

# Inspired

by Pioneer Craftsmen

Inside you'll find:

## Rugged Elegance

Our feature homeowners make unique and stunning changes – both inside and out.

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## Bracing for Another Cold One

Don't let winter weather get the best of you and your home. Check inside for some helpful tips.

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## New Beginnings

Gary and Marie embark on retirement together.



*Creating Inspired Renovations in Kitchener,  
Waterloo, Cambridge, Guelph & Area for 60 Years.*

View our complete online portfolio at:  
[www.pioneer craftsmen.com](http://www.pioneer craftsmen.com)

It seems like it was just a month ago when I welcomed you to Spring. Now here we are, already bracing for another winter!

The past six months have been an extremely busy time for us, with renovations of all types. I'm extremely proud of our team. So many of them are showing their true leadership abilities and maintaining the excellent quality of service that we've always strived for.

Our Feature Home is spectacular and proves why our craftsmen are some of the best in the business. Our **Dream Builder Plus Program** helped provide the fine details, design work and material selection that our homeowners wanted, and we thank them for allowing us to share the results with you.

Lastly, we've had several changes here at Pioneer. One of the biggest is the official retirement of Gary and Marie. It truly is a new and well-deserved chapter for the two of them. Gary and Marie are great builders—both of Pioneer Craftsmen and of our community. Like all great builders, they have laid down a strong and sturdy foundation for us, the third generation, to continue to build upon. Congratulations... and Thanks Mom & Dad!

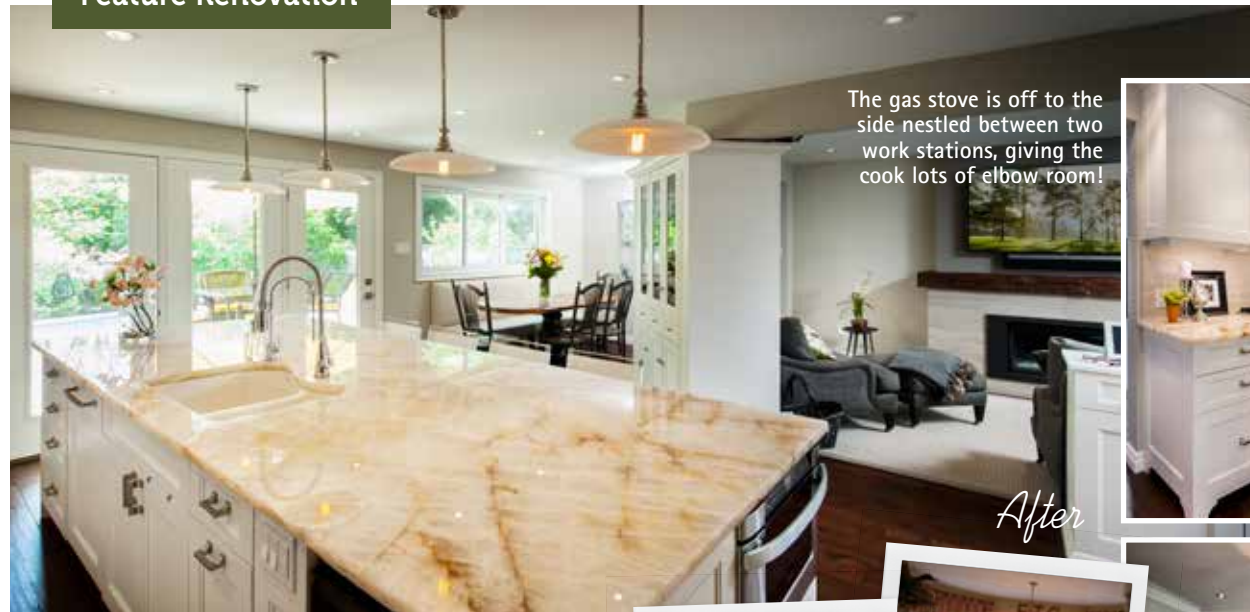


Sincerely,

Jamie

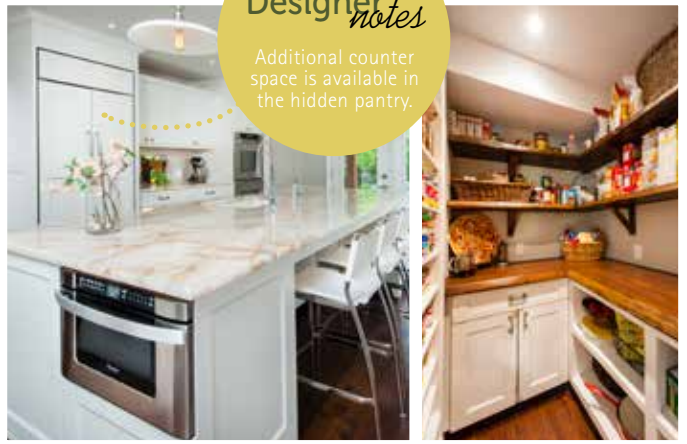
Jamie Adam  
President

Feature Renovation



The gas stove is off to the side nestled between two work stations, giving the cook lots of elbow room!

After



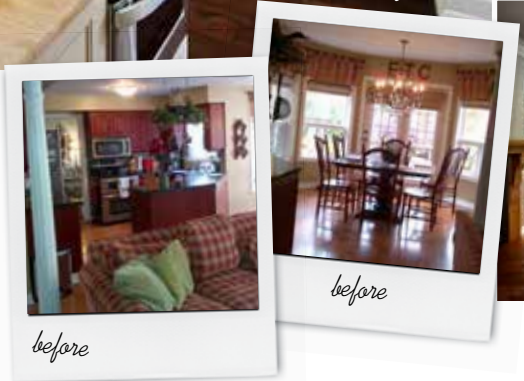
Designer notes

Additional counter space is available in the hidden pantry.

Renovations perfectly *expressing you!*

Frustration over lack of natural light, minimal storage and restrictive space led our homeowners to make major changes – inside and out.

The family, with 3 teenagers, loves to cook and entertain but it was difficult in their cramped kitchen. A bump-out addition has since doubled their dinette space. New doors with two entranceways bring in lots of light and provide better traffic flow to the barbecue area and pool.



Rugged elegance!

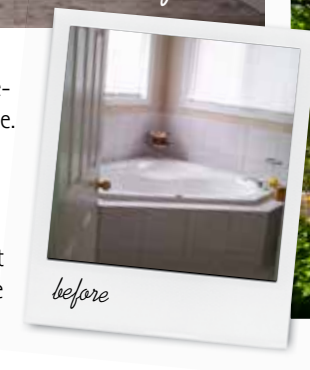
A hidden pantry—incorporating space from behind a basement stairway—keeps the kitchen clutter-free and is one of the homeowner's favourite aspects. The modern quartzite countertop in the kitchen glistens, while 8" reclaimed engineered hemlock flooring gives a hint of the rugged style the homeowners also love.

The dining room now has crown moulding and a 4-panel slider to the pergola. The fireplace received a custom mantle and built-ins on either side. Two other fireplaces in the home were refaced with reclaimed materials.



The teens' bathroom now has new black cabinet doors and a custom double-head shower, while the master ensuite underwent the most dramatic change. An awkward angled wall was made square and two windows were moved. "His" and "Hers" vanities frame the elegant solid surface stand-alone soaker tub. The tile floor with its barn-board look is a delightful contrast.

The renovations spill to the outside with a stunning rework and realignment of the cedar pergola. A hanging slatted "ceiling" helps filter sunlight and the man-made Versetta stone on the addition is a beautiful backdrop.



## Thoughtful Details for a *finished* Touch



### Custom camouflage:

A custom-built hutch provides separation between the kitchen, dinette and family room and subtly camouflages two structural support columns. In our homeowner's words, it "functions beautifully for both storage and display, and brilliantly improves traffic flow".



### Rustic textures:

The entranceway blends the family's love of ruggedness and elegance beautifully, with the addition of a custom wooden ceiling beam, tile flooring, and a new front door. The fireplace mantle in the family room is one of two made from reclaimed material, and is the perfect place to showcase family photos.

“ Inspired Renovations, that's what we do best. The family had a dream and a vision for their home – they wanted lots of changes. Led by Paul Meier, our team helped make it happen. There is nothing more rewarding than that. ”

Jamie Adam - President

## Get your home *ready* for winter!

The Farmers' Almanac states that the upcoming winter is going to be even colder than normal. They were right about last year, so be prepared! Being proactive now will not only make your home safer, it will also save you money... in energy bills and repairs later on. There are four key areas to focus on. Some things you can do on your own; for others you might want to call in a professional.

**Roofs & Eaves Troughs:** Replace damaged or warped shingles, and fasten and seal any flashings including areas around skylights and vents. Make sure downspouts are securely fastened and extend away from your house about 5-feet. Clean eaves troughs of any leaves and debris, and cover open vents so small animals won't sneak inside for warmth.

**Windows & Doors:** Use weather stripping and/or caulking around windows and doors to prevent heat loss. If feasible, replace screen doors with storm doors, and window screens with storm windows. Check wooden window frames for rot or decay – make sure there are no cracks, broken glass or gaps—and replace if necessary.

**Lawns & Gardens:** Trim overgrown branches away from the house and from electrical wires in case of wind or ice storms. Make sure water drains away from your home to avoid foundation problems and if necessary, add extra dirt to low areas. Shut off outdoor water, remove attached hoses, and drain faucets, pipes and sprinkler heads to protect against pipe bursts. Inspect outdoor lighting and make sure handrails on exterior stairs are fastened securely—for your personal safety.

**Heating Systems:** Clean and inspect fireplaces and chimneys for drafts and safety hazards. Clean or replace the air filter in your furnace for maximum efficiency and make sure smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors are in good working order. If you have an older thermostat, replace it with a programmable one to save on heating costs. And don't forget to change the direction of your ceiling fans to "clockwise", to blow warm air down from the ceiling.

## Winter Inspection Checklist

Preparing these four key areas around your home now could save you time and money in the long run:

### Roofs & Eaves Troughs

- Replace damaged and/or warped shingles
- Fasten & seal flashings
- Secure/extend downspouts
- Clean eaves troughs
- Cover open vents

### Windows & Doors

- Add weather stripping and/or caulking
- Replace screens with storm doors/windows
- Check wooden frames for rot or decay
- Replace broken/cracked glass

### Lawn & Garden

- Trim overgrown branches
- Check for pooling water
- Turn off outdoor water
- Drain faucets, pipes & sprinkler heads
- Inspect outdoor lighting & handrails for safety

### Heating Systems

- Clean fireplace & inspect chimney
- Replace air filter in furnace
- Test smoke & CO detectors
- Upgrade to programmable thermostat
- Set ceiling fans to "clockwise" direction

Don't hesitate to call a professional if you're unsure of any aspect and want expert advice and help.

## PC News



Doug Jonas, Project Management & Sales, joined us in June of this year, bringing with him over 20 years' experience in the new home construction and renovation industries. Doug's extensive background includes overseeing major construction projects, as well as operating his own home renovation business.

He has a solid reputation in the renovation industry and a great sense of humour. We know you'll enjoy working with him..



Ed Flynn also joined us in June, as Lead Carpenter. Ed's background includes over 25 years in the construction industry... working in landscaping, carpentry and renovations. While he has done some work in the commercial sector, Ed prefers the home renovation industry because he loves working with people and helping home owners. Ed, his wife and their two children enjoy lots of family time together, including boating and fishing.



Sean DeMarco is our newest Apprentice Carpenter who started working with us in July 2014. Sean is a graduate of the Renovation Technician Program at Conestoga College and worked on the "Ray of Hope" community project. He is eager to expand his carpentry skills and takes on every challenge with earnest. In his spare time, Sean is an Infantry Reservist with the Canadian Armed Forces.

## Celebrating with Our Family!



Last December we celebrated our 60th anniversary with many of you, our clients, at the St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre. This past June, we celebrated with our staff and their families by hosting a weekend away at the Fern Resort in Orillia. It was such a treat to see the children making new friends and playing games together—some even became first-time fishing buddies! For the adults and spouses, it was a weekend to relax outside of work, and to enjoy the Fern's great hospitality, food and picturesque grounds. It was a wonderful weekend, and our chance to thank our Pioneer "family" for maintaining 60 years of tradition!

## Mixed Emotions for Gary and Marie

Retirement—or as we prefer to call it—our New Beginnings. Our bucket list is long and we have four wonderful grandchildren we're excited to share more time with. So why are we both having mixed emotions? We still enjoy the work—honest! But mostly it is difficult to leave the amazing staff we work with every day, the terrific sub-trades and suppliers we have built relationships with over the years and the loyal clients we've come to know so well.

So we'll still be showing our faces around the office now and then, however it is comforting to know we are leaving Pioneer in great hands under the guidance of Jamie and Paul and the wonderful team they have. The future for all looks great!

*It's been an exciting journey.*

*A Big Thanks to all of you for a wonderful experience!*



*Thank you!  
Gary and Marie*

If you've enjoyed reading this Newsletter, please pass it on to family or friends who may enjoy it as well, or give us a call and we'll be happy to send you additional copies. The Newsletter can also be viewed on our website.



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