

PIZZA: GRILLED & WOOD-FIRED RECIPES

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Lord Norman Foster
puts the ecofriendly
Jameson House on
Vancouver's down-
town map.



ECO SYSTEM

Going green is now down to a science.

Environmental consciousness and sustainability once conjured images of hopeless idealists in tiny-windowed solar-panelled berm-bound “homes.” These days the sleek architectural marvel next door is just as likely to be green. While solar panels still figure, they’re bolstered by a panoply of sophisticated features that are becoming readily accessible. There’s a mass ecobuilding movement, and your neighbour is leading the way.

It’s no surprise that Vancouver, home of the 2010 “green” Olympics, as well as June’s World Urban Forum, is right in step. Recently Norman Foster parachuted in from London to make his mark on the downtown. Jameson House aims to address Vancouver’s innovative urban living paradigm as well as offer a thoroughly contemporary mixed-use 37-storey tower whose aerodynamic design takes into account seasonal sun paths, rainfall and prevailing winds.

Local Queen of Green Shelley Penner helped pioneer green interior design in the early '90s, but it’s only



**An ecobome
for Calgary.**

recently that she's noticed a large-scale movement toward sustainable building in the residential market. In conjunction with architectural firm Busby Perkins + Will, Penner & Associates created the Acqua + Vento mixed-use townhome development in Calgary's Bridgeland where contemporary design meets environmental sensitivity. Buyers choose from a sustainable palette that includes bamboo flooring and wheat straw fibreboard in the cabinets.

Both Vancouver's new Sustainable Building Centre and Öko Design now offer the public access to green information, from ecofriendly sofas made with forest-managed wood using non-toxic glues and hemp batting to local architects specializing in modern residential ecodesign.

And turn to CBC TV's upcoming reality series, *Code Green Canada*, where 12 homeowners battle to outdo each other in reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Want more? Turn back to these pages in August for a special issue devoted to the subject.—*Amanda Ross*