



*Loewen*

# PERSPECTIVES

## TOFINO PANORAMA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, BC

Leith Anderson Architecture was established in 1984 and has been involved in a number of residential, commercial, resort and educational projects in Vancouver and its surrounding islands. The firm is committed to working openly with clients and preserving the natural environment as much as possible.

Back in 1996, Leith Anderson drew some preliminary sketches for a property located in Rosie Bay Estates, a beautiful subdivision in the coastal bare land strata of British Columbia. Unexpectedly, the buyers pulled out and the process came to an end — leaving only a bench cut from the rock bluff.

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After more than 10 years on the market, the lot was purchased by

a couple who had fallen in love with Tofino years earlier. They decided to build a home to act as a gathering place for the entire extended family. The new owners were referred to Leith and he was happy to find that they shared his vision for the space.

Overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the site offered a beautiful panorama of some of the best surfing spots on the coast. The lot was steep, narrow and heavily treed — with an especially narrow ocean-facing western end. There was also the bench cut out of the bluff over ten years previous. This bench helped inspire Leith, along with the owners, to set out on

an architectural mission to take full advantage of all the incredible views from the 100-foot elevation.

Like all of his projects, Leith designed the home to connect with its surroundings, yet have minimum impact on the natural environment. As a part of his practice, Leith participated throughout the construction process to ensure the vision was brought to life. To embrace the natural views, the design featured three walls that were composed almost entirely of glass. Although this presented a challenge, Leith worked closely with Loewen through the architectural process arriving at





the perfect solution. Loewen helped Leith and the contractors, Coastal Construction from Victoria to deliver the broadest possible views while meeting the required wind and structural loads.

The Loewen windows and doors set the tone for the house, from the Douglas Fir interior to the West Coast artwork. Because three of

the walls were glass, a solid timber frame was used and a theme of strong horizontal planes evolved to tie into the window system. This alignment allowed Leith to create a language of rhythm and proportional volumes.

By the end of the two-year project, Tofino Panorama had evolved into something substantially more

than a home nestled in a rock bluff, it included a coach house and a studio house that overlooked the property and the bays from a higher elevation. The project won several awards and is a great example of how dedication from Loewen helped fulfill Leith's vision from within. ■



#### LOEWEN PRODUCTS USED

Loewen Sliding Patio doors bring the outside in with style — the epitome of leisure living.

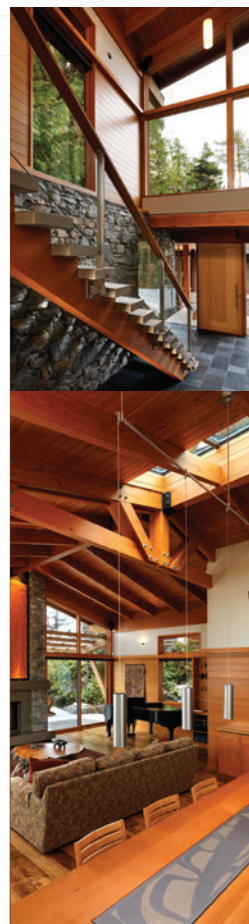
Functioning like large moving windows, Loewen Sliding Patio doors open up the walls in your home to new possibilities — imagine our spectacular seven-panel, 24' wide model, for example.

To make our doors safe and secure, Loewen uses laminated sash construction, thick, tempered safety

glass and smooth tandem rollers. For added security, Loewen builds an anti-lift device into every patio door.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 1/4" thick panels
- Up to seven panels wide
- Tandem ball bearing rollers
- Anti-lift device
- Zero clearance required
- Integral sliding screens available
- Optional multipoint locking hardware
- Optional triple glazing



#### ABOUT LOEWEN PERSPECTIVES

Loewen Perspectives showcases the dedication and craft of the passionate design professionals who use Loewen products. Our goal is to provide a snapshot of the process and materials that go into creating great buildings and the people who make these projects come to life. If you're a passionate firm looking to share your vision, we'd love to hear from you. Email [perspectives@loewen.com](mailto:perspectives@loewen.com) to begin the experience.



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