



Living Small !

At Evergreen Concepts we work hard at trying to get clients to build smaller footprints. This not only helps most people's budgets tremendously, but it serves a critical dual purpose... it also helps reduce our environmental footprint. In our opinion, we should all take this very seriously for many reasons that we don't need to list here...by now, we shouldn't have to !

Mostly gone are the 3000 and 4000 square foot bungalows and two stories that we used to build regularly in the 1980s and 1990s. Most people can't even come close to being able to afford to build them these days and many have indeed reduced their "space" requirements to the bare necessary minimum. Instead, and with our assistance, our typical clients now focus on logical much simpler and smaller designs with energy efficiency and healthier concepts at the forefront. We all have to realize that it's everyone's responsibility to do our small part and to encourage others to reduce waste. The world has changed and no matter what political colors we wear we have to locally understand that what we do can have an impact.

A local example would be larger Township imposed minimum building sizes. The Ontario standard of 630 square feet is perfectly fine in our opinion here at Evergreen Concepts. Increasing this to larger space when the market tendency happens to be the opposite is not required. Why force people to build larger when there's no need for it. To be noted, one of our best clients of a few years back happens to be a cancer survivor who had decided to value life more than extra space. They actually built a very small and simple design focused primarily on space, comfort and energy efficiency. This breast cancer survivor and her husband figured that living smaller, closer to the environment and enjoying life was way more important than anything else. They didn't care about resale and certainly didn't care about what the neighbors thought. Many of our clients think they exact same way. Who are we to even question such decisions from "real people" anyway, right ?

We all hope that this sort of common sense thinking and focus will help decision and policy makers focus on what is "truly important".

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