



Tom Aasman and Landon Wieske

PHOTO BY JASON HARTOG

BY DENISE O'CONNELL

NO GARDEN-VARIETY LANDSCAPING

It's a chilly day and summer is long gone but **Planit Green's** crew is hard at work putting the finishing touches on the grounds of a south Burlington home. The home's mature lot once had huge trees, but now it's a contemporary, open, relaxing retreat. Smooth, linear stone encases a beautiful, serene pool surrounded by covered patios and lush greenery.

"Often when homeowners come to us in the spring, it's already late in the season for us," says Planit Green's co-owner Landon Wieske. "We're already booked solid for the first bit of spring. Coming to us earlier, like in fall or winter, enables us to plan the design without rushing, apply for necessary permits and organize the best sub-trades for a project. Even though there's snow on the ground, it's never the wrong time to think about landscaping."

Planit Green is a one-stop shop landscaping design company with owners who draw from over a decade of experience in building the best landscapes in southern Ontario. They specialize in creating show-stopping pools, designing and constructing quality stonework and durable custom woodworking.

What sets Planit Green apart from other landscaping companies is its approach to design, says Wieske. While many companies use a cookie-cutter design for their clients, Planit Green focuses on providing a unique, customized design for each client's outdoor space. And while many landscape companies create a beautiful surrounding, Planit Green likes to get to know its clients so that their personality and style is reflected in the space.

Wieske and his partner, Tom Aasman, both grew up in the landscaping business. As childhood neighbours and best friends, they were kindred spirits. Both came from families that made a living in construction and landscaping and both cut their teeth in the business as part-time summer help. It wasn't long before Wieske and Aasman realized that they loved the transformations that they helped to create, and decided to break off on their own.



PHOTOS BY JOEL REYNOLDS

"There was a time when people would look at Tom and me and think we were too young to be taken seriously," laughs Wieske. "We really focused on building a diverse portfolio of our projects to allow our work to speak for itself."

Young or not, it's impossible to not take Planit Green seriously. They now have a staff of 14 and three crews, and provide landscaping for some of the GTA's most incredible properties. Their youth also gives them an advantage; if you are looking for a landscape design that's edgy, different, or pushes the envelope, they are your men.

Lisa Sheridan, owner of that amazing south Burlington yard agrees. She originally saw Planit Green's work at a friend's home, and was soon drawn in by their creativity. "They stood out from any other landscaper because of their fresh and unique designs and their ability to mix practicality, clean lines and simplicity into one stylish package," says Lisa. "Creative design is very important to us and by looking at past jobs we could see that Planit Green had a very creative vision."

Aasman focuses on project management, while Wieske handles the design and client service. When asked what he loves best about what he does, Wieske simply

says, "I love meeting and getting to know new clients. I get a great amount of satisfaction from just getting to know people, their lifestyles and preferences and then designing the perfect space for them. At the end of most contracts, customers feel more like friends than clients."

As for Aasman, you can see he loves to get his hands dirty. And when asked what he loves best, he replies, "I love the transformation. My passion is getting into the details and making sure that everything we do is quality, durable and lasting."

Their clients definitely have an affinity for Wieske and Aasman. "The main goal with this landscape project was to create an environment that was relaxing, functional and low maintenance without sacrificing aesthetics," says Lisa. "We wanted a very linear design with zones for eating, lounging and entertaining, as well as structures for covered sitting and storage. Landon and Tom were able to take our ideas and translate them into a finished product that exceeded our expectations." **OH**