

Inside Out

GREEN IS CHIC IN RESORT INTERIOR DESIGN



p+a furniture—Martin Tessler

SUSTAINABLE INTERIORS CAN MIRROR AN ECO-FRIENDLY EXTERIOR OR SIMPLY THE NATURE SURROUNDING YOUR HOME. WHATEVER, WHEREVER, B.C. TO COSTA RICA; NEW RESORT DEVELOPMENTS TO VACATION HOMES, **SUSTAINABLE IS ACHIEVABLE**

BY SONYA PROCENKO



Dockside Green

DOCKSIDE GREEN, VICTORIA, B.C.

Take the case of new green development Dockside Green in Victoria, B.C., on Vancouver Island. Not only is it making headlines—this development is making a splash in the resort property market.

“Dockside Green will be a socially vibrant, ecologically restorative, economically sound and just community. It will offer a distinct collection of beautifully rendered spaces for life, work, play and relaxation that will enhance the health and wellbeing of people and ecosystems, now and in the future,” says Joe Van Belleghem, partner, Dockside Green.

The self-sufficient, sustainable community will function as “a total environmental system in which form, structure, materials, mechanical and electrical systems will be interrelated and interdependent. Striving to be greenhouse gas neutral and targeting LEED Platinum certification, Dockside Green’s sustainable innovations will include biomass heat generation, on-site storm water and sewage treatment, water and energy conservation and healthy spaces, plus alternative modes of transportation.

“Dockside Green has redefined the words ‘bold’ and ‘leadership’ when it comes to green development. In this one project, what is possible has been redefined for cities everywhere, a brilliant achievement that will change our world,” says Paul Hawken, author of *Natural Capitalism and Ecology of Commerce*.

Naturally, the development’s interiors, designed by Kimberly Williams of Kimberly Williams Interiors, are created with durable and eco-friendly materials and resources. Minimizing its eco-footprint, Dockside Green will utilize recycled content, sustainably harvested materials and rapidly renewable resources.

Williams says she is proud to be the interior designer for Dockside Green, a world renowned LEED Platinum community, as this is a truly amazing project that involves advanced environmental design and the promotion of eco-friendly lifestyles.

Environmentally responsible materials like bamboo and natural stone combine with Energy Star appliances to create healthy and stylish spaces at Dockside Green.

OTHER FEATURES OF THE PROJECT'S SUSTAINABLE INTERIORS INCLUDE:

- Carpets carefully selected based on low emissions and environmental qualities.
- Carpet tiles for corridors, as this will reduce long-term maintenance and waste for condo owners. The tiles are purchased from Interface Global, a sustainable business leader with a ‘Cool Carpet’ program, which means their products are GHG neutral.
- Bamboo flooring and cabinets will be used in the development, with upgrade options for other environmentally friendly products like cork flooring.

KALIA MODERN ECO-VILLAGE, COSTA RICA

“Known for its lush green tropical landscape that connects seamlessly to miles of some of the bluest, most beautiful

Stawell,
Greenmoves

beaches in the world, Costa Rica is fast becoming one of the most desired resort destinations on the planet,” says Amnon Dahan, CEO Kalia Modern Eco-Living. “We saw a unique opportunity to create

something truly remarkable—the world’s first fully sustainable luxury eco-village.”

The company, a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, says it blends cutting-edge architecture with state-of-the-art green technologies for contemporary ecological communities that are integrated into the beautiful, natural surroundings—the best looks, with the smallest footprint.

“Our goal is to build a luxury eco-village that facilitates the enjoyment of its residents without contributing to the destruction of one of the most beautiful spots on earth,” says Dahan.

In the Kalia Modern Eco-Living resort properties, exterior green features will include solar energy, green roofing systems, site development, cross ventilation, passive cooling water features, water efficiency and gray water recycling. →

THE COMPANY WILL ‘GREEN’ THE INTERIORS OF ITS KALIA HOMES WITH:

- Cabinetry made from FSC-certified woods. The stains and materials used are water-based and formaldehyde free.
- All appliances are Energy Star rated, including a refrigerator that uses R-134A coolant, which doesn’t contribute to the greenhouse effect.
- Low VOC paints are used to reduce the quantity of indoor air contaminants that are odorous, potentially irritating and harmful.
- Quartz surfaces have a non-porous nature that prevents the growth of surface mold and microbes.
- Furniture is crafted to be 100 per cent FSC pure by using sustainable or reclaimed woods that preserve the earth’s forests.
- Fabrics are made from recycled content and environmentally approved dyes.
- Tiles are made from recycled content by a socially responsible manufacturer.
- Showerheads and toilets are low-flow and low-flush to reduce water use.



ECO-FRIENDLY VACATION HOME?

If a master planned resort property development isn't for you, you can buy an eco-friendly vacation home in your favourite location. On the United Kingdom website GreenMoves, whose motto is "homes for healthier, greener living," you can do a green property search for buying and selling eco-homes. One of their recently featured green developments is Millfield Eco Projects' Eco Homes Holiday, 18 luxury timber carbon neutral Eco-Homes on the edge of Somerset's Quantock Hills.

In Canada, you can find an EnviroHome, a "new home that is exceptionally comfortable, healthy to live in, more energy efficient and better for the environment." The projects by builders across the country showcase the best in new home building technology and products.

Whether new or resale, you can green your vacation home by updating or renovating with a sustainable interior designer.

ASK THE EXPERTS

"Sustainable interior design (also known as green design or eco-design) demonstrates that a beautiful, healthy living space can reduce negative impact on the environment without sacrificing aesthetics," explains Andrea Kantelberg, designer, Kantelberg Interior Design. "Materials are selected, based on the following components: local, durable, recycled, repurposed, energy efficient, low-emitting and sustainable manufacturing properties."

Resort or vacation homebuyers should consider calling in experts like Kantelberg, whose Toronto firm specializes in high-rise residential, hotels and luxury homes. The award-winning designer focuses on environmentally responsible interior design.

"We always adapt to our environments. The idea with the furniture line is that it can plug into people's interiors easily and looked integrated," says Vancouver sustainable interior designer Shelley Penner.

She is talking about her firm's new green line, p+a furniture, launched this year. Incorporating natural, practical, high-aesthetic, modular design elements, the line builds upon green design innovation by designers at the leading sustainable interiors firm Penner & Associates.

The clean, sleek and modernist p+a furniture will be available for order online through the website.

BE INSPIRED

Inspiration can be found through the myriad of sustainable building and design resources available on the internet, in print and TV. The U.S. Green Building Council's website gives homebuyers its comprehensive *The Green Home Guide*, including sections on green home programs, re-green remodeling guidelines and living green.

California-based epOxyGreen supplies eco-building and design materials for all kinds of sustainable design projects. Their diverse array of green products includes flooring, wall finishes, bath and kitchen countertops, cabinet and hardware, decorative finishes and sheet and lumber.

World's Greenest Homes, hosted by designer Emmanuel Belliveau, on HGTV Canada, takes viewers on a, "whirlwind global tour of beautiful and sexy homes that also happen to be the most planet-friendly around."

"Forget the granola, sandals, beards and geodesic domes: green is cool, liveable and gorgeous," notes the program.

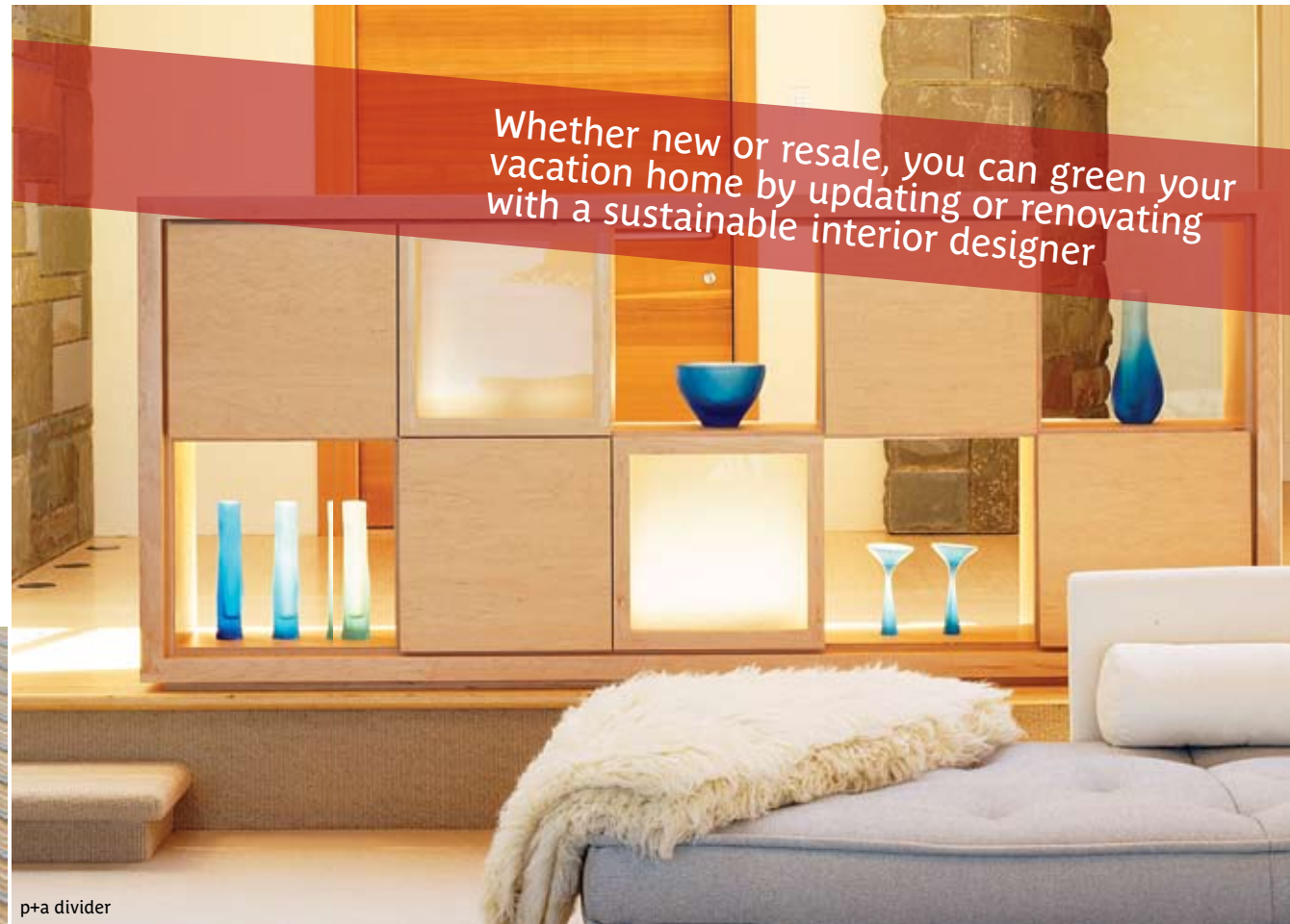
GREEN RESORT FURNITURE: P+A FURNISHINGS

Designed by Penner & Associates, these Canadian-designed and manufactured furnishings are sustainable using responsibly sourced materials efficiently, including:

- utilizing certified veneers and solid wood from sustainably-managed forests
- containing no added urea formaldehyde in the composite woods and adhesives
- having a high percentage of post-industrial recycled content in the composite woods
- having post-consumer recycled content in the metal components
- utilizing water-based, low-VOC stains and finishes
- having a UV-cured top coat on wood veneers for superior durability
- using natural and rapidly renewable materials, such as wool and hemp
- being packaged efficiently with reusable, recycled content or recyclable materials. ♻️



p+a area rug



p+a divider



p+a Centro daybed



p+a Centro headboard



p+a divider II



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eco-friendly

WHAT IS AN ECO OR ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY HOME?

Environmentally friendly homes have some features in common, they could include, for instance:

- Higher than normal levels of **insulation**.
- **Natural materials** used in the building eg. timber framed, wool insulation, straw bale walls, organic paints.
- **Solar thermal hot water heating systems** on the roof.
- **Photovoltaic panels** on the roof for generating electricity.
- **Wood-fired central heating systems**
- **Rainwater harvesting** for flushing the WC.
- **Greywater collection** (from sinks and baths) for watering the garden.
- **Composting toilet**.
- **Large amounts of glazing** to allow plenty of daylight.
- **Heat recovery systems** for space heating.
- **Passive solar orientation**—where the house benefits from a southerly orientation, gaining free light and heat.

Source: Green Moves

WEBSITES

For more information, check out these websites:

- www.docksidegreen.com
- www.kwilliamsinteriors.com
- www.kalialiving.com
- www.greenmoves.com
- www.envirohome.chba.ca
- www.andreakantelberg.com
- www.pennerdesign.ca
- www.pafurniture.ca
- www.cagbc.org
- www.usgbc.org
- www.greenhomeguide.org
- www.epoxygreen.com
- www.hgtv.ca

