

# BIG DIFFERENCE

**B**ig, beautiful log homes are a part of Muskoka and Canada's architectural history. They look stunning and fit in perfectly with the surroundings, but nature is hard on wood structures. Eventually, their aesthetic charms start to fade.

When appearances fail but structural integrity remains, a quality restoration by experienced professionals will bring your home back to life.

Cedar Laine Restoration recently restored a stunning 10,000 square foot log home which was looking tired and worn.

They began by sanding any area showing signs of peeling or deterioration.

Then came a good low-pressure power washing with a high-end wood cleaner, followed by protective coats

of top quality professional-grade stain. The result is a stunning home, a grand version of a northern log cabin.

"Our clients said, 'it looks better than when it was built,'" says Cedar Laine Restoration project manager Tylor Thrush. "Now we can keep it looking good as new with occasional maintenance."

### Cob-blasting

Although this log home required minimal sanding to prepare, on other projects a good cob-blasting will do the trick.

Cob-blasting is the least abrasive blasting option. It's also environmentally friendly: it is literally a corn cob core, with the food source – the kernels and exterior cob – eliminated before it is crushed and blasted.

Other media will be used when they are appropriate, says Tylor. For wood siding, decks, docks or a whole log home, cob-blasting is often the best bet. When a more abrasive media is needed, the restoration specialists might turn to crushed walnut shells or glass to get the job done.

"You need to choose the right media for each restoration project," he says. "If you don't, there is a real risk of causing more damage."

Cedar Laine Restoration has been reviving old wood since 1988 – their team has a combined 90-plus years in the business. They work throughout Ontario and carry \$5 million liability along with WSIB coverage.

"Over 35 per cent of our projects are repeat business,"

says Tylor. "As well, we receive many referrals from happy customers."

### Seasonal specialties

While the warmer seasons are the only times for exterior restoration applications, Cedar Laine Restoration takes care of interior projects during the cooler months.

Hardwood floors, kitchen cabinetry, drywall, and other restorative interior projects can be completed when the temperature and environment make exterior projects unmanageable. **DS**

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