

# Hitch a lift

Sandra Seberras wanted to make it easier to travel to and from her boathouse, but she also wanted to keep the environmental impact to a minimum. Not an easy task considering her cottage is built on a very steep hill, where the vegetation is easily disturbed.

Cottage Lifts gave Sandra a solution which ticked both boxes. They installed a customized electric, remote controlled lift built neatly into the existing landscape. The lift's placement and design allow it to flow seamlessly with the surrounding environment.

Sandra calls the lift her Tesla and jokes that it's "great on gas." The comparison is apt: not only are they both powered by electricity, both are meticulously-crafted products with minimal environmental impacts.

"No trees were harmed to build this lift," says Sandra. "For such a large piece of equipment, it really ties in well with our cottage, the boathouse and the landscape. It's very low maintenance and easy to operate."

After 23 years spent travelling up and down 99 steps – often carrying heavy necessities – Sandra had the lift installed earlier this year. It runs from her cottage's lower deck to her boathouse and back again, while providing stellar views of the lake at different angles.

"It's a really enjoyable ride visually," says Sandra.

"Especially at sunrise or sunset. As family and friends are getting older – plus with little kids visiting – the lift makes our cottage experience more enjoyable."

Sandra, who has owned the hillside cottage since 1992, is also pleased that Cottage Lifts will perform annual maintenance to ensure all is in working order.

"They'll make sure the lift is safe and we're good to go," she says. "It's another reason

I'm happy to work with the Cottage Lifts team."

Creating mobility solutions for his clients is Cottage Lifts owner Alvin Allen's speciality. With over 25 years in the business, he continually produces quality lifts which are specifically designed to meet each person's wants and needs. Providing greater accessibility for cottagers and their guests – especially those with limited mobility – installing a lift also adds resale value to your property.

Whether electric or gas-powered, Cottage Lifts products can carry between

500 and 1,000 pounds per trip. Alvin's team has installed lifts throughout Muskoka, Simcoe and Georgian Bay. They've even made it to the Smoky Mountains of Georgia and the Finger Lakes of New York. Cottage Lifts provides a 10-year warranty on all weldments and installation, as well as providing emergency service if required.

"Our lifts can be designed to fit any property," says Alvin. "We have basic lifts which go along a gentle incline to those requiring 180-feet of track on a steep rocky slope." **DS**

BY CHRIS OCCHIUZZI

## COTTAGE LIFTS ENTERPRISES

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Sandra Seberras (right), her daughter Cheryl (left) and their friends Kent and Juliet