



Meet the Causevic Family

By Cassandra Irving
Photos by Anne-Marie May

“He asked me out for dinner the next day as well and the rest is history,” Samira says with a laugh. The two have been happily married for more than 10 years and have settled into life in South Mississauga quite nicely.

“We really like the charm of the neighbourhood and really enjoy the people and neighbours,” says Samira, adding that they chose the location because it is close to the lake, good restaurants and has lots of trails and walkable places nearby.

Samira graduated from the UTM with an honors Bachelor of Arts and a double major in Political Science and Business Management. After graduation, she worked in the corporate world then joined Mario in running his design and build business once they were married.

The first addition to their family was Buddy, a golden retriever who is now 10 years old. Shortly after came their two children, Amanda who is in grade three and Nail who is in grade one. Mario says that one of his favourite parts of being their dad is watching them change and progress as they get older.

“I like to describe my kids as fire and water. They are very different, but their personalities complement each other. Amanda is hardworking and also hard-headed! She is passionate, very creative and a great negotiator. She makes sure that she gets what she has set her mind on,” says Mario proudly. “Nail, on the other hand is more laid back. He is very cool-headed and will often resolve conflict by laying down the facts. He is the joker in our family and makes us laugh often.”

Both kids have been playing the piano since they were four and are starting to find their specialities: Amanda loves to create intricate model buildings and structures and Nail enjoys soccer and tennis. Both of them love a good challenge.

“We recently went on vacation to Jamaica and climbed the Dunns River Falls together as

Mario and Samira Causevic grew up in Croatia and Bosnia, worlds away from the neighbourhoods of Mississauga Road. Today, they love living in what they describe as their “beautiful neighborhood” and have worked hard to build a life, a house and a business together.

Samira was born in what is today Bosnia and Herzegovina. She moved to Germany with her parents and younger brother when she was 10 years old and completed grade school in Germany before moving to Canada. She attended the University of Toronto’s Mississauga campus (UTM) and was always impressed by the beautiful scenery and the community.

“I had my eye on the area when I was going to school, and whenever I see the UTM bus, it brings back good memories for me from when I was completing my studies,” she says.

Mario grew up in Croatia, but has lived in Canada for the last 20 years. He met Samira through a mutual friend in the spring of 2000 and invited her to a concert for their first date.



a family. The kids were both immensley proud of themselves when they reached the top—it was by no means an easy climb!” says Samira, who was impressed by their tenacity.

When asked about the work/life balance, Mario admits it’s challenging, but says it’s worth it. He started his own construction business in 1996 and has worked hard to build it into the reputable design and build firm that it is today.

“My father brought me into the industry and taught me about work ethic, responsibility, being reliable and being there for my customers. Most importantly he taught me how to be meticulous and detail-oriented,” says Mario. “He passed away about 8 years ago, but he was active with the company for over

10 years in Canada before his passing and the values that he has instilled in me are still at the core of our company.”

Mario says that he enjoys working with clients in Mississauga as they are very unique and like to combine practicality with luxury in their designs. But of all the projects he has completed over the years, his favourite has been his own home.

“Building our current home has been the most rewarding experience. It was very personal, and we have put a lot of our own touches into it. We really enjoyed the process.”

To connect with Mario and Samira, email renovation@makiconstruction. Make sure to tell them Neighbours of Mississauga Road sent you!

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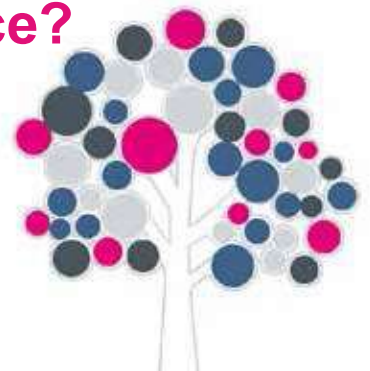
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