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A Peninsula Home Quite Unlike Any Other

February 21, 2011, Saanichton, B.C. – British Columbia’s first Ecolog custom home has received the final stamp of approval from the authorities. Located in Saanichton on Stelly’s Cross Road, the home’s unique square log exterior attracted much attention during construction and will now serve as both a home and a show home for local business Van Isle Ecolog Homes, Inc.

Hermann Thoene, founder and owner of Van Isle Ecolog Homes, first learned about the Ecolog building concept when visiting Ontario’s Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve, Canada’s first FSC certified sustainably managed forest. The forest’s selective logging operation has provided logs for more than 100 Ecolog homes, cottages and even some commercial buildings in Ontario.

Now authorized to market the Ecolog concept in Western Canada, Thoene realized that he first needed to build a home locally to test the waters, or, more to the point, the concept’s compatibility with the BC building code. As it turns out, the construction method not only meets all the requirements, the home on the Saanich Peninsula actually exceeds the energy performance requirements prescribed in the BC building code.

Logs for the west coast Ecolog homes are harvested from sustainable forests on Vancouver Island and milled in the Cowichan Valley. “Studies from Natural Resources Canada show that the ecological footprint of wood as a building material is smaller than the footprint of other building materials.” says Thoene, “By buying and second growth logs from the Island and using local suppliers, we create a market for value-added forestry products and also minimize the impact of transportation.”

Ecolog homes’ outer walls are constructed from alternating horizontal layers of and 8" square timbers and 2" insulation. The insulation layer gets covered with chinking, which provides an air and moisture seal, and creates a beautiful pioneer style look for the homes. The interior walls are built as standard frame construction, allowing for a highly versatile interior design that can combine the rustic log building feel with a modern interior.

Another attractive feature is the price tag: Ecolog homes are no more expensive than comparable stick frame homes, and much more affordable than most other log homes, make a log home an affordable dream for many!

Thoene is now ready to take Ecolog homes to market on Vancouver Island and beyond. Interest has been growing from prospective home and cottage owners. The bets are on where the next Ecolog home appears.

[About Van Isle Ecolog Homes](#)

EcoLog custom homes combine traditional pioneer style log construction and design techniques with modern materials, producing a log home that will stand the test of time.

- The concept was developed in 1998 by Ecolog Building Concepts, a Canadian company which has since built more than 100 Ecolog homes in Ontario.
- Ecolog homes are now available in Western Canada from Van Isle Ecolog Homes, Inc. in Victoria, BC.
- Ecolog homes can be erected by any experienced construction company, no special log home experience is required. Van Isle Ecolog Homes works with the customer and/or their general contractor to develop custom designs and detailed plans for their home, cottage or commercial building. A complete log building kit for the outer walls and roof is then prepared and delivered to the construction site.
- Van Isle Ecolog Homes uses sustainably harvested Hemlock or Fir trees from Vancouver Island and works with local suppliers.

For more information or to arrange a tour of the EcoLog show home, visit www.ecolog-homes.ca, e-mail Hermann@ecolog-homes.ca or call 250-590-9529.

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