

HARBOUR KITCHENS WHOLE HOME DESIGN

Undeniably, home is where the heart is...its pulse being the kitchen. And as history has it, thankfully, this has been a mainstay of the home. But gone are the days where families gathered at an old table with mismatched chairs sharing bread and telling stories. Today's table is often now a granite counter accompanied by stools with a complimentary flair...and the stories being told are with a fine wine in hand. Given the great range and power of our contemporary technologies, it is hardly surprising that our expectations reach not only into our kitchens, but the entire home.

Home renovation is at a peak. With media hype, today's shoppers have become more design savvy and the demand for quality custom kitchens and bathrooms continues to rise. It was a certain Steven Gdanski that took note of things to come, and with his keen knowledge in hand took a leap of faith and bought Port Credit's flourishing Harbour Kitchens in 2007. Located on Lakeshore Road, its' Lighthouse symbol has been associated with over 26 years of superior product and quality workmanship.

Gdanski had conquered the corporate world specializing in finance management, and it was time for a new challenge. A few years ago he took his combined strengths in skill and attitude to make a life change. "I invested my money in real estate, buying apartment buildings in need of renovation. I discovered I loved the whole 'redo' process." When approached to take over Harbour Kitchens it just seemed right to Steven and wife Karen. "I had been looking for a novel venture...something specific."

In just over a year's time, Harbour Kitchens expanded to become 'Harbour Kitchens Whole Home Design'. "To not overuse the phrase 'one-stop-shop' it is truly just that," says Gdanski. Housing a 3,000 sq. ft. showroom incorporating eight display centres, at Harbour Kitchens you are encouraged to come and browse and obtain ideas. Provide your own plans or let the experts be your visionary...how little or how much assistance is the call of the customer. An accomplished team of on-site designers will demonstrate an array of product and provide design solutions, but most important...they



Harbour Kitchens' owner Steven Gdanski (centre) and staff members (from left) Nicoline Blum, Elizabeth Soleska, Karen Gdanski, Doreen Czimmek.

will listen. "We want what the customer wants and will work with them, respectful of their budget and personal taste."

Steven Gdanski's lead designer, Doreen Czimmek, was born in Canada, but raised in Europe. With a degree in civil engineering and architectural technology and speaking three languages fluently, she brings with her 12 years of high end design experience. Working closely with designers in Chicago and New York, she utilizes her worldly flair and unique ideas to create passionate detailed designs for her clients. Never stopping until the client is absolutely ecstatic about their home and completely satisfied with every aspect of the service they have received.

Nicoline Blum is a highly motivated individual who comes to Harbour Kitchens with eight years of experience and background from a high end kitchen and bath field. A diploma in architectural technology, and the opportunity to work closely with a diverse group of designers and sales people who have showrooms throughout North America has provided her a strong foundation of design techniques, creativity and problem solving skills. Working closely with the client to meet their varying needs and concerns has always been her priority, leaving the client with a positive feeling about the whole experience as they walk out the door.

Elizabeth Soleska has a masters degree in interior design and been immersed in this business for the past 20 years in both Ontario and British Columbia.

Elizabeth has worked with several Canadian and German home design firms and has developed a unique approach to the needs of today's clientele. Her talents are in both traditional and contemporary whole home design.

Harbour Kitchens Whole Home Design, having already excelled in customizing kitchens and baths, has raised the bar in custom home design. Exciting, eclectic offerings include wine cellars, built in entertainment centres with fireplace and a genius creation...the 'Memory Room'. Imaginative are the ideas as innovative are the designs and workmanship. "Today's clientele are more and more preferring the personal attention to detail, service and quality

versus the big box stores," says Gdanski. Tailored to suit individual preference, "Whether traditional or contemporary we build to customize your space."

One of the eight areas within the Harbour Kitchens showroom has been made available for product only. It is here one can browse for hours selecting tiles and flooring and cabinetry. It is a veritable wonderland of home development supplies. And it's fun! Again assistance is there for the asking.

Detail oriented, designers and builders at Harbour Kitchens do not get 'caught up' in what is trend, but what would set your design apart from all others. "Currently," says Gdanski, "plenty of bling is in. We find people are happiest by going with a look they like, and then we suggest 'putting their personal stamp on it.'" Be it a traditional kitchen with glass tile backsplash or cut out niches, the custom options are limitless. "We are pleased to accommodate the popular high-end 'condo dweller' look, but will suggest some exciting design solutions to give it a special little twist."

At the end of the day, this new proud owner of the renowned Harbour Kitchens Whole Home Design, is about pleasing customers from start to finish. "Nothing makes me happier than for a client to visualize their family interacting in their own space. That is what I want for them...to go into their minds eye and actually see it."

Put your trust in the experts...take your vision to Harbour Kitchens and make it your reality!

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80 LAKESHORE ROAD, EAST, MISSISSAUGA

905-274-5560

WWW.HARBOURKITCHENS.CA