

Spring is set to get sprung at this weekend's 31st Aurora Home Show

By Brock Weir

Ice storms and blizzards in the middle of April don't necessarily scream 'spring' but the Aurora Chamber of Commerce will bring the spring indoors at the annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce Home Show this weekend.

Opening this Friday, April 20 at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex, visitors will be greeted by what's hopefully to come as the weather warms up.

'I am hoping the next few days all of this white stuff is going to melt, people will get back into the spring spirit very soon. I am just thankful the Home Show wasn't this past weekend!' said Sandra Watson of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, as the community dug out of a weekend of ice on Monday. 'As soon as you walk into the SARC though you'll feel like you're entering spring. You'll walk into a beautiful display of a garden feature by Pathways to Perennials, which does such a magnificent job welcoming everybody into the arena with colours galore and you'll just feel like you're in a garden oasis.'

Now in its 31st year, Annual Aurora Home Show is a firm favourite on the calendars of fixer-uppers and DIY-ers in Aurora and beyond, but this Home Show is a little bit different.

Gone is the 'Home Show' name of yore, and new this year is a rebranded exhibition properly called 'The Home and Living Show.' 'It reflects the living aspect for homeowners, and that is the financial people, healthcare, healthcare workers, realtors. We have really tried to broaden the scope,' said Ms. Watson. 'It is not just a Home Show, it is about Home and Living.'

That being said, firm favourites will be returning this year for all those looking for ideas on how to spruce up their home for the spring, summer and fall.

'We've got a whole array of everything the homeowner may need for renovating, designing, and decorating,' she said. 'We have a variety of exhibitors who will cover all those requirements, everything from windows and doors, to painting, to decorating, and furniture. You need a new air conditioner for the summer? There're lots of options. Painters, roofers, landscapers, tree care, we have anything the homeowner really needs.'

Also added to the roster for the first time this year are young innovators who might one day have their own unique products on the market.

Youth exhibitors from last year's Youth Innovation Fair will be present, as will representatives STEM Minds, to highlight new ideas that might soon become the norm.

'We have a number of students who will be here throughout the weekend showcasing their inventions, so we're really proud to be including them. and they are really excited about it!' said Ms. Watson.

This year's Home & Living Show runs at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex from Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 22. Friday night is Buy One Get One Free admission from 4 - 9 p.m.

The Show is sponsored by the Town of Aurora, The Auroran, Back Yard Pool & Spa, Highland Automotive, Metroland Media, and ReMax Hallmark Lind Group.