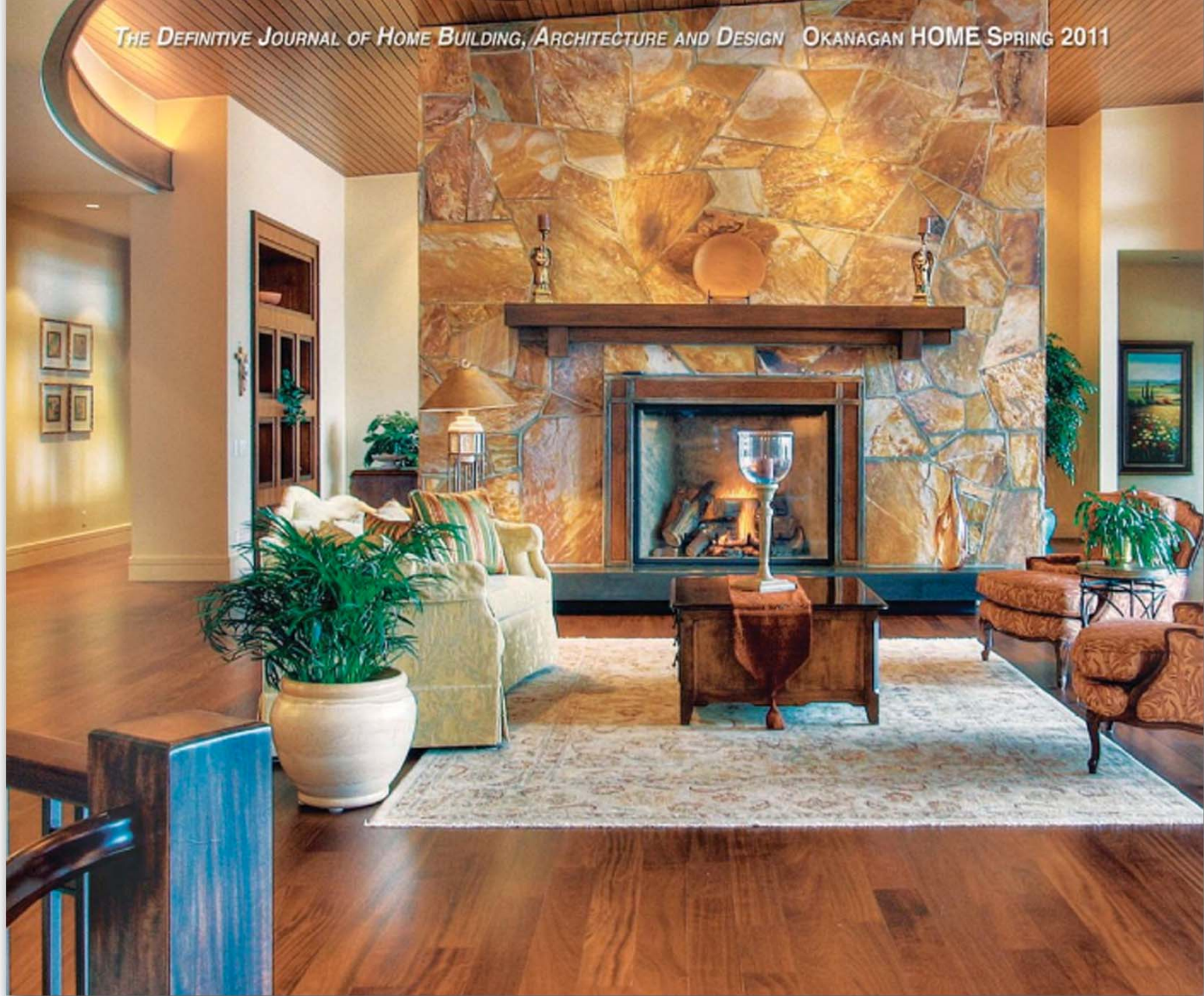


# HOME

OKANAGAN

*THE DEFINITIVE JOURNAL OF HOME BUILDING, ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN* OKANAGAN HOME SPRING 2011

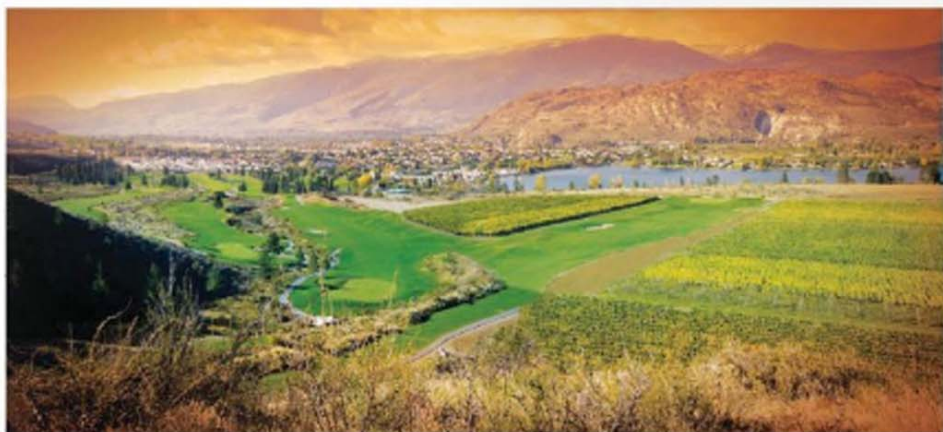


# CANYON *Desert* RESORT

BY JENNIFER WILMET

RESORT

WELCOME TO CANYON DESERT RESORT  
... A PLACE UNLIKE ANY OTHER.



It usually starts innocently enough with the casual suggestion "Let's go somewhere south this winter" followed by the obligatory visits to the website for a nice place to get away from the cold that most Canadians long to escape.

More than ever they find 'south' does not mean as far as they once thought...for many it is simply as far as Oliver, BC, the home of Canyon Desert Resort. One guest quipped "The Jewel of the White" and that is how long I plan to stay...awhile". Often that 'while' turns into 'a long time' once the true gems of the South Okanagan are uncovered. Many visitors end up living here permanently once they see the unique resort living available.

This region is home to over 10,000 residents living along the Okanagan River and boasts over 4,000 acres of vineyards and

over 20 world-class wineries, as well as two championship golf courses.

Centrally located within a few hours of Seattle, Spokane, Calgary and Vancouver, Oliver is becoming the region of choice for more and a wider variety of visitor each year.

There is something magical about the area, so much so the 'first visitors' are still there. The Osoyoos Indian Band was formed in 1877 as part of the Okanagan Nation. They are a proud people with a rich heritage. From the early days of ranching and from the early years of ranching, trading and small farms, the people have continued to grow and change with the times. Now, huge vineyards sprawl across their lands, businesses are being invited to call this home and the people have become highly entrepre-



neurial.

One recent partner in their region is Bellstar Hotels, located in Calgary. The proven and successful partnership of the Osoyoos Indian Band and Bellstar Hotels & Resorts is complemented by GGC Development Ltd.

"Canyon Desert will be Bellstar's second venture with the Osoyoos Indian Band, a relationship which we value immensely," declared Ed Romanowski, President & CEO of Bellstar. "This unique partnership, alongside the proximity to neighbouring Penticton and Osoyoos and a thoughtfully designed master-planned community will greatly enhance the resort experience."

Bellstar's proven and successful partnership with the Osoyoos Indian Band has received international acclaim through their Osoyoos-based property, Spirit Ridge Vineyard Resort & Spa.

The team's combined experience ensures this unique resort community will draw attention to all that is remarkable about the beautiful South Okanagan.

One of the highlights of Canyon Desert Resort will be its culinary and wine offering. The Inn will feature the Okanagan Valley's only wine cave, complete with a BC Wine Interpretive Centre. In addition, the resort will bring much needed convention and meeting facilities to the area, perfect for everything from family celebrations to corporate retreats.

Welcome to Canyon Desert Resort . . . a place unlike any other.

Canyon Desert Resort is really the first fully integrated destination resort in the Oliver area, with 450 golf and lakefront residences, villas and resort suites.

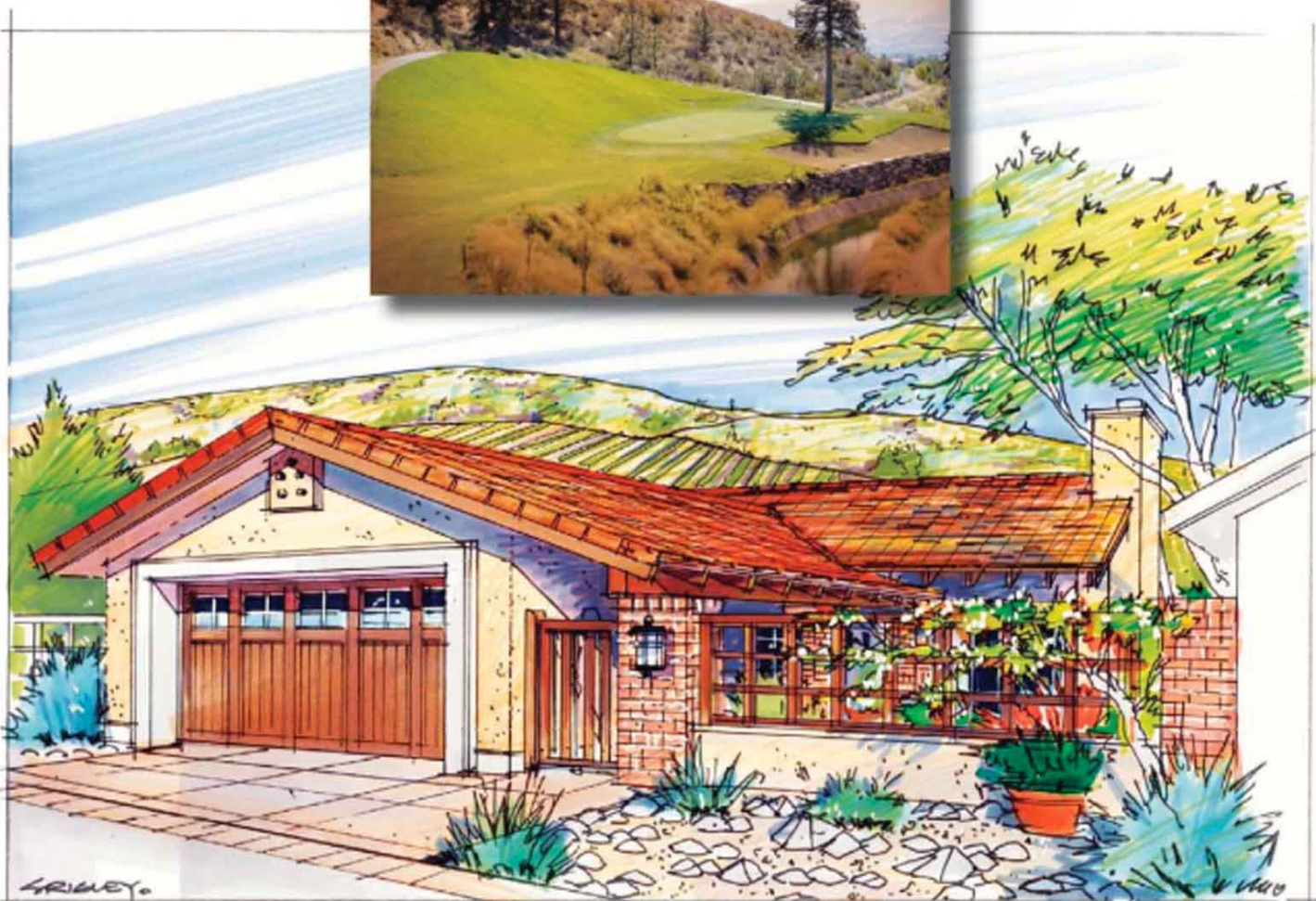
According to Curt Jensen, Curt Jansen, Director, Resort Real Estate Sales for Bellstar Hotels & Resorts "Phase 1 they will offer two and three bedroom golf villas between 1,050 to 1,550 sq. ft. with an additional 1,000 sq. ft. of seamlessly integrated outdoor-living space, from which to enjoy the region's enviable 300 days of sunshine per year. Outside options include BBQ kitchens, hot tubs and splash pools to custom design your outdoor experience".

When asked about future plans he explained further, "Desert Canyon Inn is planned for a future phase, providing the first full-service vacation resort for the Oliver area."

As a five phase project, this year-round vacation spot will be built around the existing 18-hole NK'MIP Canyon Desert Golf Course. There will be Beachfront Residences, Golf Villas, Beach Lodges, Golf Lodges and the Canyon Desert Inn, a full-service suites hotel with conference facilities, pool, spa, restaurant and wine bar.

Guests at Bellstar Resorts enjoy unique properties complete with beautiful amenities in fabulous locations that all represent Bellstar's mission – to deliver exceptional resort experiences.

Another partner in the project was GGC Development Ltd., which was established to develop and build



Resort and Retirement communities in the Okanagan region of British Columbia. The principles of the company are all Okanagan and Vancouver based real estate and business professionals that share a great interest in applying their experience and expertise in the development of real estate projects in

the resort and retirement sectors. The president of GGC is a partner in the Watermark Beach Resort Development in Osoyoos and he has many years of development experience in Vancouver and the South Okanagan.

With so much to offer, Oliver is a community like no other, Canyon Desert Resort will have all the benefits of incredible golf, vineyards and wineries, access to great skiing throughout the Okanagan and unique walking and biking trails – making this a remarkable four-season outdoor paradise.

Situated in a truly amazing location, Canyon Desert Resort will be a standout resort experience in the South Okanagan. Set between the exciting NK'MIP Canyon Desert Golf Course and



the serene Tuc-el-Nuit Lake, Canyon Desert Resort is destined to become an inspirational resort community.

As an ever-growing vacation destination, people visit the South Okanagan for its Aboriginal history, world-class golf, warm desert climate, vineyards, stunning natural beauty and calm lakes.

Canyon Desert Resort

is unique in that this is all available on-site, celebrating the best of the region. Another distinct feature of this area is its 20+ world-class wineries, all within a 30-minute drive of the proposed resort.

#### CONTACT

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