

Let there be **light**

Balancing functionality and beauty, Kitchen Design Plus helped lighten up this space and bring the beach to the city.



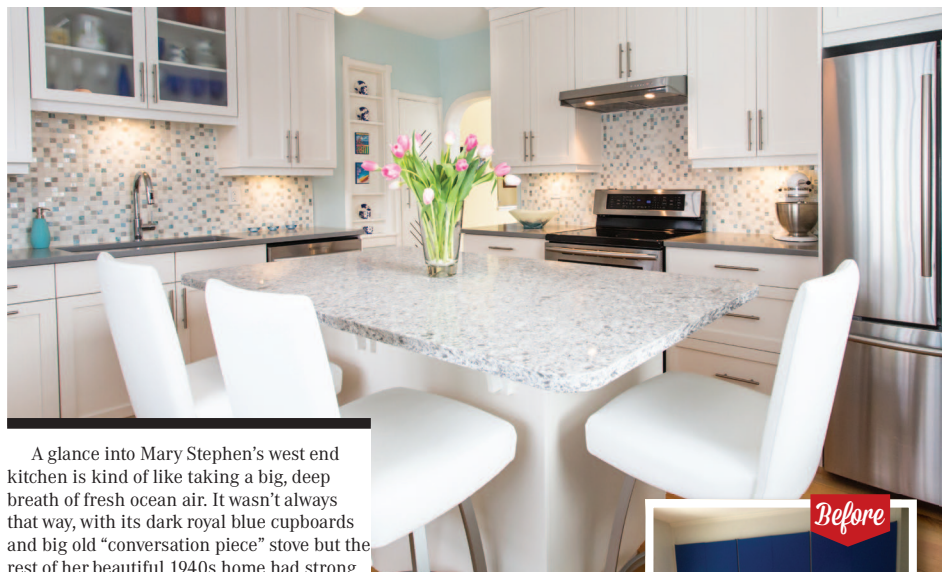
Caesarstone quartz
in Atlantic Salt



Bright idea: white cupboards reflect natural light

Stylish (and comfortable) stools from Zephyr Rug and Home

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52



A glance into Mary Stephen's west end kitchen is kind of like taking a big, deep breath of fresh ocean air. It wasn't always that way, with its dark royal blue cupboards and big old "conversation piece" stove but the rest of her beautiful 1940s home had strong bones begging for a kitchen update.

Stephen, who runs a Montessori School, knew she wanted a change. New appliances, a roomy sink and a functioning island were at the top of her priority list, but it wasn't until she met with Kitchen Design Plus' Louise O'Haran and Bonnita Mitchell that her dream kitchen took shape. "I thought I'd just do the minimum," says Stephen. "They didn't want to knock down walls, they did such a good plan for me that balanced between aesthetics and function."

"Our vision for the space was to have an open, updated-but-classic look to tie into the age of the home," says O'Haran. She and Mitchell teamed up with Pat McCarthy Renovations to refresh the space. "We wanted to lighten the space from the dark blue and it was on the northwest corner, so low-to-no natural light. By choosing the white cabinetry we were able to reflect what natural light we could get."

O'Haran and Mitchell set the tone for the re-imagined kitchen by taking hints from the rooms that surrounded it and their beautiful soft palette. Carefully planned lighting above the island and under the cabinetry added to the room's brightness, making it almost unrecognizable from the original space.

An Italian-made seaglass backsplash, Stephen's favourite colour blue and two types of quartz countertops from Caesarstone—a light grey and mottled grey and white, fittingly called Atlantic Salt—sealed the sleek and modern, but easy, breezy vibe of the kitchen. "You just feel like you're at the beach," says Stephen. Well that explains the fresh air.



photos Randal Tomada