



At Home With...

NHL HALL OF FAME REFEREE BILL MCCREARY

PHOTOGRAPHY SARAH TACOMA

Bill McCreary may have hung up his black and white stripes after 29 years as an on-ice National Hockey League referee, but he's still in the game. Bill, inducted into the NHL Hall of Fame in 2014, now works as an official supervisor at games and in the NHL's Situation Room, reaching verdicts on video reviews. When Bill's not on the road, he's at home in Lora Bay, enjoying life with wife Mary Ann and daughter Melissa. OUR HOMES met with Bill to talk hockey, his charity golf event and why he loves life in Southern Georgian Bay.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 29** Years as an on-ice NHL referee
- 1,737** Regular season games
- 297** Playoff games – an NHL referee record
- 44** Stanley Cup Final playoff games – an NHL referee record
- 3** Olympics – 1998, 2002, 2010 – refereed the gold medal match in all three
- 1** Induction into the Hockey Hall of Fame November 17, 2014

OUR HOMES: Why did you decide to retire to Southern Georgian Bay?

BILL MCCREARY: We owned a condo at Lighthouse Point in Collingwood for five years. We realized this would be a wonderful area to retire to and enjoy everything the area has to offer. There are great hospitals and amenities here. As well, the one-and-a-half hour drive to the airport is a very easy commute.



LEFT: A painting depicting Bill's famous puck flip, which he did at the starting face-off of each NHL game to let his daughter Melissa know he was thinking of her.

LEFT: Bill's bar top was custom made with 188 pucks under glass. The autographed stick overhead was gifted to Bill by Boston Bruin Zdeno Chara to mark his last game as an NHL official. **BELOW:** The framed jersey marks Bill's 1,500th NHL game.



OH: What do you enjoy most about your home and neighbourhood?

BM: We love the views across the golf course and out onto Georgian Bay. Every day offers postcard pictures that are absolutely beautiful. Our home is large enough to enjoy our families and welcome friends. The neighborhood is like an extended family; everyone is there for support for one another when needed.

OH: Tell us about your new role in the NHL.

BM: The transition from the ice to the press box was very seamless. I travel to NHL cities mentoring, coaching and evaluating the officials. It is a very rewarding job. As well I spend five nights a month in the Situation Room in Toronto. The league now mandates that an ex-official be in the room to assist hockey operations when there's a coach's challenge during a game.

OH: When hockey season is over, what do you do for fun?

BM: I enjoy playing golf with my friends. I love golfing with my daughter and wife as well. I volunteer and assist the social committee in our Lora Bay community to put on many events over the course of the year. As well, I have served on our condo board for two three-year terms.

OH: Tell us about the annual Bill McCreary Charity Golf Classic.

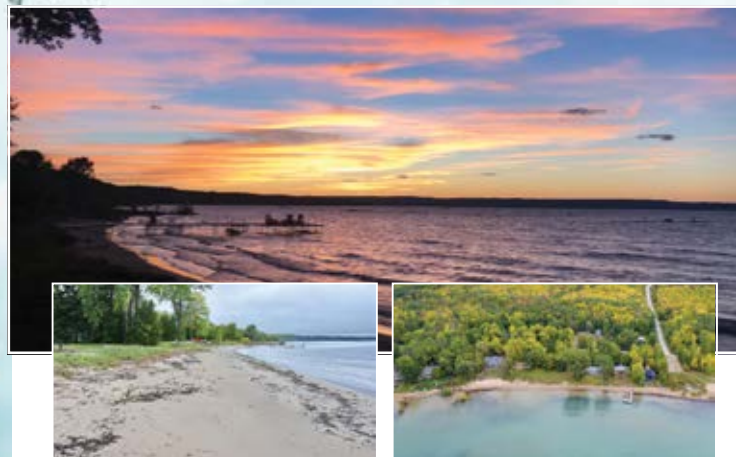
BM: Since 2016, we've been holding an August event at the Golf Club at Lora Bay. Many celebrities give up their personal time to participate, and many wonderful members from our golf community support the event. We have donated over \$100,000 to the Collingwood and Meaford hospitals and we are also able to donate to girls hockey and youth soccer organizations in the region. **OH**

OUR FEATURED HOMES



126 COURCHEVEL CRES. CRAIGLEITH - \$1,649,000

TO BE BUILT - Contemporary 5 bed, 3.5 bath custom home at the base of Craigleith and Alpine, in Nipissing Ridge. Incredible views of the ski hills and Georgian Bay from great room and decks. Open concept living, many upgrades. On the Craigleith Shuttle and minutes to Blue Mountain.



THORNBURY WATERFRONT - \$1,075,000

111 Sunset Blvd., Blue Mountains - 72' of beautiful sand beach. Build your DREAM HOME, close to Lora Bay Golf Club, minutes to area ski clubs, Thornbury's shops and restaurants and The Georgian Trail. MORE INFO - forsalecollingwood.com



LORA BAY - \$1,399,000

151 East Ridge Drive, Blue Mountains - Backing onto the golf course, 6 Bed, 3.5 Bath, Post & Beam great room/wood-burning fireplace, chef's kitchen. Main floor master with ensuite, w/i closet and walk-out. Fully finished lower level. Many upgrades.

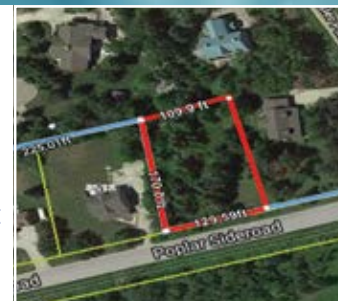


CRAIGLEITH/BLUE MOUNTAINS - \$425,000

120 Lendvay Alley - Walk to Craigleith, Northwinds Beach, the Georgian Trail & the Village at Blue. Build your dream home/chalet.

LOT 16 OSLER PINES - \$169,000

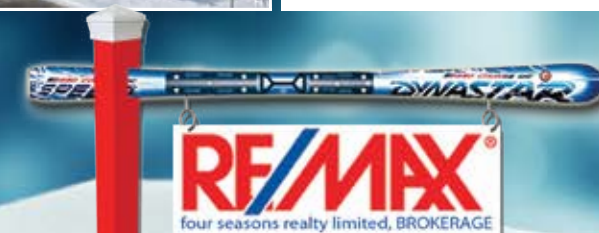
Osler members, build your dream chalet on Osler Ski Club property, with great views of the hills. 129' x 170', south facing, services at the lot line. One of the last available lots. Call for more information.



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