

TIMBERHAVEN

Never a problem, only a solution we haven't thought of yet.



By MICHAEL FREEMAN

There are all levels of custom homes in the Okanagan, most often they are well-built structures and usually placed on graded lots. Then there is Timberhaven homes. Apparently, someone forgot to tell them to flatten the lot! Their homes are not only completely custom-built, but they are built on all levels . . . of topography, that is. A perfect example of what they can do is in the photographs accompanying this article; it is one of the two breathtaking properties Timberhaven has constructed on Kelowna's Highpointe Drive and is the featured home on their website's homepage.

What sets this residence aside from some others is the way that Timberhaven utilized the lot without compromising the natural rise and fall of the

mountainous area. So complete is the effect, that some people feel the need to take a second glance to understand that the different levels all flow together to form a single home.

The 6,080 sq. ft. main house is actually anchored to the mountain side by a huge concrete block and a hidden beam that stretches some 50 feet through the structure, which allowed Timberhaven to take the floor plan — quite literally — over the edge. But what is probably the most notable feature is the 1,000 sq. ft. pool house perched 40 feet above the main residence that is connected by a romantic and functional walking bridge. The strategic placement of the rooms, coupled with gigantic panes of super high efficiency glass reveal uncompromising views of the Okanagan Valley. The home has been equipped with cutting-edge green technology and high-efficiency heating and cooling.



With four bedrooms and five bathrooms, extra kitchens and a media room, there's a ton of room to entertain, and as a bonus, the pool house has a private upper floor for guests! This home was nominated for five Gold Tommies and is the Tommie 2009 Gold Winner for Excellence in Single Family Detached Home over \$3 Million.

Scott Ross, the driving force behind Timberhaven, is the company's owner and president. He has been building custom residential homes for over 20 years in the coastal regions and cragged terrain found in places like Whistler, West Vancouver, Squamish and Kelowna, as well as international locations in Japan, Germany and most recently, Mexico.



WE LOVE A CHALLENGE

According to their website, "Timberhaven Homes is an organization providing expertise, individually or collectively, in architectural and interior design and project and construction management. We follow the principle that there is 'never a problem, only a solution we haven't thought of yet,' in our design and building philosophy. We promote creative thinking, and design original solutions from the landscaping right through to interior decorating, working together to provide excellence and innovation for our clients."

Ross expands on his ideology, explaining that "Timberhaven works closely with the client to design, build, and landscape custom residential projects. We focus on quality rather than quantity, keeping our projects to a maximum of three



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homes per year. I truly enjoy working with the client to deliver a unique product that we can all be proud of.”

The custom home specialist uses a small, hand-picked group of highly skilled carpenters to transform the blueprints into reality. “We are a 100 per cent hands-on builder,” Ross says. “I have no desire to be a volume builder. We specialize in start-to-finish construction, and we keep all work in-house to maintain quality.” The builder also encourages his team to come up with new techniques or design original finishes that add to the homes’ singularity.

The creation of houses that are unique in their own way are inspirational to Ross and company. The lands that are intimidating to the point where they appear to be too difficult to tackle are the properties the Timberhaven crew loves most. “I think that my successful experience from building on the coast gives me exceptional insight,” says Ross. “Plus,” he adds with a grin, “we love a challenge!”

The custom builder has a reputation for taking on the tough topography and he stands with pride before every one of his company’s projects, but according to Scott Ross, the two homes at Highpointe are near the top of his list of the most exciting, due to the complexity of the building sites. They are custom properties, indeed, on all levels.

CONTACT

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