

# COTTAGE COMFORT

STORY **ANDREW PHILIPS**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**  
STYLING **CAROLINE BROWN**



**F**or Brent and Barb Graham, it was love at first sight.

The couple rented a cottage on Farlain Lake near Penetanguishene one summer and knew immediately they had found their dream setting. They eventually bought a lakefront property with an old cottage on it and embarked on a journey to create their idyllic getaway. Fast forward a short time later and the Grahams now enjoy panoramic views of the popular lake while relaxing on their new cottage's cedar, wrap-around deck.

But to get to this point, the pair first had to find a contractor who could inspire their confidence. They found their match after a careful and diligent search, enlisting **Joël Laurin**, owner of **JVL Home Improvements Ltd.** "We can't say enough about Joël," Brent says. "He's been awesome and we are very glad we connected."

The Grahams' four-bedroom, 2,100 sq. ft. cottage features hand-scraped acacia floors and an incredible porch with a retractable-screen and a wood-burning fireplace. "We use this porch all the time," says Brent. "We've had lots of great nights around the fire."

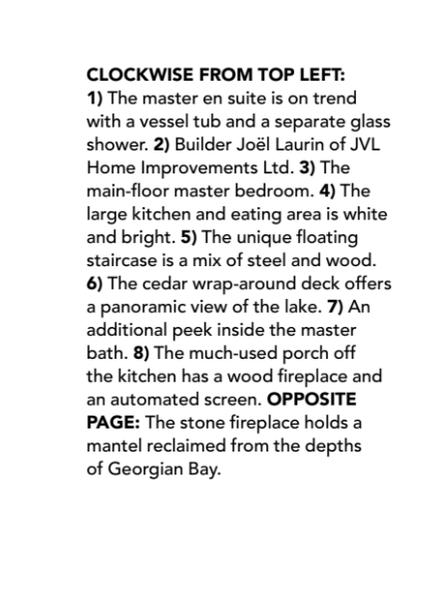
There's also an impressive staircase with open risers by JVL Home Improvements and a very functional kitchen created by **Perkinsfield Kitchen and Bath (PKB)**, along with personalized, vibrant styling touches created by **CB Design & Renovation's** senior designer **Caroline Brown**.

The mantel over the gas fireplace in the living room, which boasts open ceilings with decorative beams, is made of wood recovered from nearby Georgian Bay.

The cottage features a comfy, main-floor master bedroom, complete with en suite along with two additional bedrooms on the second floor and another in the finished basement.

JVL builds two-to-three homes annually, boasting a stellar reputation in the area thanks to Joël's dedication to working effectively with his clients to help create their dream homes and cottages and custom renovation projects.

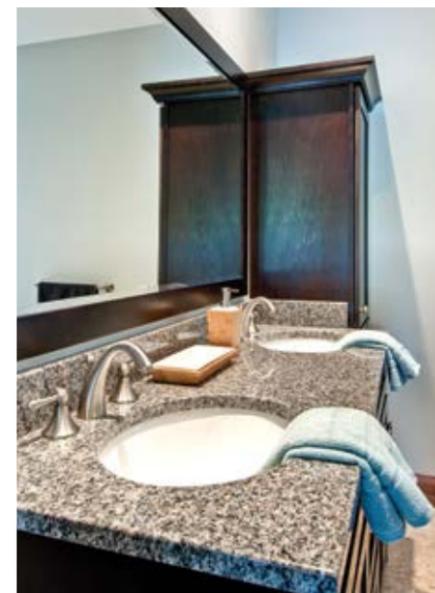
JVL also operates a woodworking shop where each project's custom trims, stairs and finishings, like those found throughout the Graham cottage, are produced. *Continued on page 54*



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:**

- 1) The master en suite is on trend with a vessel tub and a separate glass shower.
- 2) Builder Joël Laurin of JVL Home Improvements Ltd.
- 3) The main-floor master bedroom.
- 4) The large kitchen and eating area is white and bright.
- 5) The unique floating staircase is a mix of steel and wood.
- 6) The cedar wrap-around deck offers a panoramic view of the lake.
- 7) An additional peek inside the master bath.
- 8) The much-used porch off the kitchen has a wood fireplace and an automated screen.

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** The stone fireplace holds a mantel reclaimed from the depths of Georgian Bay.



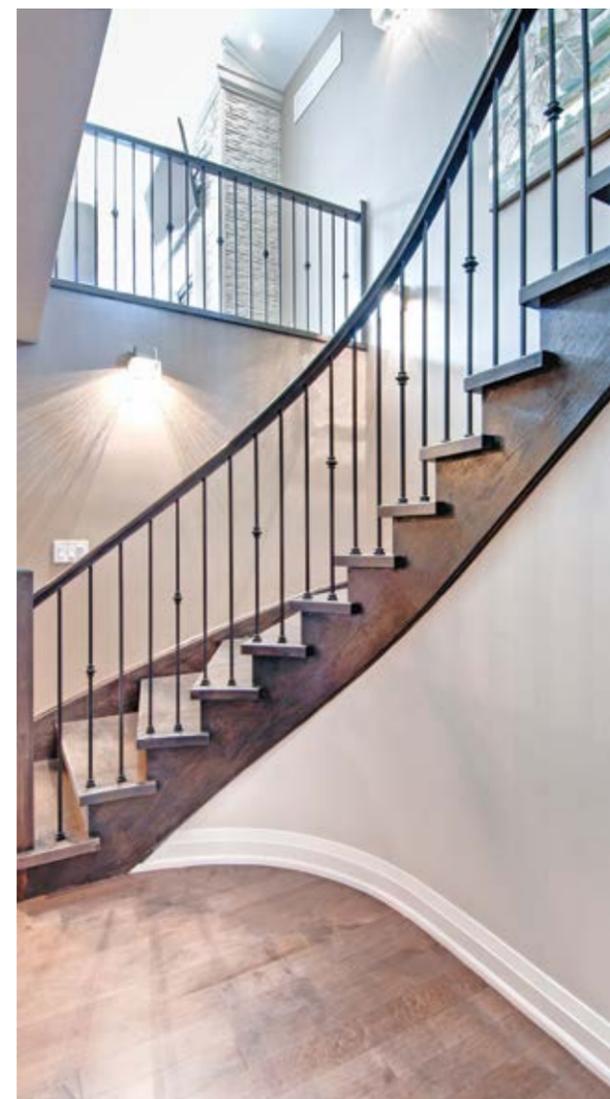
showcase



# EXCLUSIVE ENCLAVE

STORY **ANDREW PHILIPS**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**  
STYLING **YVONNE NIELEN**

Innisfil Estates offers incredible value and luxury living. All models in this exclusive enclave offer custom features. We're showing the 2,500 sq. ft. Summerlyn bungalow model, which is now available for viewing.



All totaled, the new development features 38 lots ranging in size from a half-acre to about two acres.

There are nine designs to choose from, ranging from regular and raised bungalows to three two-storey "bungalow" layouts, including the 3,519 sq. ft. Remington model.

All homes will feature stone and stucco finishes be tailored to each client's individual needs.

Styled by Yvonne Nielen, of Innovative Design, the 2,502 sq. ft. Summerlyn bungalow model home now available for viewing is beautifully built and designed with the highest quality finishes. *Continued on page 57*

A prominent developer and homebuilder have joined forces to create an exciting new development close to urban centres.

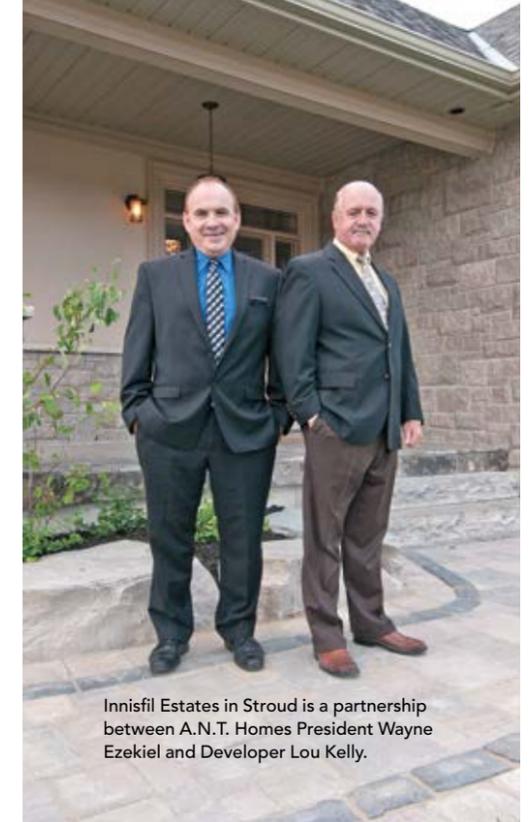
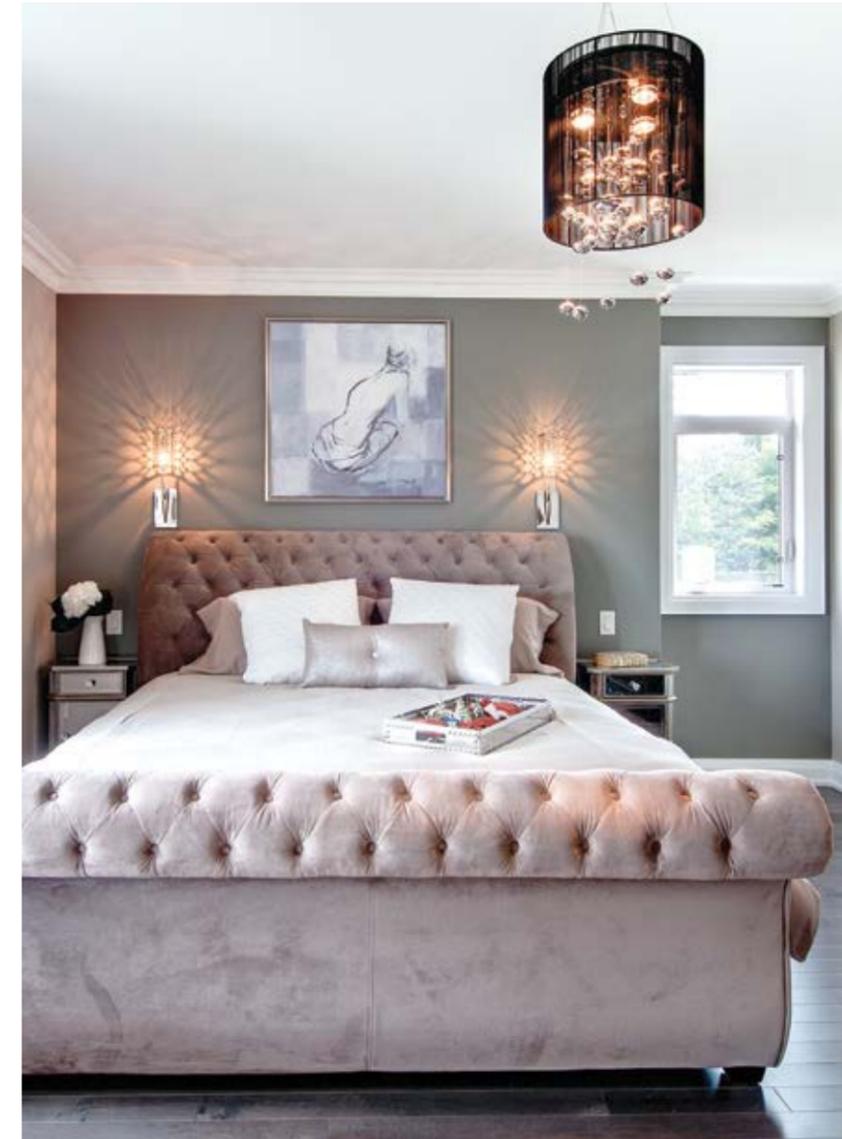
**Innisfil Estates** is an exclusive enclave of custom executive homes located near Barrie in Stroud, a village community offering all the amenities of a larger centre.

Built around a partnership between developer **Lou Kelly** and **A.N.T. Homes** President **Wayne Ezekiel**, the fabulous

new community will offer custom-built, architecturally-controlled homes, including plenty of fine features and finishings sure to appeal to the discriminating buyer.

Lou and Wayne expect Innisfil Estates to create its own mark on Stroud with an outstanding array of custom homes in a family-oriented neighbourhood on Sunnybrae Avenue.

Historically a rural area, Innisfil's residential community has grown from a lakeside cottage and farming centre to a premiere residential area. Stroud offers commuting proximity to both Barrie and Toronto, while encompassing the tranquil beauty of a lakeside community.



Innisfil Estates in Stroud is a partnership between A.N.T. Homes President Wayne Ezekiel and Developer Lou Kelly.

The partnership between Lou and Wayne is a culmination of almost 60 years of building excellence.

“Our mission at A.N.T. Homes is to construct custom homes with particular attention to quality, detail, function and energy efficiency,” explains Wayne, who has more than 18 years of experience as a custom-home builder and previously apprenticed for more than 10 years with master craftsmen, learning custom-home construction from the ground up. “We collaborate with our clients to bring our homeowner’s dream to life.”

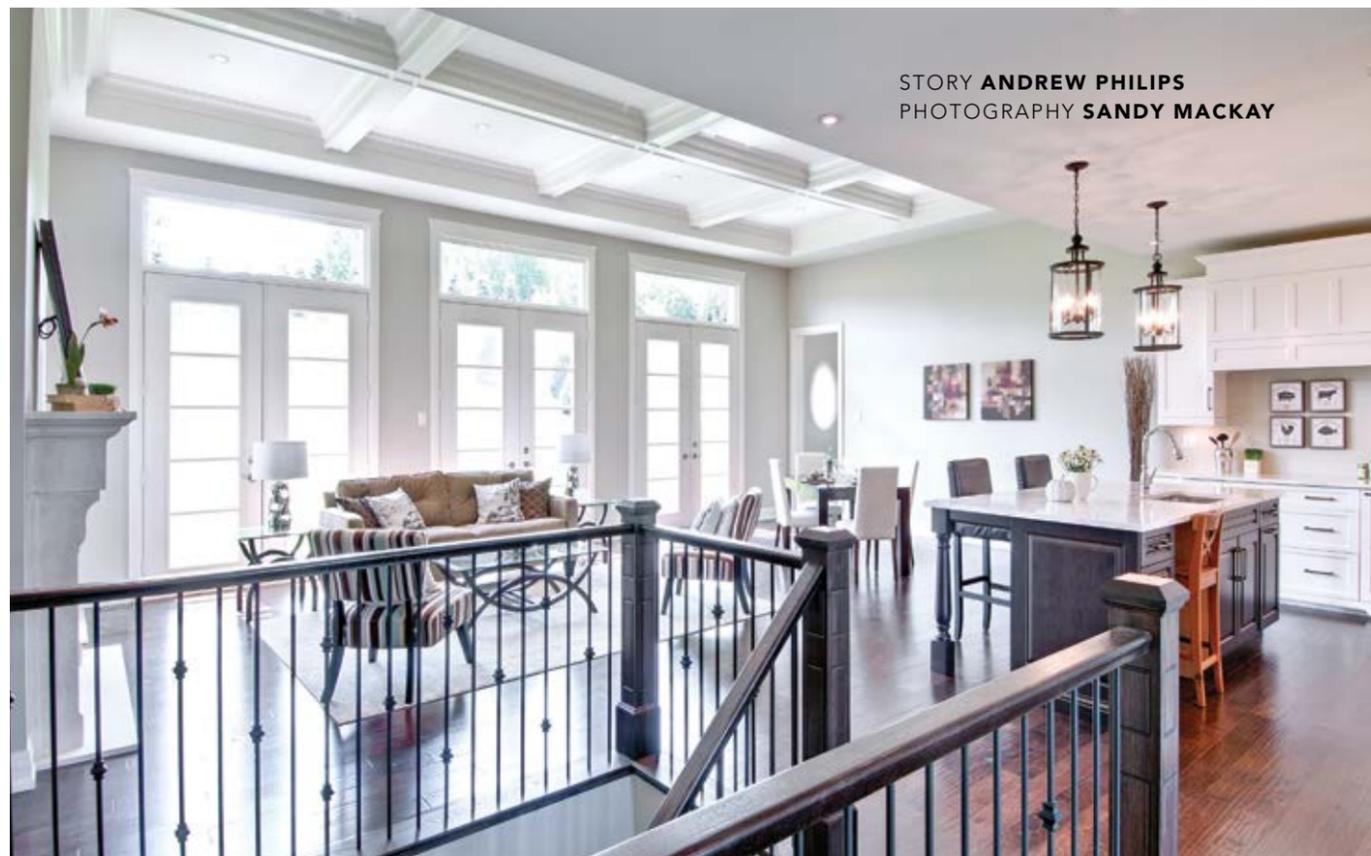
Over the years, Wayne has assembled a talented and experienced team of architects, engineers, site supervisors, building trades and other specialists to fully serve his homeowners.

The company employs strong corporate values that translate into creating a trusting partnership with homeowners. Wayne is a true advocate of working with his customers to ensure the very best results.

Lou and his family have lived and worked in Innisfil since 1979. As the developer of choice for residential communities in Innisfil, Barrie and on Lake Simcoe, Lou has relocated thousands of families over the past 34 years as a real estate broker, builder and developer. He has also been a past recipient of the Greater Innisfil Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award. Visit [www.innisfilestates.com](http://www.innisfilestates.com).

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# LUXE LIVING



STORY **ANDREW PHILIPS**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**



Those seeking the utmost in luxury need look no further than **Homes By DayCor's** latest offering. With so many sought-after features, the firm's latest home, located in Barrie's Carson Ridge Estates, is sure to please the most discriminating buyer with its light, bright open-concept styling and countless fabulous features.

Priced at just over \$1 million with \$365,000 in available upgrades, this listing at 36 Wendat Trail boasts an incredible master bedroom with a fabulous en suite that features heated floors.

There's also a covered rear deck to enjoy a mid-winter barbecue and a number of unique, high-end features, including upgraded cabinetry and trim along with a living area that's perfect for entertaining with a vaulted ceiling, lovely beams and an upgraded fireplace offering a cast-stone mantel surround.

This home also includes a stunning oak staircase complete with rod-iron spindles and lots of additional pot lighting on all levels. A huge, 1,221 sq. ft., finished, walkout basement provides plenty of extra living space.

The kitchen offers high-end cabinetry and granite along with a hood fan and a gas line that's ready for cooktop and wall-oven hookup.

The home also offers plenty for those interested in years of worry-free living, beginning with a 12/12 pitched roof, copper detail and exterior stone with post and beam detail. *Continued on page 60*

Welcome to Homes By DayCor's latest offering on exclusive Wendat Trail. This home has it all, the very best in upgrades and a huge three-car garage. Situated on a premium lot, the home is designed for entertaining, inside and out.

# showcase

For the hobbyist or automobile aficionado, there's an oversize three-car, extra-deep garage that includes a door opener and steel-insulated, carriage-style doors.

And for those hoping to enjoy the outdoors, this premium lot features eye-catching exterior landscaping, a premium sodded lawn with a Rain Bird multi-zone sprinkler system.

**DayCore Venture Group Inc.** co-owners **Bob and Linda Graves** and **Lou and Sandy Nitsopoulos** have built a company that prides itself on bold thinking, creating innovative exteriors and interior architectural designs with a name that's become synonymous with high-quality workmanship and attention to detail.

Their approach has made DayCor an industry leader with homes featuring cathedral ceilings, sunken foyers, larger windows for extra light and better living spaces.

DayCor also prides itself on its strong personal approach that makes every one of its prestigious homes, large or small, a masterpiece, specifically suited to each individual buyer.

For more information, visit [www.homesbydaycor.com](http://www.homesbydaycor.com). **OH**



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