

Eco-friendly technologies and renewable energies have inspired life off the grid in all corners of Canada. Modern prefabricated cabins demand little of their natural surroundings. Sleek and strong, they can withstand heavy snow loads and drastic climate variations. The cabins juxtapose decisive design with the allure of a secluded escape for overtaxed city dwellers. Carving a sliver of rural paradise with minimal imprint has rehabilitated the original principles of prefab: efficiency of engineering and building processes, drastic reduction of waste, speed of construction, service to remote locations and, of course, a commitment to timeless form.

06 – **TAYLOR SMYTH ARCHITECTS, TORONTO**

Sunset Cabin (pictured), set on Lake Simcoe's southern shore, is a simple yet sophisticated private retreat: an insulated glass cabin enclosed on three sides in a cedar-slatted outer shell. The simplicity of Taylor Smyth Architects' design means that its prefabricated elements can be assembled on site in just ten days. www.taylor-smyth.com

07 – **BLUESKY MOD, TORONTO**

Hy Rosenberg and Richard Stark's instinct that Canadians would succumb to 'low-impact, high-design' cabin fever led them to call on a Canadian in Norway, architect Todd Saunders, to design the prototype for their cabin company. 'Todd's design feels very Canadian,' says Stark. 'It combines the simplicity of form found in Scandinavian architecture with a strong connection between interior and exterior.' The result is an eco-ethical modern masterpiece. www.blueskymod.com

08 – **LEVEL DESIGN, VANCOUVER**

Level Design's Brad Cameron has created the Still House, a custom-designed prefab post-and-beam home conceived by the architect as a paean to West Coast Zen and British Columbia wood. There are six models, single- or two-storey, while woods range from budget-conscious Glulam to salvaged old-growth softwood. State-of-the-art window walls offer a seamless connection to the landscape. www.leveldesign.ca

09 – **FORM & FOREST, VANCOUVER**

Launched this year by brothers Jeff and Ryan Jordan and design firm D'Arcy Jones Design, Form & Forest is a design-focused initiative for those looking to get off the grid and into the green as soon as possible. The prefabs ship easily to areas that are difficult to access and the team customises the units' exteriors for vistas, and to meet local building codes and site constraints. www.formandforest.com

Wallpaper*



06—09

Prefab four

These contemporary Canadian cabins flat-pack a punch