

Moving the McGillivrays receives amazing response

By Mark Pavilons

The biggest residential home build of Scott McGillivray's career has come with its own unique challenges. And those are revealed, for the whole world to see, weekly on TV.

Moving the McGillivrays is a 10-part series on HGTV Canada that welcomes viewers into Scott McGillivray's family life and home. It follows the McGillivrays' real-life adventures as they build their dream home together in King Township.

Just three episodes in so far, and it's the highest rated program he's done to date. "It's amazing how we've been received," he said. Working on the large, custom-built home while filming the TV show presents its own trials and tribulations. McGillivray's team of professionals is joined by trades supplied by local niche builder Hard at Work.

"We're working our butts off (to get the house completed)," he said.

Normally, a project of this magnitude would take two years. The house is being built in less than a year, and they're well into their TV production schedule. They're cutting it close, though. McGillivray said shows are aired roughly five weeks after they're shot. If it were any closer, they'd be live, he joked.

"We're happy but tired," he said.

They did encounter some unanticipated problems, which are not unusual with such a large-scale project. Good weather last winter and through this summer have helped move things along.

Admittedly the work has been disruptive in the community, but neighbours have been "amazing," he said. "Everyone's been so good about it."

The reception locally has been great and the family hopes to be in the home celebrating Halloween.

Scott and his wife Sabrina, plus their two little girls, Myah, 4 and Layla, 2, are all excited about making King their home. "We've already embraced it as our home," he said.

One part savvy real estate investor, one part skilled contractor and one part accomplished entrepreneur, Scott McGillivray is a triple threat.

McGillivray's passion lies in educating homeowners to make smart renovation and investment decisions that deliver financial rewards.

Best known as the host and executive producer of the award-winning HGTV series, Income Property, Scott has taken home renovation television to the next level, helping cash-strapped homeowners choose their perfect investment property and renovate it to generate maximum rental income. 140+ episodes over 11 seasons currently air on HGTV and DiY Network, as well as other networks across 30+ countries.

Scott and Sabrina are also passionate about giving back to their community and sharing their time and expertise to help others achieve their own goals of home ownership. To that end, the McGillivrays have partnered with Habitat for Humanity to help build a home for a hard-working family.

Watch Moving the McGillivrays Sundays at 9 p.m. on HGTV Canada.