





Meet Your Neighbours Dominique and David

With It's Open Space and "Fields of Gold", Creekwood is a Natural Fit for New Family

When bone-chilling temperatures scared most families indoors last December, David Lam did what any hearty Edmonton-born father would. He went out to the pond near his Cardinal Link home, shovelled off a square of snow and he and his wife Dominique took their three kids skating.

This ability to find opportunity in all different places has made Creekwood an exciting fit for the family of five. Since moving last spring from their Riverbend rental house, the Lams have traded River Valley views for Creekwood's wide expanses of nature. The large housing lots, walking trails, ponds and parks have made the outdoorsy family feel immediately at home, says Dominique.

"Creekwood fits with our lifestyle. There's more room to breathe and move around. There's a playground half a block away, a lot of green space, walking paths, and drainage ponds which are quite nice."

She, David and the kids also like to explore a nearby green space preserve around the Blackmud Creek.

"It feels like being out in the country, but you're in the city," she says.

"It has a good balance between city and nature. It feels very much like it's still some untouched area, still undeveloped. It's a good mix of housing development and green space," David adds.



David clears snow off a pond-turned-skating rink in Creekwood while son Matthew works on his stick-handling skills.



Lucy, Matthew and Naomi enjoy dinner and mom Dominique reminds them to eat their veggies!

“You can fit more in than you’d think, given the size of the house. It’s an efficient use of space, with no wastage.”

David is a native Edmontonian, and Dominique went to veterinary school in Saskatoon, so both are accustomed to prairie living, even though they spent a number of years in Vancouver prior to moving to Edmonton two years ago.

“It’s gorgeous in summer. We love walking by the canola fields – they’re like fields of gold,” Dominique says of their new community. “After coming from Vancouver where we were surrounded by trees, we were looking for something similar.”

Dominique is currently staying home to raise Matthew, 8, Naomi, 6, and Lucy, 4. This gives them plenty of opportunity to explore the nearby parks, trails and playground during the day. She’s

also happy for the convenience of a short drive to all the amenities available at Currents of Windermere and Ellerslie Crossing. David’s commute to his south side office where he works as an art director for a video game developer has remained under the 20 minute mark. When he travels for business he’s managed to shave his drive to the airport down to a mere 13 minutes.

The Big Decision

A natural comedian, David wise cracks fast and often. Dominique rallies back with a similarly lightning quick wit, and one imagines their 1,470 square foot, three-bedroom Thomsen Built home is always filled with laughter. But they took their recent decision to buy the house quite seriously.

They were hesitant because they still own property in Vancouver. But thanks to low interest rates and Edmonton’s relatively affordable prices they eventually decided to buy. It’s turned out to be a great decision. In fact, their monthly mortgage payments cost less than they had been paying in rent.



Thomsen Built's convenient upstairs laundry room.

“We always had the thought of buying in the back of our minds,” Dominique says. “When our lease ended, we decided to go for it, and jumped in with both feet.”

Thomsen Built Fit the Bill

Dominique and David looked casually in the months leading up to the end of their lease and singled out Thomsen Built as their builder of choice early on.

The open, clean and modern style of Thomsen Built's Moraine model matched what they were looking for, so they were happy when the builder had one available in the couple's short time frame of just six weeks.

“It's a very open, very clean concept,” says Dominique. “You can fit more in than you'd think, given the size of the house. It's an efficient use of space, with no wastage.”

It also had a front room large enough to fit their baby grand piano – an important requirement of their new-home checklist. (The piano is a long-time family heirloom of Dominique's.)

Turnkey Features Made For an Easy Move

“It's the little details that made the family fall in love with the house,” Dominique says.

The kitchen's breakfast bar is the perfect place for the children to eat a quick meal, and there is ample storage for pots and pans underneath the island. The bedroom closets have built-in shelving to make organization easy, as does the laundry room, which also came equipped with a convenient built-in drying rack.

The living room came pre-wired for a flat screen television (great for the Lam's frequent family movie nights), and iPod music can be piped through speakers already installed throughout the house. There is even a light switch in the front closet that operates an outdoor light socket tucked under the eavestrough – perfect for Christmas lights!

“It's such a nice design, and thoughtful features.”

Although the weather has been too cold to do much socializing lately, there's just one more opportunity David and Dominique can't wait to take advantage of in their new neighbourhood – getting to know their new neighbours.

**More information on
Thomsen Built can be found at:**

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