

This week in Real Estate

Spring cleaning: get your backyard ready for summer

As the days get longer and warmer, you may find yourself anticipating how to make the most of your outdoor living space. Here's some advice to ensure your backyard is ready for summer.

The patio and fence

Since the patio and fence are prominent features of your outdoor living area, their appearance will set the tone for the space. Sweep away any rocks, leaves and other debris before cleaning the patio and fence with a pressure washer and specialized product. Make sure you choose the right setting so you don't damage the surface. Depending on the material, apply a coat of varnish or paint to freshen up and protect these backyard features.

The furniture

As you take each piece of furniture out of storage, check to make sure it's in



good condition. You may need to wash it to spot rust, stains or other signs of damage. In some cases, you might get another season out of your furniture by applying a new coat of paint. Additionally, wicker cushions can be replaced or repaired by a professional. However, if your patio furniture has been better days, consider starting off the season with a new barbecue.

The barbecue

To make sure you're ready to summer cookouts, clean all the stainless-steel surfaces of your barbecue. Be sure to check the condition of the grates and any other components that come in contact with food. Finally, inspect the propane tank and test each burner.

By following these tips, you'll soon be ready to enjoy lazy afternoons and warm evenings outside.

—Nephtree Toolbot

DOCTORS' DAY MAY 1 - 9 PM SHINE A LIGHT FOR ALL THEY DO

Show appreciation by shining a light on doctors

Ontario residents are encouraged to show their appreciation for physicians on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic on May 1 and join the campaign led by the Ontario Medical Association (OMA).

"It's a day to recognize the incredible contribution of these health care professionals whose vital role has been amplified by the pandemic, now in its second year. We're invited to shine a light with phones, flashlights and candles at 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 1 as a collective symbol of thankfulness. The association is asking us to share hashtags #DoctorsDay and #ShineALightForThem and to send messages at doctorsday.ca and share thoughts, images and videos of support on social media.

Doctors' Day is being celebrated by municipalities and attractions including the CN Tower and Niagara Falls. They are shining blue lights as a tribute to local doctors and physicians across the province in an extra show of support at this

challenging time.

According to the OMA, Ontario's doctors treat and care for more than 340,000 patients across the province every day. Ontario's doctors work hard to ensure that patients are getting the care they need, whether it's in a hospital, long-term care home, clinic, research lab or in a patient's home," states the OMA.

"As our front-line heroes battle the third wave of COVID-19, doctors need our support more than ever. Let's make Doctors' Day 2021 bigger than ever."

The OMA has produced a series of "Meet the Doctors" videos that feature testimonials from several physicians, each with a different medical specialty. Dr. Wendy Kennette speaks to the emotional impact patients have on doctors and the human aspect of palliative medicine. Obstetrician-gynecologist Dr. Jessica Du shares the importance of communicating the memorable days experienced by those in her profession and Dr.

Srikala Sridhar, medical oncologist, talks about how doctors can learn from their patients.

The power of the gift of sight and the importance of relating to the experience of patients is the message that eye physician and surgeon Dr. Raj Ramesh shares. Psychiatrist Dr. Frank Sommers recalls a frightening encounter as a young doctor with a patient in distress and how doctors can intervene in emergency situations.

Dr. Chi-Ming Chow speaks to the importance a supportive family as experienced in his cardiology practice and Dr. Teresa Chan shares insights about care in the emergency department. Dr. Sany Mathew, a family and long-term care physician explains the connection between doctor and patient and their family and how caring doesn't stop at the end of the work day. To view the videos and learn more about these doctors, or health care in Ontario, go to the OMA website at oma.org/advocacy/value-of-doctors/.



Celebrating National Physicians' Day

Again this year, we recognize National Physicians' Day, May 1st, in the midst of a pandemic. We are so grateful for all of our Physicians and honour the incredible work and sacrifices they make every day.

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