

News

Transforming Housing

Issue 2

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canühome launches at Green Living Show

"...not certain if that is where the inspiration for the canühome came from, but the designers have used the latest CNC technology and a lot of other ideas that make it one of the more interesting test beds we have seen."

Lloyd Atler from Treehugger

"something akin to an aboriginal longhouse on the outside, and, on the inside, with its giant structural plywood "ribs," something like what Jonah saw after being swallowed by the whale."

Dave Leblanc from Globe & Mail

What are they and [CTV News](#), [City News](#), [CBC News](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [CFRB](#) and over 10,000 visitors talking about?!

[The canühome.](#)

The canühome exhibit is a full-size home that showcases the latest in sustainable and universal design and was launched at the Green Living Show in Toronto.

Designed by [lwB](#), the canühome draws design inspiration from [CMHC's EQUilibrium, Healthy HousingTM and FlexHousingTM Initiatives](#), is constructed using [Forest Stewardship Council \(FSC\)](#) certified wood products, and, thereby meets LEED® standards. Housing affordability is inherent in this intelligent design as it is more durable, adaptable, lasts longer, is more efficient, less costly to operate, and, is eligible for even more savings through green financial tools available from [CMHC](#) and [TD Canada Trust](#).

Most of the products in the canühome are available off the shelf and then there are other items that are intended to stir your imagination.

"Eighty per cent of what has to be done has to be done with existing housing, so people being able to take ideas and retrofit their existing house is as important as something being made new. The whole idea is not so much that [the canuhome is] a fixed system . . . but that it's an adaptable system that the consumer interacts with." said Luigi Ferrara of lwB.

Visit the canuhome for yourself in [June at Yorkdale Mall](#) - we think you will agree.

Powerwatch - Conservation through innovation



A new and powerful energy conservation tool enabling savings equivalent to one free month of electricity every five months is now available for homes, and commercial/industrial buildings. The PowerWatch energy monitoring system is a Canadian developed innovation that displays instantaneous energy use and costs and **delivers an 800KW ENERGY STAR® credit.**

Everyone who pays electrical bills understands that the demand and cost for energy is only increasing. While the push to create more energy efficient appliances, Green Home Building programs and more ecologically friendly power generation are important elements of the solution, **modifying our power consumption behavior is crucial.**

PowerWatch provides you with real-time guidance on profitable areas to reduce household electricity demand.

Until the introduction of the PowerWatch energy monitoring system, consumers wishing to reduce consumption were limited to turning off lights when they remember, buying efficient lights and appliances and hoping their efforts would appear on the electrical bill 2 months later. Unfortunately as many of us have discovered, sustaining this effort with out immediate measurement is like trying to loss weight without a scale to provide feedback.

I for one, would have loved to know exactly how much I saved by turning off that old basement cold freezer!

The PowerWatch system features a main module containing the electrical measuring device and wireless transmitter. The main module is easily installed adjacent to the power panel. It reports wirelessly to remote monitoring display showing real-time energy use and costs as home or building owners reduce usage. You can turn off lights, electronic devices, that old refrigerator in the garage or decrease air conditioning and see the cost saving instantly. The system can store up to 10 years of data which can be uploaded to a laptop and can generate a variety of reports including: historical analysis, conservation goals and detailed usage and cost forecasts.

For builders, the PowerWatch system is an essential part of any Green building program by providing a simple and cost effective way of gaining an 800KW ENERGY STAR® credit and one point for the LEED Certification. For home and commercial building owners PowerWatch is a concrete, hands-on conservation solution that empowers family or staff to make a real contribution to conservation.

The PowerWatch real-time energy meter is on display in the Sustainable Condo, come down and see it for yourself. To find out more about how PowerWatch visit them at info@powerwatch.ca or call Shelley Vallee at 416-708-9850



Upcoming Event

Design Green: A Call to Action
Green Fashions, Panel Discussion and Sustainable Condo Tour
Wednesday, May 28th, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Eco Pods, Exhibition Place

From fashion to furniture, to the spaces in which we live and work, designers play a critical role in creating and satisfying the demand for green products and

environments.

This unique, multi-disciplinary event will celebrate the Toronto pioneers who are putting themselves on the competitive edge by leading initiatives to promote sustainable design in products, fashion and the built environment. The lineup of activities includes examples of sustainable fashion design; a panel discussion on the opportunities and challenges involved in "designing green"; a tour of the Sustainable Condo Exhibition, and a networking reception.

The event is sponsored by [Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation \(CMHC\)](#), the [Design Industry Advisory Committee \(DIAC\)](#), [Toronto Fashion Incubator](#) and [Fashion Takes Action](#).

Space is limited so reserve your space now! [Click here to RSVP today](#)

[For a quick glimpse of all upcoming events check out our events calendar](#)



Newsletter Winners

Congratulations to our newsletter subscribers who have won an eco-prize for signing up.

We have two lucky winners to announce - Kelsey O'Reilly (online) & Monika Bene (event box)

They have each won a Kodak EasyShare Digital Camera

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