



Painted wooden walls and black metal accents add rustic charm to the bright bedrooms.



In the kitchen hangs a colourful tray, promoting Old German Lager from Kuntz's Brewery, a family business that thrived when Kitchener was still known as Berlin. Nearly a century old, a small wooden replica of one of Christopher Columbus's ships sits on a table dividing the dining and living space. Outside, on the deck, an antique school bell still rings with authority to call swimmers up from the lake when dinner is ready.

In their first summer at the new cottage, Doug's favourite spot is the deck, furnished with umbrella-shaded table and chairs from **ARD Outdoor** and a sister's reupholstered chaise lounge. The deck overlooks the lake and a landscaped yard and walkways built by **Stone Valley Landscaping & Maintenance Inc.**

Julie favours the all-season sunroom. With its woven furniture, painted floor and tall windows that open wide to the breeze, it's reminiscent of the beautiful screened porch where she enjoyed so many childhood summers on Lake of Bays, playing monopoly on rainy days and reading into the evenings.

When snow arrives, Doug and Julie will post another driveway sign. It shows a plump toad wearing a striped, iconic Hudson's Bay coat, raising a mug of hot chocolate. **OH**

TOP LEFT: Steve Morgans built the bed for this ground level bedroom. He used plumbing fixtures to create the lamps and made a sliding barn door for the closet. **TOP:** A chest of drawers and a bed from a sister's cottage, matched with a similar bed bought at a sale, furnish another downstairs bedroom. **LEFT:** The lower-level bathroom includes a glass shower and an extra-long tub, surrounded by porcelain tiles that resemble hardwood.