your Show Directory at the entrance to the show. If you find a personalized KBR sticky note on the inside of your show directory... you will win a prize! Details will be at the entrance to the show! When you arrive you will also receive a copy of *Home Decor & Renovations* magazine from our official magazine sponsor Wall2Wall Media. The first 1,000 Consumers a day will receive an Ocean Sales bag to carry all of your show paraphernalia.

Speaking of prizes... how would you like to win \$10,000 in kitchen cabinetry from Springfield Woodworking? Buy a raffle ticket from our Show Ambassadors. They will be strolling throughout the show in red aprons. 100% of the proceeds will go to Variety the Children's Charity of Manitoba.

And last but certainly not least... a HUGE thank you to our Presenting Sponsors for KBR15... All Canadian Renovations and Penta Foam Systems. Please stop by and say hello to Tony and Mike from All Canadian Renovations

at booths #110 and 108 and Joe from Penta at booths #105 and 107.

So let's make 2015 a productive year filled with health, happiness, renovations and design. I can guarantee that once you have renovated... you will fall in love with your home all over again. It will be your sanctuary where you create wonderful memories that will last a lifetime with friends and loved ones. I know that is my plan!

From our home to yours, we look forward to seeing you at KBR-
January 9-11, 2015.
www.kitchenandbathshow.com



Living *in* layers

When the cool weather comes around, the wardrobe advice is always the same: dress in layers! Well, this practical idea isn't just smart for outdoors – it works for your home, too. When you want to heat up the look and feel of your interior environment, follow my guide to layering for warm winter perfection at home..

by **YANIC SIMARD** / photo courtesy of **CB2**

1

Layering fabrics isn't just for furniture; rugs can look amazing layered too. I love adding a cowhide rug to tie together unusual furniture arrangements or punctuate the centre of a space. A sheepskin style rug also makes a stylish accent to areas such as the edge of the bed, under a footstool, or even draped over a chair or barstool for a softer seat.

TIP: Layer rugs like crazy to get a patchwork quilt look that adds huge drama – mix five to seven smaller rugs in one room (look to CB2 photo on left for inspiration) Or, use carpet tiles to fake a large rug under your existing one, and fill in the edges of a room.

2

Copper, gold and brass are hot in more ways than one – they bring a classic yet trendy style and warm undertone, without feeling like a strong colour. If you're timid (or already invested in silver), start small by layering these metals in with accents such as frames, tableware and lamps. The mix of silver and gold hues creates a subtle Art Deco inspired vibe, so there's no reason not to sprinkle one in, while letting the other dominate.

TIP: Bronze tealight votives reflect an extra-warm glow. Line up three, five or seven (odd numbers tend to work best) on a silvery tray or cart for a contrast statement and sparkling mood-lighting. Bronze Rose Tealight Holder. \$20. Visit YSSelected.com



3

Pillows are one of my favourite ways to add style – they can move from living room to bedroom and beyond, and dress up or down a room. Rather than picking dramatic new colours, grab some neutral but bold patterns that can layer behind your existing favourites for a more filled-in feel.

TIP: For my YSS collection, I wanted a dash of liveable safari style, so I tamed a tiger print pillow in a warm tan and winter-white. An animal print like this adds unexpected drama standing alone on your dining chairs, or slinking between the sofa cushions. Safari Tiger Print Crewel Embroidered Square Cushion. \$100. Visit YSSelected.com

4

Lush textures are great for adding warmth to the eye and the hand. A sumptuous grey blanket works folded neatly at the end of a bed, tossed casually on a sofa – pretty much anywhere you want to add some luxury (so it can move between rooms for new looks).

TIP: Spread a blanket across the cushions of a sofa, tuck in at the edges, for a noncommittal contrast-upholstery look - I do this at home all the time!

5

Don't forget the vertical surfaces! An extra layer of drapery helps avoid heat loss through windows, so consider mixing a sheer layer with a heavy blackout-lined layer – you can keep your existing curtains and add a double rod.

TIP: A lightly patterned inner sheer (try a tone-on-tone white) under a solid heavy drape, draws the eye's attention to the layered effect by adding drama to the background instead of the foreground.



YANIC SIMARD

Yanic Simard is the Principal Designer of the Award-Winning Toronto Interior Design Group (tidg.ca), and regular guest expert on the number one Canadian talk show City's Cityline. Check out Yanic's accessory line Yanic Simard Selected at ysselected.com

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- The Home Expressions show (March 27 - 29, 2015)

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