

HOLIDAY/WINTER 2025/26

STYLE ■ COMFORT ■ IDEAS ■ REAL ESTATE

ourhomes

BEST OF ONTARIO | TORONTO & YORK REGION

Elevated
IN THE JUNCTION

FESTIVE
IDEAS

WINE
STORAGE

1930s
REVIVAL


cosy
READING NOOKS

living
MADE easy



OPEN SPACE

STORY **GINA MAKKAR**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

A bright, modern dining room with a large island, wooden chairs, and a round dining table. The room features light-colored walls, a large window with white shutters, and a chandelier with multiple glass spheres. The island has a dark countertop and a wooden base. The dining table is round and made of wood, surrounded by wooden chairs with light-colored upholstered seats. The floor is made of light-colored wood. The overall atmosphere is warm and inviting.

The new, spacious and airy heart of the home is a hub for the busy family. There's now plenty of space to cook, entertain and spend time together.

WHEN SANDRA AND LAMBERT'S KIDS NEEDED MORE SPACE, THEY KNEW IT WAS TIME TO FIND A HOME THAT COULD GROW WITH THE FAMILY — A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE COULD BE TOGETHER WITHOUT FEELING ON TOP OF EACH OTHER.

Continued on page 57

The solarium doubles as a bright breakfast nook, perfect for morning meals. **OPPOSITE TOP:** The kitchen island offers ample seating and counter space, creating a social hub for gathering. **BOTTOM:** The built-in cabinetry connects the dining area to the kitchen.



“WE WANTED A BIG HOUSE, but nothing massive,” says Sandra. “We also wanted a place where we have an outdoor space, and with this property we are well served.” Their new home in Mississauga is large enough for a pool, patio and green space. “When we first visited the house, we really liked the solarium at the back. It’s kind of unique.”

The 4,000 sq. ft. home needed a refresh so the couple called in **Sam Regan** of **Intelligent Design Group Inc.** Sam and his team focused on transforming the first floor, centring the renovation around the kitchen, living area, dining room, laundry room and office. They also reworked the lower-level bathroom to make it more functional.

“Having a large amount of space to work with, we knew there were great opportunities to explore different floor plans,” says Sam. Once the budget was set, the team presented three distinct design concepts, allowing the family to explore new possibilities.

The family lived in the home throughout the renovation, so Sam ensured the space remained as livable as possible. “He made sure the path to the backyard was always cleared at night so we could barbecue dinner,” says Sandra. “As soon as he could, he reconnected the washing machine and dryer for us!” *Continued on page 58*



The couple opted for a contemporary design to bring warmth and calm. “To us, contemporary design shouldn’t feel cold or clinical,” Sandra explains. “It should feel welcoming. That’s why we leaned into a neutral, warm colour palette with creamy whites, rich taupes and earthy tones, and brought in natural wood textures to keep things cosy and homey.” Sandra adds the changes had to be practical and low-maintenance to withstand busy family life.

Relocating the kitchen was one of the biggest transformations. A load-bearing wall was removed and a steel beam was installed, creating an open floor plan with unobstructed sight-lines. The kitchen now extends the full length of the space, with a light-filled breakfast nook in the solarium. “When we moved in, it was a seating area with a fireplace that we didn’t really use,” Sandra says. “Now that the breakfast area is in the solarium, we get to enjoy the light every day.” Lighting in the kitchen is from **Lark Canada** and **Trans Globe Lighting**.

The painted cabinetry from **K-Wood Kitchens & Bath** includes plenty of drawers and pullouts while the large custom island offers an expansive work surface for cooking or entertaining. “We designed it with lots of seating and counter space so everyone can gather, pitch in with cooking or just chat while something’s on the stove,” Sandra says. “It keeps things feeling social and easy.”

Of the many new features, the granite countertop from **Titan Stone Fabrication Ltd.** is a favourite. “The clients selected granite in the kitchen for the countertops because they wanted something that could handle heat,” says Sam. The warming drawer and built-in microwave and oven are handy for times when cooking for a crowd requires preparing dishes in advance. “It makes entertaining and meal prep so much easier!” says Sandra. *Continued on page 60*



Brianna Guthrie and Sam Regan of
Intelligent Design Group Inc.



A Chicago corner fireplace creates visual
interest and helps balance the space.

TRANSFORMING HOMES FOR OVER 20 YEARS



With 30+ years of combined industry experience and custom cabinetry built on-site in Toronto, K-Wood Kitchens and Bath delivers reliable, high-quality custom cabinetry and renovations from start to finish. Visit us online to browse our project gallery, read client testimonials, and explore our virtual showroom.

WE CAN HELP WITH YOUR NEXT PROJECT!

Visit our showroom to speak with a design professional and receive a complimentary quote for your cabinetry or renovation project.

KWOODKITCHENS.COM



**BEST of
AWARD**

K-Wood
KITCHENS & BATH

36 Continental Place, Scarborough, ON, M1R 2T4 | Mon to Sat 9-5 | 416-332-0381 | info@kwoodkitchens.com