

The LowDown

Hearth & Homes

Oct. 5 - Oct. 11, 2022

Chelsea Highlands home not massive, it's passive

Couple reducing footprint with modest eco home



by Trevor Greenway

When Susan Young lost power for three days earlier this year at her Chelsea home, she wasn't worried about a thing — her passive home in the Chelsea Highlands development kept her warm and comfortable.

"[My husband] Eric was away fishing, and we lost power — I think from the Saturday to the Monday — and it did pretty well," said Young. "It stayed pretty warm...."

Young and Audet's passive home might not be what you'd expect for a new build in the Chelsea Highlands development in Larrimac. It's not a monster mansion pushing the 300-square-metre limit; it doesn't have spectacular views of the Hills or a giant balcony overlooking Gatineau Park. But it is nestled into nature and takes advantage of the south-facing lot with triple-pane, floor-to-ceiling windows, double-framed walls for added insulation and sealed doors and windows for an "air-tight" home.



This passive home in Chelsea was designed by EkoBuilt and constructed by Wakefield builder Marilyse Bisson of Mavie Construction. The modest, 1,700 square-foot home, including a garage, boasts triple-pane floor-to-ceiling windows, 15-foot ceilings and a high-efficiency wood stove. Trevor Greenway photo

The house was designed by Ottawa passive home company EkoBuilt, which designs passive home kits that local contractors then build. Wakefield contractor Marilyse Bisson of Mavie Construction has built four EkoBuilt homes in the Hills and explained that, while Young's house is not a certified passive home, its features go beyond

"Right now, all my clients want to have a good, efficient home, not necessarily the certification or the land to go completely passive, but environmentally it's still very well above the standard."

—Marilyse Bisson



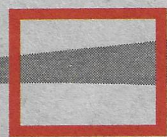
Wakefield builder Marilyse Bisson of Mavie Construction has built four EkoBuilt homes in the Gatineau Hills and is looking to bring more eco-friendly, passive buildings to the region to reduce our environmental impact. Trevor Greenway photo

Continued on page 3

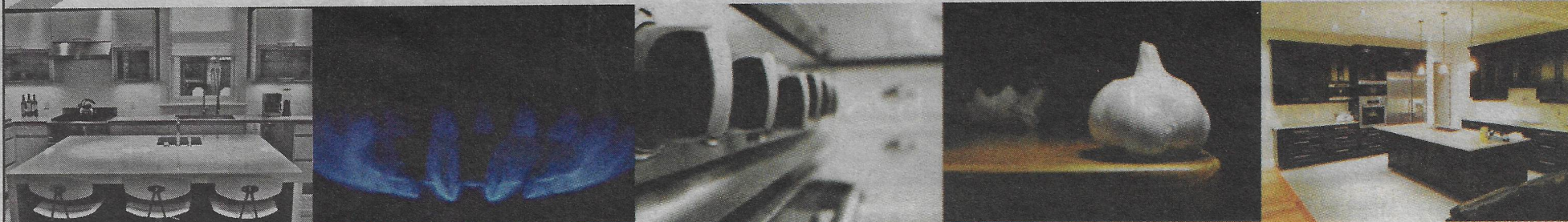
CUISINES RAFFINÉES

JARICO

REFINED KITCHENS



WE BUILD KITCHENS.
YOU BUILD MEMORIES.



info@jarico.ca • www.jarico.ca • 1708 Route 105, Chelsea • 613.858.5509