

NEW HOMES + CONDOS

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT Taking a look at Ste-Anne-de-Belleue **G2**



CHOOSING COLOUR Trendiness versus personal taste **G4**

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SECTION 6



Choosing contemporary style also means choosing lighting and accessories that create a clean look. New power outlets recessed into the countertop, for example, and an attractive cooktop with burners built into the top. Under-shelf lighting illuminates the kitchen workspace, and the protruding breakfast bench in warm Nabuk Oak finish matches the Avenue Amber Porcelain Stoneware top. Similarly, the wood veneer backing the open-shelving cabinetry also covers the fridge and cabinetry to the right, with flush grip handles adding to the sleek look.

CONTEMPORARY CABINETRY

New products being used in kitchen, bathroom cabinets aim to be user and environmentally friendly

MEGAN MARTIN

With a more educated consumer base and changing trends in design, creating a dream kitchen is a much different process than it was a decade ago. What hasn't changed, however, is the fact that cabinetry remains one of the most integral parts of the overall look and feel of any kitchen.

And with a seemingly endless range of available materials, colours, and layouts, homeowners today are crafting their kitchens down to the smallest detail.

"The kitchen is the central meeting place of a home," said Olivier Proulx, owner of Cuisines Modena in N.D.G. "Consumers used to approach us with magazine clippings, but social media platforms like Instagram, Pinterest and Houzz are now the primary source of our clients' kitchen inspiration — and it has really sparked an interest in cabinetry, because people are much more aware of the trends and the fact that investing in a beautiful kitchen is something that increases the value of their home dramatically, when it's done wisely."

Interestingly, the costs of creating a new kitchen have come down in the last several years.

"Consumers used to spend much more on solid wood kitchen cabi-



Modularity is a key feature in the elements built up in this kitchen area, using the new Scavolini Fluida wall system and in the Multiplex island with Prestige White glass doors, Blanco Zeus quartz worktops and Vintage Oak veneered table top. With exclusive design, in combination with Tetrax, the Multiplex island epitomizes a new kitchen lifestyle. PHOTOS COURTESY OF CUISINES MODENA

nets, which were the best possible option for many years but times have changed," Proulx said. "Many products that we're using today have characteristics that make them much more user and environmentally friendly, in addition

to being less costly." Many new products have appeared on the market and consumers are increasingly more open to different materials and trends. "I've noticed a preference toward lacquered or slightly more

matte finishes, especially for buyers with children," said Daniela Lamorte, residential real estate broker with M Immobilier. "People still want a polished look, but high gloss, while it looks sleek and impressive, is not the

most practical from a maintenance standpoint. Fingerprints are a constant concern."

But soft-close doors and drawers are a must-have nowadays, she added. SEE CABINETRY ON G2



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