



# LUMINOSITY

STORY DIANE SAWCHUK  
PHOTOGRAPHY GORDON KING

A little west of Fairfield Heights, there's a secluded cul-de-sac of executive townhomes that depicts a painting of pastoral perfection. Call it Bayshore's little secret.

**T**With ducks bobbing and splashing about on the surface of a substantial creek that bubbles along the eastern perimeter of the enclave, the collection of tidy homes, and the attention paid to the landscaped beds of flowers found in the common areas, make this a hidden gem. It's difficult to reconcile the serene atmosphere that hints at a country living lifestyle when the Queensway is a few short blocks away. But even the steady thrum of morning commuters wouldn't dare disturb the feeling of calm found here – and really, not even the muffled sound of cars and trucks rolling by can be heard.

Serendipitously, four years ago a friend of Elizabeth and Ed Weber's thought their five bedroom Cape Cod would make the perfect home for her own son. She encouraged the Webers to view a townhouse in the **Tamarack Homes**-built neighbourhood of 28 units where she lived. The end result was that the Webers, who had been considering downsizing anyway, ended up selling their 2,300 sq. ft home, located on a large lot, where Elizabeth tended to her established gardens, and moving to an 1,800 sq. ft. townhome. And yes, their friend's son did buy their previous home. Continued on page 48

**FAR LEFT:** Homeowner Ed Weber says his favourite room in this west end executive townhome is the lower level, where a basement walk-out allows him access to the patio, perfect for relaxing in a hammock while ducks cavort in the nearby creek. **ABOVE:** Ed and Elizabeth Weber enjoy the serenity of the woodland space they've created by the creek flowing along the perimeter of their neighbourhood. As an artist, Elizabeth sees the landscape around her as yet another canvas on which to work with colour and texture. Here, using different species of lamium for the background, she's planted a variety of ferns and hostas in her shade gardens.

With access to an oversize deck overlooking the creek below and generously proportioned windows drawing in the light, the Webers' great room is surely the heart of their home. Above the fireplace is a Joan Miró lithograph entitled *Ode for Joan Miró*, part of the Webers' collection of 20th century artists.

**"IT'S GOOD TO DO THINGS IN SWEEPS OF COLOURS.  
IT WORKS IN LANDSCAPE AND NATURE, AND THAT'S  
WHAT I'VE TRIED TO DO INSIDE MY HOUSE, TOO."**



**BELOW:** For their powder room, the Webers commissioned a stained glass window from Stained Glass Stuff Ltd. to mirror the look of the stained glass in their entry sidelight and transom. **RIGHT:** A charming, well-lit entry hints at the cosiness found within the home.

**OPPOSITE:** A painting by Canadian figure skater Toller Cranston (1949-2015) holds centre court in the dining room. The Olympic medalist and three-time world figure skating champion is an internationally recognized painter known for his brightly coloured, fanciful themes.



Elizabeth, who developed an interest in art while in public school, says what struck her about the townhouse when she first entered was the way the light entered the home. With a painter's eye, she took in the large windows facing the creek and the high ceiling on the main floor.

"This house is good for art," Elizabeth says, as evidenced through all three floors of the home, where prints, paintings and lithographs cover the walls. The first hint at what can be found in the home is at the front door, where a stained-glass sidelight is splashed with splotches of bright red.

Inside, a large and colourful painting can be spotted from the entry and is the first introduction to the Webers' passion for

art. The couple started collecting artwork while Ed worked for the International Development Research Centre. Stationed in Bogotá, Colombia, and later in Delhi, India, the Webers began learning about 20th century art. Under the guidance of an art gallery owner they met, the couple began buying prints and paintings that appealed to them. So, when they first walked through the townhouse that would eventually become their home, they realized the layout of the home, where even the walk-out basement offers ample light, and the wall space available, offered the perfect setting to display the art pieces they had collected over the years as well as the art that Elizabeth herself created.

Because of its size and bright splashes of

colour, undoubtedly the most impressive piece is the Toller Cranston painting they purchased in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. But in the open concept of the main floor, which combines a great room, the dining area, living room and galley kitchen, the eye is quick to travel to the other walls. A Botero is displayed along one wall, a Miró on another, all interspersed with the sketches and portraits Elizabeth created.

With its expansive wall of windows facing northeast and looking out onto the creek below, the area is sheathed in a gentle, muted light. On the southern wall towards the back of the space, Maxxmar shutters, purchased at **Randall's**, provide relief from any harsh light when necessary. *Continued on page 50*



## feature

The Webers added a window above the kitchen sink, installed by Manotick Windows & Doors and refreshed cupboards with an updated colour in a lacquer finish. **BELOW:** Light streaming into this sun-dappled area can be diffused by adjusting the newly installed shutters, allowing the Webers to enjoy a light meal or read the newspaper with just the right amount of light.



Because there were no windows in the galley kitchen, the Webers found the area cloaked in perpetual gloom no matter the time of day. The solution lay in having a window, installed over the kitchen sink by **Manotick Windows & Doors**, sited high enough to allow natural light in while still maintaining their privacy, since a neighbouring townhouse across the walkway faces theirs.

With the addition of light, the kitchen was given a lift of colour. Elizabeth says the oak cupboards, original to the kitchen, just weren't working for the colour scheme she had envisioned for the space. They were updated with a lacquer finish in a soothing grey-green that's further enhanced by the custom backsplash created by local glass artist **Delfina Falcão**. *Continued on page 52*



**\$200 Rebate**  
when you purchase Duette® with PowerView® Motorization

**GOTCHA COVERED**  
Blinds | Draperies | Shutters & More

Offer valid from January 1 – April 30, 2018.  
\*Purchase a minimum of 4 Duette® with PowerView® Motorization and receive a \$200 rebate and an extra \$50 for each additional shade purchased. Purchase a minimum of 4 Duette® without PowerView® Motorization and receive a \$100 rebate and an extra \$25 for each additional shade purchased. Valid at participating retailers only. The rebate will be issued in the form of a Hunter Douglas Prepaid American Express® Card. THE PROMOTION CARD is a trademark of The Hunt Group. All Rights Reserved. THE PROMOTION CARD is a Prepaid American Express® Card issued by Amex Bank of Canada.® Used by Amex Bank of Canada under license from American Express. For full details, visit [hunterdouglas.ca](#).



**HunterDouglas**



**Making houses "HOMES" Since 1927!**

**Sikkens ProLuxe Cetol Log & Siding**

- High Solids Alkyd
- High Performance
- Translucent Satin Finish

*Visit one of our 3 convenient locations!*

East – 2212 Gladwin Cres., Ottawa | 613.523.2440  
Central – 1242 Bank St., Ottawa | 613.523.1534  
West – 150 Iber Rd., Stittsville | 613.270.8504

**[www.bondsdecor.ca](http://www.bondsdecor.ca)**

# Suite Dreams...

**Professional Design  
Affordable Quality  
Timely Installation  
Reliable Warranty**

**THE  
ELECTRICAL  
& PLUMBING  
STORE**

**1080 Ogilvie (East) | 613-741-2116    31 Northside (West) | 613-721-2116    [epstore.com](http://epstore.com)**

In the warmer weather, when she isn't painting or attending an art class, Elizabeth takes to her canvas outdoors, where she's created wonderful tapestries in various hues of green in the shade gardens found outside.

"Because it's a shade garden there aren't many colourful flowers you can work with," she says. "Instead the focus is on working with textures and combining the different shades of green in pleasing ways."

"It's good to do things in sweeps of colours. It works in landscape and nature, and that's what I've tried to do inside my house, too." **OH**



**ABOVE:** The Webers' light-infused master en suite was recently refreshed with new subway tile and a glass door in the step-in shower by Westend Bath and Kitchen Centre. **LEFT:** With their installation in the upper hallway ceiling, Solatube Daylighting Systems, purchased at Cardy Vacuum, efficiently capture sunlight from above and direct it through to the main floor. Hanging in the stairwell are Elizabeth's paintings of family members that she based on old photos.

As you lay awake sweating, perhaps you're thinking,  
*"Why didn't I get that central air installed?"*



**Reliance Holmes**  
HEATING & COOLING

Heating  
Cooling  
Hot Water  
Plumbing  
and more...

## HEATING & COOLING

# Get The Reliance Home Team Advantage This Summer

### By Your Local Team Of Home Heating And Cooling Experts

It's hot and humid. The kids have been whining all day, you've given all the ice cubes in the house to your panting dog and you've been up tossing and turning, too warm to sleep. As you lay awake sweating, perhaps you're thinking "Why didn't I get that central air installed?" or "Is it hot enough to justify the increase in my energy bills?" or "That AC has been running all day and it's still too hot in here!" As a Home Comfort Advisor for one of Canada's largest residential HVAC providers, read on to learn more about how you can keep chill this summer and save some of your hard-earned money from going up the chimney.

**Maintain Your Air Conditioner:** Just like an oil change for your car, regular maintenance for your home comfort equipment is integral. By assuming your equipment is clean, fluid levels topped up and all parts working at peak performance, you will achieve greater efficiency, proactively prevent breakdowns and avoid costly repairs. Reliance Holmes Heating has been offering this service for over 54 years. Our licensed technicians take the time to fully inspect your equipment and work with you to ensure you'll have no surprises over the summer months.

**Keep The Fan On:** Check out your thermostat for your fan settings. By keeping the fan on all the time, you'll be able to even out temperatures in your home and achieve new efficiency. Pull cool air up from your basement, cycle out hot spots that the afternoon sun can create and keep your air flowing.

**When Replacing, Price Isn't Everything:** When the humidity levels reach record highs the temptation to add or replace central air is a worthwhile investment for your home. It's important to remember, you're not adding a new AC for just this heat wave, you're investing in your home for the next 10 years. There are many factors to be considered to protect your home and your investment.

**Size Matters:** As a Home Comfort Advisor, part of my job is to understand your home. I recommend



the equipment best suited to your square footage, heat loss or heat gain. Choosing the wrong size of equipment will have your new AC running too hard, short cycling and putting strain on your ductwork, furnace and your patience as noise volume, air quality and temperature can be compromised. With properly sized equipment, the more energy savings you'll realize.

**Always Use a Licensed Contractor:** The most important day in the life of your new AC is the day it is installed. Your air conditioner shares components with your furnace and you need to ensure what's being installed is going to work best with your existing equipment and will be installed to code to garner peak performance. Licensed installation protects your warranty and is required if you intend to apply for any available government rebates (HINT: you can get up to \$650 in rebates this cooling season!). The best way to ensure you're using licensed installers is to verify that they are HRAI approved ([www.hrai.ca](http://www.hrai.ca)) and are willing to produce their license for you.

### Compare Apples to Apples:

Make sure you get a written quotation so you can compare all the details. Warranty is the biggest area to look out for. Ensure what's being offered is for both parts and labour and that the company you purchase from has the staying power to be around long enough to provide the coverage you're paying for. Just like with your car, the parts can be costly but the labour is where the bills can really add up.

*To guarantee all your needs will be met, call us for a free in-home consultation. We'll come to your home to review your current setup and share with you available options best suited for your home and desired comfort. Reliance also provides a suite of home services, including heating, cooling, hot water, plumbing services, water softeners, as well as heating, cooling and plumbing service protection plans. Our goal is to make sure you and your family are comfortable year-round and have the right cost-effective solutions to keep you that way for years to come.*

**To Get The Reliance Home Team Advantage, Call 613-592-8170 Today**