

Enjoy your fireplace in the days ahead — but take some safety precautions **E2**

The Province

# WESTCOAST HOMES

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# Living Large

Inviting spaces  
at Morgan Heights  
extend inside  
and out **E3**





The show home's backyard, which is set up for entertaining with a fireplace and grilling area, left, is seen through expansive living room windows. The home features an open-plan living and dining area and a modern kitchen with crisp, clean lines. PHOTOS: RIC ERNST/PNG

# A West Coast welcome at Morgan Heights

Main living area opens to backyard entertaining environment

## Michelle Hopkins

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West Coast living is synonymous with the outdoors, and many British Columbians don't hesitate to spend small fortunes creating outdoor living spaces that rival their indoors.

To interior designer Shannon Haerdi, the merging of those spaces was reflected in the show home at Foxridge Homes' Morgan Heights project in South Surrey.

"We love the idea of the backyard space being just off the main living level," says the principal at First Impressions Design.

"This backyard allows the homeowner to have more practical, yet inviting living space just on their doorstep. The outdoor fireplace and barbecue unit are a key element to our outdoor living concept."

That elegant, yet casual style, was duplicated in the interior to offer a seamless indoor/outdoor home.

In order to achieve a transitional style that meets cosy urban contemporary, Haerdi and her team worked with glass and high-gloss lacquered pieces.

"We love the glass and chrome occasional tables and the glass and chrome dining table to open up the space and to allow for versatility of the open floor plan,"

she says. "The glass and black lacquer dining server complements the space without feeling overwhelming or too stark."

Morgan Heights has attracted people from all over the Lower Mainland who are moving to the project because of the neighbourhood, says Diane Zarola, sales and marketing manager at Foxridge Homes.

"It's a little upscale, has all the amenities, the beaches, access to the highway into the city, out of the city, across the border — it's all right here."

Meanwhile, many interior designers will tell you to search for those one-of-a-kind pieces to create rooms that speak to your unique style.

For this show home, Haerdi chose custom drapery rods and art in the dining room and drawing room to create elegant "memory points."

"The rods are a modern take on the traditional style of the pleated drapery treatment," she says.

"With the streamlined finish on the rod and the dark squared edge finial, it complements the space without feeling too stark and modern."

"The art was also custom-framed for us using elements of

mirrored matting, starboard-backing matting and specifically chosen filets of silver and pewter origin."

Haerdi likes to tell her customers to enjoy the whole design process.

"I also tell them to have fun with small accent pieces and to keep things in scale for their particular space," she adds.

"We might suggest neutral furnishings to complement the versatility of fun accent pieces such as art, drapery and accessories that you can interchange as you wish."

However, in the end, it's about choosing pieces that you love and have them flatter some of your existing furnishings.

"Be creative and let your personality shine in your living space," Haerdi adds.

## A Shopper's Guide

➤ Lamp from Inform

Toss cushions from Pottery Barn, Pier 1

Furnishings from Urban Barn, Home Delight furnishings, Mobital, EQ3 and CB2.



## The Facts

➤ **Project:** Morgan Heights

**What:** 101 single-family homes

**Where:** South Surrey

**Residence size:** 3-4 bedrooms; 2,000 — 2,200 sq. ft, plus 850 — 1,150 sq.-ft unfinished basement

**Price:** From \$839,000 including HST

**Sales Centre:** 16092 – 28A Avenue, South Surrey

**Hours:** Noon — 5 p.m., daily