

HAND-BUILT HAVEN

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Bold architectural lines define the exterior of the 3,200 sq. ft., custom-built log home situated in the natural serenity of the north Kawartha Lakes region. **OPPOSITE:** The grand entrance reveals the log home's cathedral ceilings and all-natural charm.

Building a handmade log home requires skill, patience and a lot of woodworking tools. When being close to nature is a lifestyle choice important to homeowners, the natural charm of a log home design was the perfect complement to the wild environs of the Kawartha Lakes region.

Kim and **Rich Kinsman** are having an exciting year. The young couple moved into their Confederation Log & Timber Frame home in May 2014, and they are expecting their first baby this spring.

Rich is the son of Rick Kinsman, owner of **1867 Confederation Log & Timber Frame**, and Rich is also employed in the family business as Vice-President of Sales and Dealer Networking.

The couple's 3,200 sq. ft. home has a deceptively small façade, but once inside opens up to reveal four bedrooms, three full bathrooms, cathedral ceilings, and even a fireplace whose back doubles as a waterfall, providing the air-cleansing and soul-soothing benefits of an indoor fountain.

"(The waterfall) gives the wow factor," says Rich. But, there are plenty of other wows. The house features log walls with timber frame (post-and-beam) elements throughout. Lots of glass means lots of natural light and the high ceilings add to the airy feeling. Far from the heavy feeling that a lot of wood décor can lend, these light-coloured timbers reaching for the unseen sky give an aura of being cradled in the clouds.

The kitchen, dining and living areas are one open space, ideal for entertaining, which the couple loves to do. The kitchen and dining room have conventional-height ceilings, but the great room's cathedral ceiling soars over 20 feet. And the gathering place also features a Napoleon NZ 3000 fireplace from **Fire or Ice**

in Bobcaygeon with genuine stone surround.

The warm cherry-wood kitchen cabinets came from **Burke's Kitchen & Bath** in Fenelon Falls, which also supplied the Cambrian quartz counter. Appliances came from **Bert's Appliances** in Fenelon Falls.

Cedar Wyld Homes Inc., exclusive builder for Confederation, built the sturdy and elegant log-and-timber-frame house. Confederation's Matt Reinwald was the designer of record, but Kim and Rich were the decorators, adding their own special touches that make a house a home.

And this house is not just a pretty face; it's also energy-efficient. The exterior is also efficient with lifetime architectural shingles as well as solar shingles by Power of the Sun2

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home & builder

Solar. The solar company is located in Toronto, but Rich says their services can be accessed anywhere in Ontario.

It also features triple-pane Ostaco windows with maintenance-free custom-colour PVC cladding on the exterior, and warm-wood finishes on the interior, part of the package available from Confederation. Tight fibreglass doors also came from Ostaco Windows and Doors.

With its frame constructed from solid, handcrafted, engineered timbers, the house is naturally snug and well-insulated, in addition to offering a comfortable and attractive ambience.

The basement boasts what Rich calls “the ultimate man cave,” with a billiard room, 120-inch theatre screen for home entertainment, lots of comfy seating for guests and a full bar. Sounds like it might make a great “kid cave” in the future, with audio-video supplied by **Northern Lights Security** of Fenelon Falls.

The gleaming floors are natural birch on the main floor and basement, with distressed pine in the loft-like upper master, provided by Logs End Flooring in Ottawa. Again, says Rich, this company is accessible to anyone in Ontario.

Everyone knows details are important and no one planning a high-end home would

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Vaulted ceilings soar overhead to reveal sturdy log walls with beefy timber frame elements mixed throughout with the natural stone defining the foyer waterfall feature. **ABOVE:** The open-concept kitchen area looks upon the dining room and living room, which all offer majestic views of the natural landscape. **LEFT:** The enclosed porch is the perfect spot for a dinner or drinks on a warm evening overlooking the forest surrounding the property.



TOP: Rustic textures define the living room space from the stone fireplace, to the dovetail joints and cathedral ceiling beams. **LEFT:** An impressive timber-beam design highlights the ceiling above the dining room. **ABOVE:** Over the last year, homeowners Rich & Kim Kinsman have worked diligently to prepare their custom log home for the arrival of the couple's first child later this spring.

RIGHT: Contrasting wood and stone accents are present throughout the home. **BELOW:** The high-peaked ceilings found in the master bedroom create space to showcase natural beauty of the pine building materials. **BOTTOM LEFT:** The wood panelled basement has an "old lodge" appeal for entertaining guests with bar, billiards and a home theatre. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** This is one of the home's three full baths, complete with heated floors.



neglect them. This home features custom-made railings and stairs with a 12-inch-by-12-inch stringer and engineered timber treads by 1867 Confederation Log & Timber Frame. Granite finishes in the bathrooms were supplied and installed by **M&J Plumbing** of Peterborough and tile flooring came from **Monaghan Lumber Specialties**, also of Peterborough.

The spacious two acres surrounding the house ensure the family's privacy and control of their views for years to come. Landscaping services are provided by **Fawcett Excavating Ltd.**, of Bobcaygeon.

Most of the Kinsmans' furniture was purchased locally at **Bennett's Home Furnishings** in Peterborough. Last, but certainly not least, hardware supplies came from **Alf Curtis Home Improvements**, which has outlets in both Lindsay and Peterborough. **OH**





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