



THE SUNNY SOLARIS

MODEL: The Solaris

BASE PRICE: From \$400,000 (plus lot)

EXTERIOR: This 1,900 sq. ft. bungalow by custom builder Dabro Homes opened in the west end community of Crestwood, located at 9745-143 St. The builder focuses on rejuvenating already established neighbourhoods by replacing older, dilapidated homes with energy-efficient insulated concrete homes. This provides responsible homes, counteracting urban sprawl and reducing commute times, while placing families in locations with a large host of amenities available. The Crestwood community, for example, has two ravines surrounding it with an abundance of walking and biking trails, established community programs and highly-respected schools.

From first glance this home fits seamlessly into the neighborhood. The beautifully landscaped front yard has a wide, exposed aggregate stairway leading up to the covered veranda. Stone detailing, cedar shakes on the gable ends and Venetian red siding complete the exterior adding to a stunning curb appeal. The exterior of the home itself also includes



HOME OF THE WEEK

KAMEA ZELISKO

many recycled materials and features a detached two car garage.

INTERIOR: Hand-scraped cherry plank hardwood welcomes you into the vaulted great room, and extends into the kitchen and dining area. The great room features a hi-efficiency gas fireplace with stone surround and large windows that offer a grand view of this older neighbourhood. The kitchen includes a beautiful large island topped with autumn gold granite, matching the rest of the counters.

A honey tan natural slate backsplash works well behind this granite, as well as with the cedar alder cupboards. A large walk-in pantry and extensive cabinet space offers ample storage. Straight ahead of the foyer, the stairs lead to the partly finished basement. The main floor also includes a flex room, large main bath finished with polished limestone, a nice-sized bedroom and a large master suite at the end of the hall.

The east facing master bedroom overlooks the tree-lined backyard and has direct access to the large back deck. A walk-in closet, and a large full ensuite with a juczuzzi spa, custom built shower, and separate water closet finish off this grand room.

However, as stunning as the home décor is, the most attractive aspect is what you don't see. By using Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF) and solar technology the builder has successfully fused design with outstanding energy efficiency. Starting with the structure of the home the builder has used insulated concrete forms to provide a highly insulated, strong and quiet exterior wall system. This adds up to approximately double the insulation of most homes and cuts heating bills nearly in half.

ICF wall systems are used on every Dabro home, from the footing to the rafters. The heating system includes a high-efficiency boiler which runs in-floor radiant heating, a forced air blower coil, and an indirect hot water tank. The boiler runs between 93% and 97% efficiency. Also connected to the 300-litre hot water tank are two south-facing solar collectors that sit on the roof, heating approximately 60-70% of the home's domestic hot water. And when there is no sun, the boiler kicks in.

A high-efficiency Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV) supplies the home with fresh air, which is otherwise constricted due to the air tightness of the exterior wall system. With all of these energy efficient components working together within the beautiful design, both the homeowner and the environment reap the rewards.

BUILDER'S PROFILE: An R-2000 builder, Dabro Homes has been in business for over a decade. They are the recipient of the 2006 Design Excellence Award from the Cement Association of Canada and won the 2006 Energy Efficiency SAM award from the CHBA-Edmonton Region.



— KAMEA ZELISKO, Sun photos

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SHOWHOME HOURS: Available for viewing in June: Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call Darren at 485-0303, or visit www.dabro.com.



ABOVE: The kitchen includes a beautiful large island topped with autumn gold granite. **LEFT:** The east-facing master bedroom overlooks the tree-lined backyard and has direct access to the large back deck.



The greatroom features a hi-efficiency gas fireplace with stone surround.



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in June
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