

Coastal Construction aims to increase CARE

By Goody Niosi Writer

VICTORIA - Coastal Construction is on a winning streak.

With six Gold CARE awards already under its belt, including *Project of the Year* for 2006, the Victoria based custom home construction company is a finalist for four more Gold CARES this year.

Three of the awards are for the Metchosin Residence where it has already won Silver in the categories, Best Kitchen, Best Interior and Best Home over 2,500 square feet.

Many factors make the Metchosin Residence special, says interior designer **Adriana Sharoun**, starting from its mountaintop site with views that stretch over city and water.

"It's situated into the mountaintop," She says. "And the home blends seamlessly into the landscape and rugged site."

The house design was by Zebra Design who took great care to make the most of the spectacular location. Sharoun notes that a great deal of blasting and rock moving had to be done to make room for the 5,880 square foot bungalow and to make it fit organically into its surroundings.

The home is ideal for entertaining and to accommodate guests and family, she says. The style, while reflecting the sensibilities of the West Coast, is both sophisticated and casual and makes use of materials such as fir timbers, polished concrete and natural rock. Colours reflect the earth.

The kitchen is open to the rest of the house and is connected to an outdoor kitchen with its own large wood-burning fireplace, barbecue, serving area, fridge, sink and every amenity necessary for outdoor entertaining. Shaker style cabinets in the indoor kitchen include glass lighted upper display cabinets, made possible by the 10-foot ceilings. Sharoun notes that a special feature of the kitchen is the island, made from a solid 7x9-foot slab of granite.

In designing the interior,



The award winning team at Coastal Construction

Sharoun says the location was the obvious star.

"We were so exceptionally lucky with this site with the views from every single room in the house - the floor to ceiling windows along the back of the house capture incredible vistas. We didn't want to complicate the interior or take away from the view."

The interior also includes many special touches such as wood accents and a custom built bed and dresser unit with a footboard featuring a pop-up television screen.

The fourth CARE Gold that Coastal Construction is nominated for is Best Website. The website at www.coastal.cn features extensive use of flash and few words. Sharoun explains that the pictures, in this case, really do speak a thousand words, and tell the viewers almost everything they need to know about the quality of work Coastal Construction does.

The company was founded in 1993 by **Brad Johnson** who started a framing company af-

ter finishing his apprenticeship. However, after framing for other companies for some time, he realized that his standards and his level of craftsmanship were beyond what he was doing and he decided to build quality custom homes where he could have more control.

Coastal Construction has never looked back. The **Tofino Oceanside Retreat** that won Project of the Year at the CARE Awards in 2006 is a perfect

example of the care and quality that goes into each custom home the company builds. Its timber frame construction and soaring ceilings that are reminiscent of a lodge are testimony to pure excellence in building and design.

Explaining how the company approaches a project, Sharoun says, "Our philosophy is really to try to see the home through our client's eyes. We do it every day so it becomes sec-

ond nature to us but for our clients, it's really an undertaking and it can be overwhelming. There are so many decisions to make. So we try to keep really clear, open communication. This is often their dream home so we try to make the process as easy for them as possible. It should be fun!"

Currently the company has five homes in progress in the Victoria area as well as Tofino and Ucluelet and four being priced. In order to work to the highest standards on all its projects, Coastal Construction has an amazing team, Sharoun says. The staff numbers 35, including an interior and electrical division. Three project managers keep track of every home and each project includes a dedicated site foreman.

Sharoun notes that three years ago the company built a few multi-family project but is once again focussing on single family custom homes - it's where the company's strength lies and where everyone gets the greatest satisfaction, she says.

"We've been really fortunate to get some really great projects and it seems that everyone gets excited about every new project we get on our desk. It's just incredibly fun for everybody at the office."

Coastal Construction is at 541 Herald Street in Victoria. www.coastal.cn