MAGAZINE LAYOUTS

Innovation 24/7

In an ever-changing real estate market, Pinewood Niagara Builders has learned that a little creativity may be the secret to success....

When Pinewood Niagara Builders starting building homes and communities throughout the Niagara Region over 30 years ago, the goal was to provide their neighbours with homes that were distinctive and creative.

Michael Colaneri Jr., a 2nd generation developer in this familyrun company, states "Customer demands are always changing and there are always new technologies to accommodate buyer's needs. We need to stay on top of what will impress a buyer; our projects are infused with dimension, interest, and luxury, but with a little flair... some unique style."

The strategy adapted by Pinewood throughout their history is to try to be more innovative than their competition. "If we can get the upper hand with a creative approach, by switching the ordinary for the unexpected, than Pinewood can be memorable. Adding each buyer's creative stamp to their new home is what



"If a company continually reinvents itself, it can't be copied. Our company's culture is based on being more innovative with our products, our services, our attitudes...it is the best secret weapon you can have", says Colaneri.

Invoking a creative leadership didn't happen overnight, however employees at Pinewood Homes find that with their leaders guiding the way, they are confident their ideas and suggestions are will be well received. "They encourage ideas from all their staff; they tell us that we are the best resource." And those employees are happy to add their opinion. "We are in an environment that encourages free thinking. Being outspoken is what a project may be looking for... that fresh set of eyes that can make it a little more interesting", says Administrative Assistant, Ida Memme

The coporate culture at Pinewood is unique, and the management and employess all agree that staying compeitive means getting a little creative. Michael Colaneri Jr. says "any company with a creative culture will naturally rise above their competition. We want to change how people think of developers. We want the best people to work for us. By attracting them, the best and brightest, we can be a leader in the industry. They have all the same ideas that the buyer wants... to be a little different from the rest, to think outside the box, and, in turn, maybe we can make the more dynamic presentation.



"Every person has a distinct style. That little flair - being able to incorporate that buyer's uniqueness into their new home really shows the scope of Pinewood." Cindi Loforti, On-Site Interior Decorator



"If we as sales reps can generate the ideas, and implement them in our everyday sales approach, not only is the company more likely to succeed, but so will the individual... that motivation is contagious."

Dale Azzarello, Sales Representative



"We don't want to be normal or average. We want to try something that takes a little courage, a little guts. Home buyers can see through hype. By being more charismatic we can get a buyer through the door, and hopefully impress them with our ideas. Our layouts, our designs, our focus on 'green', energy-efficient building will spark an interest. Those are the buyers we look for", says Mike Kennedy, Project Manager.

By not being afraid to try new things, Pinewood Homes builds so each home will be distinctive. Says Colaneri, "no one buyer has the same wants and needs; each of our homes need to be an original. By adding a little flair to each, we can see what works and what doesn't. Every project is an experiment; even if it doesn't work, we all learned something valuable. That fearlessness... it's innovative in approach. It works well for us."

Today Magazine, "Innovation 24/7"; August 2011, Text/Layout Design: Alyx Duncan







Pinewood Niagara Builders With us, it's personal.



Homes and Land, September 2012, Text/Layout Design: Alyx Duncan

SNAP, May 2013, Text/Layout Design: Alyx Duncan

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