

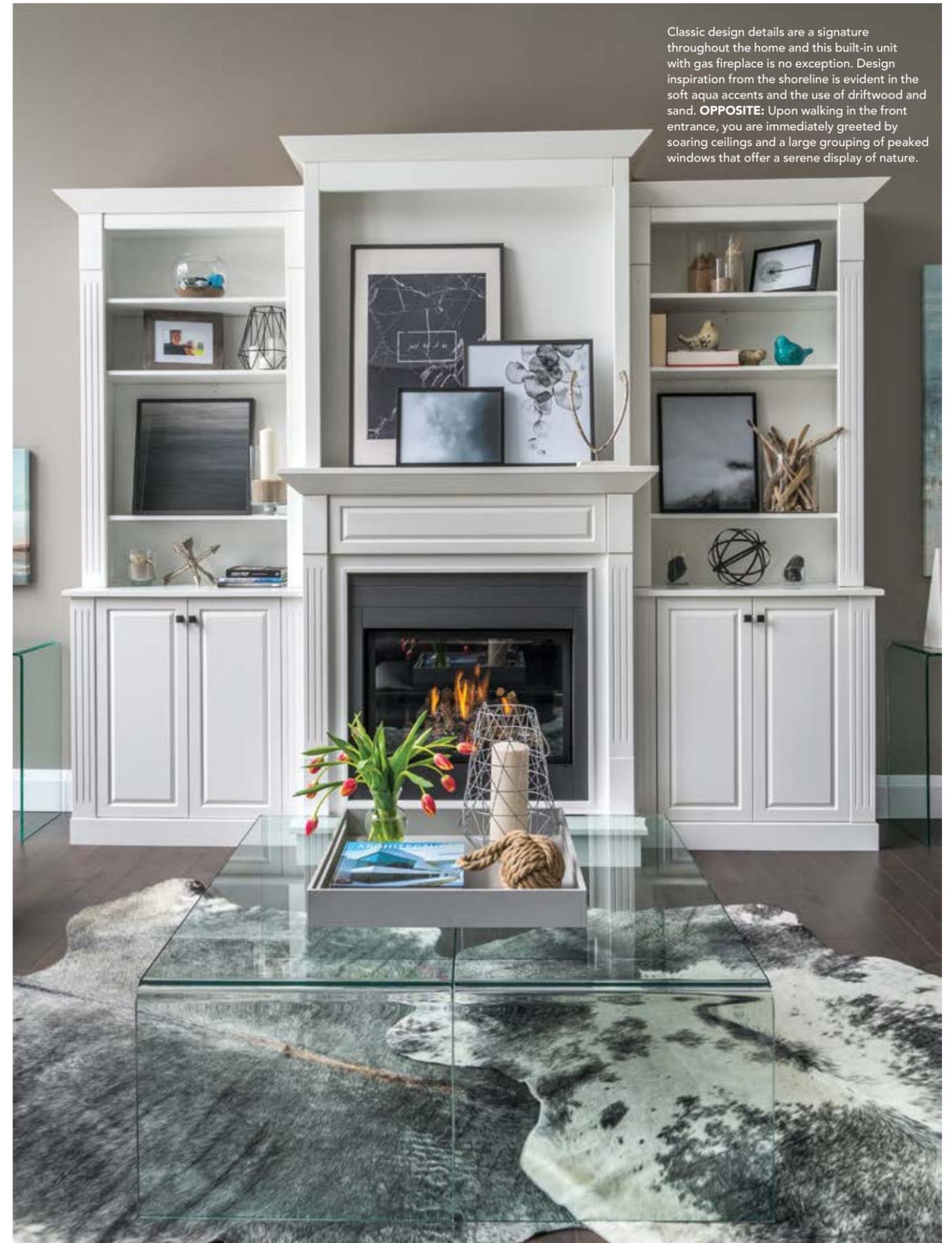
THE HOUSE THAT BRYAN BUILT

STORY MEGAN DUNN | PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY MACKAY

Built with his trademark stone exterior, the home of Saugeen Shores builder, **Bryan Snyder** of **Snyder Development**, is situated in **Pegasus Trails**, a desired, treed cul-de-sac, alongside the picturesque views and calming shoreline of Miramichi Bay off Lake Huron.

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Classic design details are a signature throughout the home and this built-in unit with gas fireplace is no exception. Design inspiration from the shoreline is evident in the soft aqua accents and the use of driftwood and sand. **OPPOSITE:** Upon walking in the front entrance, you are immediately greeted by soaring ceilings and a large grouping of peaked windows that offer a serene display of nature.





LEFT: Practical tile flooring and a cloak closet greet guests at the front entrance while etched glass creates the immediate feeling of privacy and seclusion. **BELOW:** Bryan and his girlfriend Tiffany Main on the covered patio overlooking the forest. Tiffany has a keen eye for design and a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Concordia University in Montreal. She put her modern design sensibilities to work to get Bryan's home picture perfect. **BOTTOM:** Stately but subdued; the home is perfectly situated on its half acre lot.



LEFT: The thoughtfully designed two-toned kitchen includes a practical corner pantry, prep sink, island with seating and lots of uninterrupted counter work space. **BELOW:** Bryan carefully placed the breakfast nook so that it didn't interfere with traffic flow and access to the back patio.



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This home was designed and built by Bryan to grasp in-demand concepts and showcase structure and style that is so often seen in his architectural designs and floor plans.

Bryan's 3,010 sq. ft. walkout was built true to form. The home features signature designs synonymous with the builder's brand: a covered deck, high ceilings and a maintenance free, man-made stone exterior. The grey tones of the stone are complemented by the charcoal roof and punctuated by black windows (**Georgian Bay Window & Door**).

Although open-concept is on-trend and the "most popular way to go," says Bryan, he opted for a semi-open-concept design by choice. The vaulted ceilings provide an expansive, open feeling while interior columns simultaneously provide structure and definition to the space. "I wanted to highlight different things in this house. Being a builder, you always have people wanting to see your home, so you want to display certain features."

A 12-foot ceiling with a 16-foot peak in the living room deserves a second glance, as the window wall overlooking a forest out back demands



all attention. "I wanted to capture the light from the southern exposure in the winter as the sun comes through," he says. "And the leaves on the trees that surround the property help keep it cooler in the summer." Deer, rabbits and even a bear have been spotted near the cul-de-sac, where he has designed and built five homes for his neighbours. The community benefits from many walking and cross-county ski trails.

The semi-open-concept style kitchen, tucked off to the side, showcases high cabinets (**Kreller Kitchens Ltd.**) that are accented with lighting from top to bottom. Bryan says he wanted his kitchen "pushed back a bit." The granite counters on the kitchen table and island were carefully selected to match the custom stain of the hardwood flooring that flows throughout the home (**South Bruce Flooring**). A timeless off-white painted cabinet was selected to complement the darker stain, creating a popular two-tone kitchen. Bryan explains that although under-cabinet lighting is now a standard request in his homes, the accent lighting at the top of the cabinets is an added feature that provides a nice evening semblance. *Continued on page 59*

The dining room is defined by classic columns and a coffered ceiling. The soft blue tones from the artwork are repeated in the table linens while the champagne flutes mirror the elegant linear glass of the chandelier.



RIGHT: Welcome to the spa: the influence of nature infuses the principal en suite with an air of peace and calm. **BELOW:** A double basin vanity and walk-in shower are striking and yet practical for everyday use. **BOTTOM:** The dark walls of the principal bedroom are cosy and inviting. A custom piece of art (painted by Tiffany) is the perfect size, colour and scale to adorn the wall between the windows.



Doors off the kitchen conveniently open to the covered deck that features a sound system, pot lights and ceiling fan. Aluminum railings lead down steps to a hot tub ([Water & Wellness](#)), which overlooks the backyard landscape and fire pit ([Backyard Boys Landscape Construction Inc.](#)). Bryan says the number-one benefit of having a covered deck is that you're protected from the elements, as is your outdoor furniture. "If you want to be in the shade you can be in the shade," he says. "If you want some sun, you can extend your deck out past the covered roof." The yard is pristinely finished with plants and trees supplied by [Everest Nurseries](#). The Backyard Boys installed sod and armour stone.

A coffered ceiling is the focal point in the dining room, which is situated near the front entrance of the home. Although the entrance faces the street, it feels secluded behind frosted chinchilla glass and the mature trees that surround the property can produce dancing shadows and provide a calming effect.

Moving to the west side of the home, where the principal bedroom and en suite are situated, a soak in the tub offers a grand view of the forest. The executive glass-tiled shower with granite accents adds yet another level of detail.

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Whether lounging on the 10-foot sofa, enjoying a game of pool, or sliding up to the bar for a beverage, the lower level was designed to be the ultimate gathering space. The backyard and forest beyond is on full display through the large expanse of windows.

From formal dining to a low-key patio party, Bryan's home was built to entertain – and the lower level is no exception. Much more than a “man cave,” the walk-out basement is highlighted by large windows and a subtle green hue that was carefully selected to match the felt top of the pool table (**Double D Company**), which is a definite focal point. Bryan calls it “a first class living space” that he always wanted and adds that “with the large windows, you feel like you’re upstairs.” He designed the lower level with TJI floor joists to span larger distances so that beams, posts, and ductwork were kept out of the main room, allowing for a more open feeling. The modern space is considered “smart” as his entertainment and security features (**Balaklava Audio** and **Saugen Security Inc.**) are connected to a wall-mounted control panel. The basement also includes an office, bedroom, washroom, utility space and a room for a home theatre.

Pot lights lead the way to a granite bar that includes a sink, dishwasher and microwave and is accented by stools from **Smitty's Fine Furniture** that were purchased raw and stained to match the bar. “I went to great extents to try and keep things in the same colour family,” Bryan says. He does admit that

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The large stone fireplace is the focal point as you descend the staircase. Bryan's custom-made coffee table was carefully crafted to specific size and style and is the perfect complement to the space.

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BELOW: Bryan ensured the tile flooring was carefully installed to mark the throw line for a game of darts. A one-of-a-kind hide from Hide and Chic Canada adds another layer of visual interest to the space. **RIGHT:** Bryan jokes that the bar wouldn't be complete without a TV. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** An exterior view of the back of the home showcases the expansive windows, covered patio and landscaped hot-tub (Water & Wellness).



the sun changes the hue of the room, and jokes that the pool table colour inspiration is nearly impossible to recreate in different lighting conditions. Bryan recently had a large coffee table custom-made out of hardwood to match the cabinetry and furniture throughout the lower level. The tile flooring in the basement includes in-floor heating by **Sprung Heating Sheet Metal & Pump Service**. The large sofa provides a comfortable retreat to watch TV or cosy up by the fireplace (**Matt's Masonry** and **Carson Supply**), which features the same stone as the home's exterior.

Although there are no window coverings in the basement, the forest that hugs the half-acre lot offers warm comfort. In the summer months, it also provides a secluded environment for the toss of a horseshoe or relaxing by the outdoor fire pit. For Bryan Snyder, his home offers the best of both worlds: the perfect place to escape and all the amenities of a small town.

When asked what he's learned from his 29 years of building experience, Bryan says "it's most important to stand by the quality of your product and have people happy with their homes." **OH**



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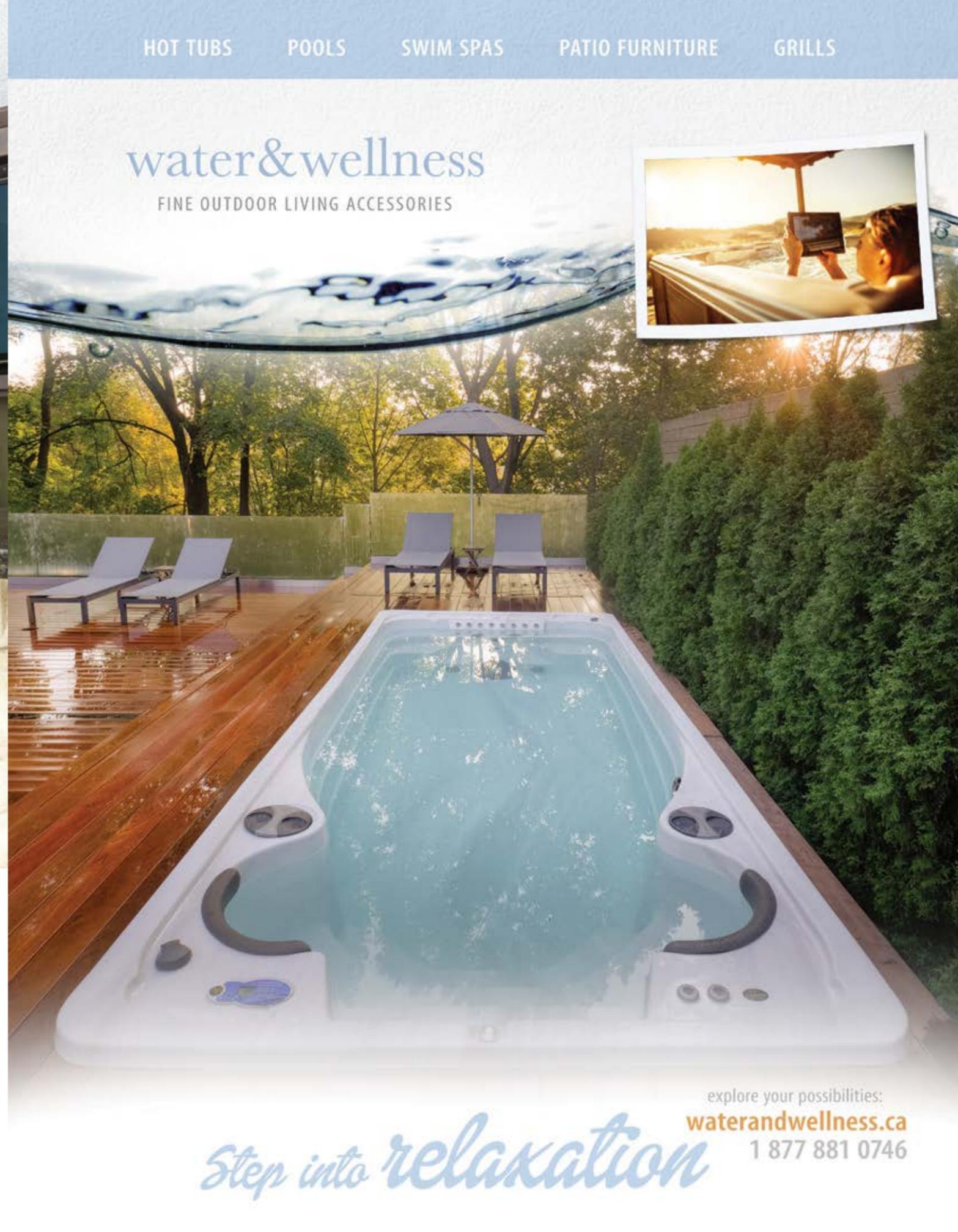
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