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Mid-century homes go modern

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PHOTOS BY HILARY KLASSEN

WESTRIDGE JOINS THE BRIGHTON PARADE OF HOMES

BY HILARY KLASSEN

Westridge Homes' new show home in Brighton packs a lot of style into 1,750 square feet. A pleasing symmetry of design elements blends to create the wish to linger, to settle in, maybe take up residence.

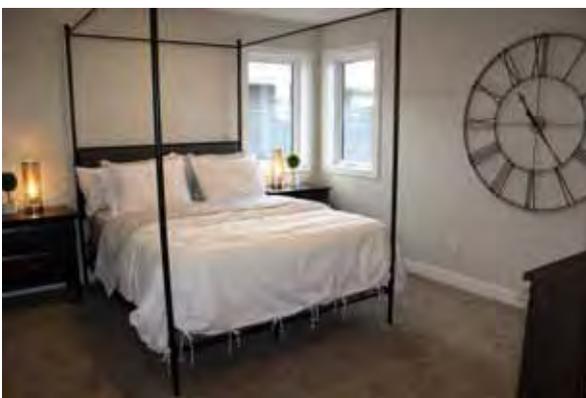
Located at 228 Secord Way, the two-storey home is part of the Brighton Parade of Homes that opened in September. The new neighbourhood

by Dream Development offers homeowners some perks not previously seen in Saskatoon. Green spaces, ponds, walking trails and playgrounds are already in place, creating the feel of a more established community, right from the get-go.

"It starts to feel like a neighbourhood a lot sooner," says Regan Taming, managing partner at Westridge Homes. With Dream, front yard landscaping is included in the lot price and all driveways must be completed at the time of build..

A custom kitchen anchors the home and serves as a centrepiece for the main floor. From there, the open concept flows to the back of the home where a dramatic 11-foot ceiling and a wall of windows lend an expansive feel to the living and dining areas, opening up views of the green space beyond.

"We went a little mid-century modern, but we didn't get too carried away," says Taming. The design represents the cleaner lines people are



seeking these days, allowing the homeowners to add personal design touches to make it their own.

The kitchen pantry is tucked behind rolling barn doors. Its location between the kitchen and the mudroom allows for easy off-loading of groceries. Accessible from the garage, the mudroom is outfitted with lockers, while laundry facilities are located upstairs. A window fills the space with light that filters through to the kitchen.

White tongue and groove ceiling boards in the living area are accented with beams, adding a lot of character. “There’s tile on the fireplace, but no TV over the fireplace. It can make a statement on its own,” says Tameling. An audio system with smart phone technology that is connected to the internet and smart TVs, is synced throughout the house.

Off the front hall, an open stairway leads to three upper bedrooms. A spacious master bedroom is flanked by a custom walk-in closet with dark wood storage units. Dual sinks, a soaker tub and a tiled walk-in shower define the master bath.

Vinyl plank flooring unifies the main floor, an enduring choice when kids and dogs are part of the equation. The entry foyer, bathrooms and laundry area feature porcelain tile flooring. The kitchen has granite countertops, while the baths have quartz. A double 24x24-foot garage is included and the basement is open for development.

The show home feels luxurious and delivers

significant wow factor. “We’ve had a tremendous response to this home. I’ve been in a lot of 1,700 square foot or even 2,000 square foot homes that don’t feel like this.” Most of Westridge’s ‘standard’ finishes are upgrades, seen in the plumbing fixtures, light fixtures, garage doors and Hunter Douglas Silhouette Blinds that operate with the touch of a button.

As a custom home builder, Westridge works with the customer to put their branding on a house. “We’re a design-build firm. We like every home to be unique. We don’t have standard models. We love to make the house fit the customer; that’s our goal.” Tameling says a custom home doesn’t have to be expensive. It does involve tailoring a budget to target where the homeowners prefer to spend their money.

Clients are still prioritizing kitchens and bathrooms in their budgets, he says. Houses may be getting a little bit smaller in square footage, but people are allocating more funds to the finishes.

“People want a little less in their life. That can mean less home as long as there’s lots of storage. Everybody wants storage, usually bigger garages, basement storage, bigger closets, bigger or more functional pantries. That’s a big focus now,” says Tameling.

The Brighton Parade of Homes will be open for up to a year. It is open Monday through Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m. and from 12 to 5 p.m. on weekends and holidays. To learn more about award-winning builder, Westridge Homes, visit www.westridgehomes.ca. 