

CONDO *Collab*

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Michael Miller, co-owner, design manager and sales at Aboda Decor.

IT'S EVERYTHING KATHERINE AND BRIAN WERE LOOKING FOR IN A RETIREMENT HOME. THEY WANTED AN EASY LIFESTYLE WITH FOUR-SEASON LIVING CLOSE TO FAMILY. THEY FOUND IT AT THE SHIPYARDS DEVELOPMENT IN COLLINGWOOD.

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One of the top-floor decks has a sweeping view of the bustling Collingwood waterfront. A propane firepit is surrounded by swivel chairs from Crush Outdoor Living. **OPPOSITE LEFT:** The rear facade of the condo shows three levels of outdoor space. It's part of The Shipyards Waterfront Collection and offers the balance between nature and outdoor living that Brian and Katherine were looking for. Security for the home is entrusted to Huronia Alarm & Fire Security Inc.



The prime waterfront location with sweeping views of Blue Mountain offers the perfect balance between nature and modern living. From spacious decks and terraces to an understated yet elegant interior, this home is a true embodiment of relaxed living at its finest. “We have a nice life, we’re very happy,” says Katherine. “It was a good decision for us.”

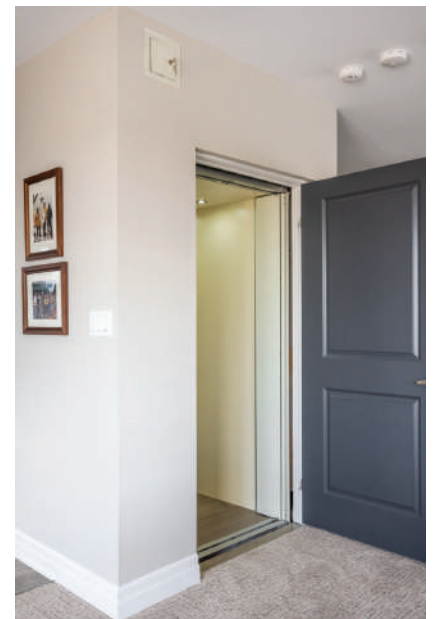
Katherine and Brian were splitting their time between Toronto, Florida and Muskoka when they decided they needed a change. When Brian discovered The Shipyards, it was an obvious choice.

Katherine had experienced condo living in the past and liked the lifestyle that came with it, so they purchased the plan on paper and the design process began.

They knew they wanted to create something that was different from anything they had lived in prior. Fortunately, both Katherine and Brian had been through the building process before, so instead of letting the builder guide them, they set out to redesign the plans almost from scratch. Making any adjustment with a builder can be a costly and timely process, but it was worth it. *Continued on page 152*



LEFT: In the front foyer, *Road Side Maples* by Mark Berens was purchased from Brights Gallery and hangs over a contemporary solid-wood console table. Flooring throughout the home is Apollo Vintage Solid Sawn, Sculpted UVF white oak. **ABOVE:** Chantico Fireplace Gallery installed the Bay Peninsula fireplace surrounded by Bluette Matte porcelain marble from the Zabrin Collection. The area rug is from W Studio Artistic Carpets. **RIGHT:** With three floors of living space, an elevator is a thoughtful and practical addition. **OPPOSITE:** All lighting and fans for the home were sourced through Georgian Design Centre. Window coverings on the main floor are Hunter Douglas Banded PowerView shades from Salnek’s Custom Window Treatments. Many of the furniture pieces throughout the room were sourced through Aboda Decor. The foyer runner matches the area rug in the living room.





“I HAD TO DO SOME CREATIVE INVESTIGATING TO FIND WHAT THEY WERE LOOKING FOR. IT WAS A FUN CHALLENGE.”
~ Michael Miller

“It was time,” says Katherine. “We really made it exactly what we wanted.”

“It’s very functional, we made sure of that,” adds Brian. “It has everything we need.”

Despite a few delays, they took possession in February 2021 – and they’ve never looked back.

Designed to embrace the beauty of its surroundings, the home boasts expansive windows and an open-concept layout that invites natural light and panoramic views of the water and mountains. The design is classic yet understated, and the transition from space to space is exceptionally cohesive.

And although quite contemporary, the home has a nice warmth to it.

“It feels very inviting, very warm,” says **Michael Miller**, co-owner, sales and design manager at **Aboda Decor** in Barrie.

Before taking over the business in 2022, Miller was managing the showroom at Aboda when Katherine and Brian arrived to look at the slate blue recliner that is now situated in their upstairs living area. *Continued on page 154*



Custom cabinetry for the kitchen was supplied by Frendel Kitchens Limited. The island, backsplash and perimeter counters are Silestone White Arabesque from Stoneworx. Appliances are from Brown’s Appliances. The faucet is Riobel and the sink is from Blanco. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** Comfortable seating at the island makes this the perfect location for a glass of wine or a cup of coffee from the Miele Whole Bean Clean Touch Steel Coffee Maker. Upper cabinets are painted Frendel’s Winter White. Lower cabinets and the island base are Frendel’s Earl Grey. **BOTTOM:** The view of Georgian Bay is enjoyed while cooking in the kitchen. Walls are painted Benjamin Moore Collingwood with Decorator’s White used for the trim.

The stairs in the home have upgraded glass panels with the railings stained the same colour as the Apollo white-oak flooring. The door to the left of the stairs is the elevator. The fan was supplied by Georgian Design Centre. **BELOW LEFT:** The model is from Katherine and Brian's time in Muskoka and is based on boats that still cruise the lakes. **BELOW RIGHT:** The loft kitchenette cabinets are by Frenzel Kitchens Limited. Counters are Silestone White North from Stonework. The double drawer refrigerator and the microwave keep popcorn and drinks handy.



TOP LEFT: A Pac-Man arcade game is ready for action in the third level loft. Wall-to-wall carpeting is from Georgian Design Centre. Window coverings are Hunter Douglas Designer Roller PowerView, also from Salnek's Custom Window Treatments. Furniture was sourced through Aboda Decor. **LEFT:** A bar-height table with matching stools is perfect for cards or board games. Movie posters hang on the walls. **ABOVE:** With windows on three sides of the room, views of the water and the mountains are spectacular and can also be enjoyed from two decks located on each side of the room. **BELOW:** A Palliser leather sectional with power reclining makes movie watching relaxing. The console stores the audio and video equipment, installed by Georgian Audio Video.



Katherine and Brian already had a very specific look in mind, and they bonded with Michael almost immediately. A designer by trade, they knew Michael's decades of experience in the industry made him the perfect person to help bring their vision to life.

"They had a very clear vision of what they wanted," says Michael. "I had to do some creative investigating to find what they were looking for. It was a fun challenge and a privilege to work on this home." *Continued on page 156*



But Katherine and Brian say the privilege was all theirs. “Michael has the experience behind him,” says Katherine. “We may have led it, but he had a great vision as well. It was a win-win for everybody.”

Along with its extraordinary location, Katherine and Brian’s home gets its charm from the fact that aside from a few appliances, almost everything is Canadian-made – right down to the art hanging on their walls.

“We tried really hard to buy local,” says Brian.

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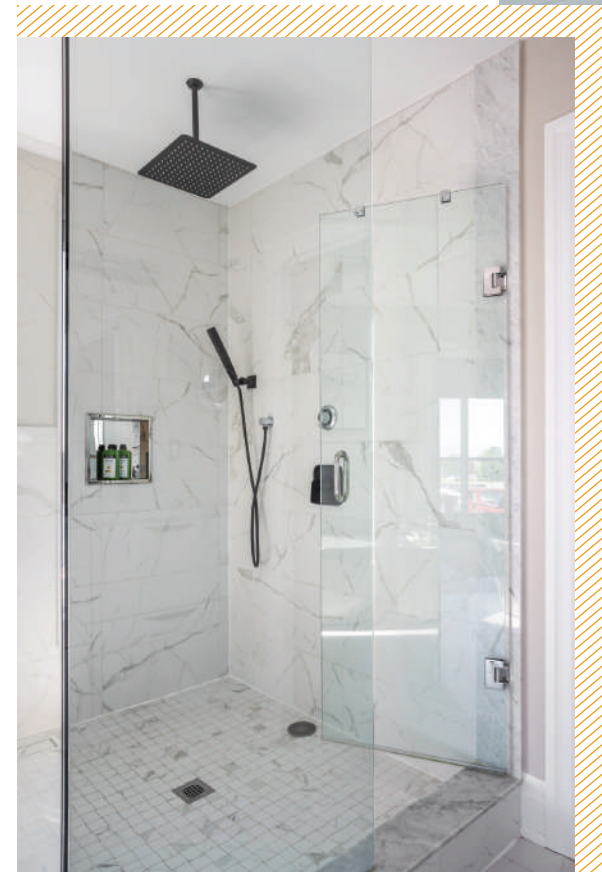
TOP LEFT: The primary retreat is a calm oasis of neutral tones and natural wood. **LEFT:** With the addition of a balcony in the primary suite, Brian and Katherine can start each sunny day listening to the water lapping at the shore. Window coverings are Hunter Douglas Designer Rollers PowerView. **ABOVE:** The primary en suite has a custom vanity from Frendel Kitchens Limited. The heated floors are covered with Mayfair Statuario Venato. The door leads to the walk-in closet, with built-ins by Wilson Solutions.

“YOU COME HOME AND YOU REALLY FEEL LIKE YOU’RE HOME.” ~Brian

Now, even two years in, the charm, comfort and authentic beauty of this breathtaking waterfront oasis is still not lost on Katherine and Brian.

“You come home and you really feel like you’re home,” says Brian. “It’s crazy.”

“It’s true,” says Katherine. “Everything has a spot. We don’t have wasted space. We have both views. It really is everything we could have hoped for.” **OH**



ABOVE: Mayfair Statuario Venato 24-inch tiles were used for the wainscoting behind the oval soaker tub in the primary en suite. The large window has a breathtaking view of Georgian Bay. **LEFT:** The tiles used for the floor and wainscoting continue into the large shower with a rain showerhead in the primary en suite.