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Two Ottawa scuba divers build an ode to water for their first home



HATTIE KLOTZ More from Hattie Klotz (HTTP://OTTAWACITIZEN.COM/AUTHOR/HATTIE-KLOTZ)

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"The fish have distinct personalities," says Carey Larsson, "and they're a good biology lesson."

Ashley Fraser / Ottawa Citizen

When Carey and Stig Larsson decided to build their dream home on a corner lot in the Crystal Bay area of Ottawa, they were just 29 and 31 years old respectively. It was a huge undertaking for a young couple.

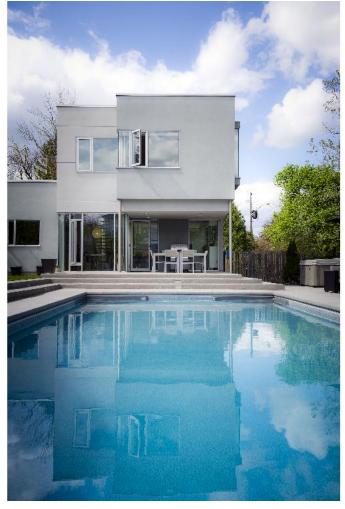
Now, nearly 10 years and two children later, they are still happy with their design, their choices and most of all, their aquarium.

The house is a symphony of glass and water, fitting for these scuba divers. More than a quarter of the exterior of the house is glass, while inside, a 400-gallon glass tank is home to swaying, rainbow-coloured coral and plenty of brightly hued tropical fish.

Outside, there's plenty of the wet stuff in the backyard's salt-water swimming pool. For a fresh-water dip, there's a beach across the street with the lapping water of the Ottawa River in Crystal Bay.







The home's design is two simple cubes, offset from one another with a garage to the left. The backyard pool is anchored in the plane of the main box.

Ashley Fraser / Ottawa Citizen



The round-cornered sofa was custom-made in Toronto through Expressions by Leather Brand – Urban Collection.

Ashley Fraser / Ottawa Citizen



Seven-year-old friends Svea Larsson, left, and Mia Steckly enjoy the heated, salt-water pool.

Ashley Fraser / Ottawa Citizen

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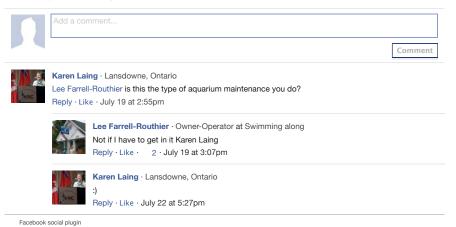
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