

Spotlight: Coastal Construction

Coastal Construction up for provincial and national awards

Victoria company continues to be recognized for building excellence

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Hard work and good people: those two factors have been foremost in propelling Coastal Construction Ltd. to success, said company owner Brad Johnson. That success is evident once again this year as the Victoria-based construction company recently took home CARE awards for two custom homes: the Peninsula at Land's End in Victoria received two gold awards while the Cedar just south of Nanaimo won silver. The homes were honoured in the categories Best Kitchen and Best Master Suite. The same homes are finalists in the provincial Georgie awards and the national SAM awards: the Peninsula resi-

projects featured among the Canadian Home Builders Association awards is phenomenal, and it is a privilege to be recognized among our peers."

Johnson said both winning homes are special. Both have what he calls "awesome" locations. The Peninsula was beautifully designed by Keith Baker. Adriana Sharoun, the company's own interior designer, worked closely with the owners to complete the exterior colours and interior design and finishing, including the cabinetry and millwork.

The Peninsula boasts 5,000 square feet and a two-car attached garage with workshop. The contemporary plan features an expansive open dining room/living room/kitchen with

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— Brad Johnson,
owner,
Coastal Construction

dence for Best Single Family Detached Home over 4,000 square feet and the Cedar residence for Best Single Family Detached Home 2,500 to 4,000 square feet.

Johnson said, "We are honoured to have so many examples of our work selected as silver finalists. The level of construction expertise and design innovation showcased through the

large patio doors leading to the outdoors. "It's a fabulous space with astonishing views of Saltspring Island," Johnson said.

The owners contacted Johnson because they were impressed with the work he had done on a neighbouring house. Another factor that weighed in his company's favour was the fact that it does everything



in-house. Among Coastal Construction's 35 employees are professional framers, electricians and finishing carpenters. The company boasts its own millwork shop. "We have control over the budget and timing," Johnson said. "We control the process every step of the way and we have very talented trades people."

The Cedar, in the central Island area, is a waterfront home that is also a West Coast contemporary design. It boasts polished concrete floors with in-floor radiant heat, cedar siding and eye-catching stonework. Again, Sharoun was responsible for the interior design

and exterior finish choices. The clients chose Coastal Construction for similar reasons as the Peninsula owners, Johnson said. As out-of-town customers, they were also comfortable with the company's experience and transparency in working with absent homeowners.

Sharoun describes the Cedar residence as very special. "The home fosters relaxation with multiple fireplaces, a library nook and commanding ocean views.

The house is sited so that your view is uninterrupted; you feel like you're on a boat. Multiple patios spill down to the home's waterfront kayak dock, veggie gardens, outdoor fireplace and covered BBQ with bar – it's like a private resort you never want to leave."

In both cases, the customers were delighted with the finished homes. The owners of the Cedar saw their home at the drywall stage and then not again until completion. "They actually had tears in their eyes," Sharoun said.

Johnson, who founded the company in 1992, started his apprenticeship in the industry in 1982, right out of high school. He said he was certain when he left school that he wanted to work outdoors



and he wanted to work with his hands. Choosing the construction business was perfect for him. "I love it every day," he said. "I like seeing the process and I like seeing the jobs as they come along. I also like working with the clients. And the staff are so good to work with that it makes for a fun working environment."

There are more awards in Coastal Construction's future. The company has just completed its first Built Green home certified as Built Green Platinum, the highest rating available. That home and two others (including one in Tofino) will qualify for the next awards season.

Sharoun said, "Built Green is a terrific way of doing a project. It's a different kind of challenge and that is always nice in a job."

Johnson predicts more changes in the company's future. Coastal Construction recently joined the Canadian Home Builders Association in the mid-island area in order to increase its presence on the island. Johnson says he also plans to expand to the Gulf Islands. Meanwhile, spring 2013 is already shaping up to be the company's best season yet.

Coastal Construction is located at 1986 Mills Road in Victoria.

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