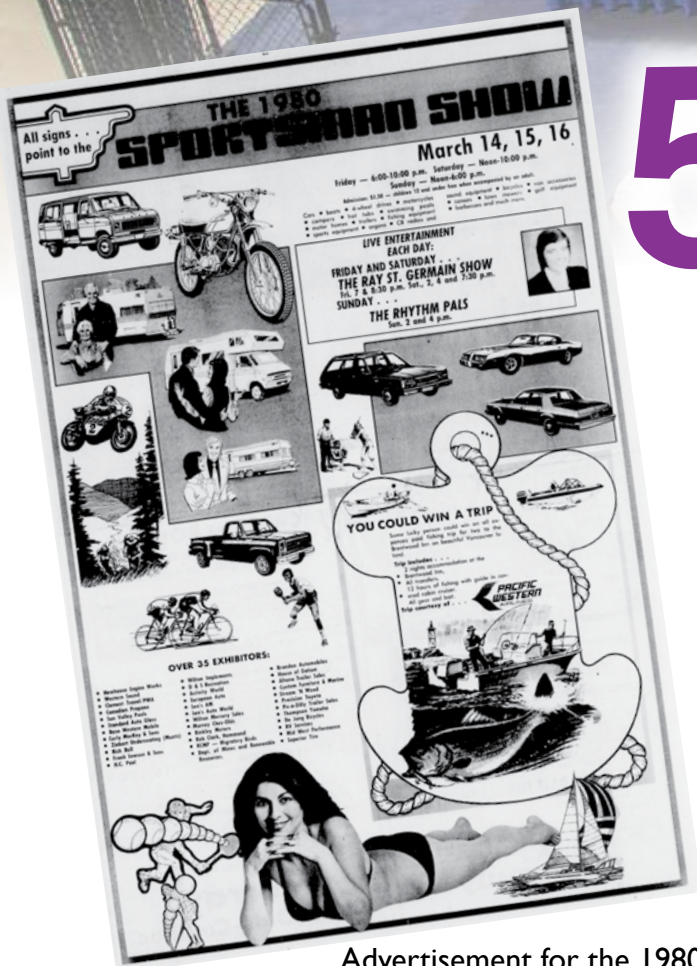


# Feature Business

By Wanda Kurchaba

Photography by Sandy Black



Advertisement for the 1980 Sportsman Show - Brandon Sun

## 50 Brandon Home & Leisure Show

It's 1966. The Montreal Canadiens win the Stanley Cup, Caesars Palace opens in Las Vegas, The Beatles end their U.S. concert tour in San Francisco (which is their last live performance), Canadian figure skater Kurt Browning is born on June 18, Star Trek debuts on NBC-TV, the Canada Pension Plan is introduced and mini skirts are the fashion trend of the year.



Here in the Wheat City, the Brandon Sportsman's Show was held for the first time! The event, which today is known as the Brandon Home & Leisure Show (BH&L Show), began as a modest trade show in less than 10,000 square feet.

Clair Murray of Murray Chev Olds was the founder of the event, but after two years, Glen Lawson of Frank Lawson & Sons came on board and added boats and marine-related products.

"Fifty years, for any type of business, is a benchmark that is not a frivolous existence. A lot of our past and long-time exhibitors are really keen on celebrating the 50th anniversary with us this year. People realize the value of it and they are saying, 'we have to be in it because it's the 50th'. Everyone's really excited about this year's event," said Dave Melcosky, Manager of the Brandon Home and Leisure Show.

Manse Binkley, Bill Lawson, Bob Lawson, Don Main and Doug Murray took over the BH&L Show in 1979. Eventually, brothers and business partners Don and Ron

Kille joined Don Main and Doug Murray as owners and the four businessmen managed the show for a number of years. Today, it is owned by the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

To recognize Clair Murray for his innovation and willingness to take a risk on this new venture, the Murray family will be presented with an award in his honour during this year's event.



Dave Melcosky, "Brandon Sportsman's Show", 1977, Keystone Centre

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We're grateful to everyone who played a role in building the show over the years, but it was Clair Murray who really took a chance and tried something new. I'm not sure that even he would have imagined that it would still be running 50 years later," said Dave.

The BH&L Show has grown 10 times its original size in its 50 years of existence, it now uses 100,000 square feet of

space in the Keystone Centre and attracts close to 11,000 visitors over the course of the three-day event. Along with the size, the variety of exhibitors has changed as well.

In addition to cars, boats and recreational vehicles, today at the BH&L Show you'll find products and services for do-it-yourself home repair, decorating and furnishing, exterior improvements, patios, hot tubs, home entertainment and landscaping. You'll also see the latest in lawn and garden equipment, travel trailers, water crafts, and a wide selection of products for your favourite hobby or sport.

While Dave has been the force in expanding and building on the event in the last seven years in his role as show manager, his history with the BH&L Show actually dates back to the era when bell-bottoms, disco and The Village People were popular.

"When we started Stream 'n Wood back in the mid-70s it was a natural at that point to be part of the show, because it was called the Brandon Sportsman Show and was strictly recreational equipment. Of course, Stream 'n Wood has always carried canoes, kayaks and such and it was a good fit," said Dave.

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“Ironically, the year we were first involved was 1977 and the event was held in the Convention Hall which is just 10,000 square feet. Today, we’re just shy of 100,000 square feet, the growth of the show over the years has been quite amazing.”

As an added highlight for the 50th anniversary celebration, the Showcase Stage is being reintroduced where exhibitors will have the opportunity to showcase their products and services to visitors in attendance. There will be an excellent variety of presentations on everything from interior design to landscaping and cabinetry.

“The Home Show is an interactive show, I like to describe it as one of the biggest box stores in Manitoba. People are coming in to look at products and to find service providers. The opportunity for the exhibitors is tremendous - selling is the name of the game, making contacts is the name of the game; it’s about building a network of potential customers. For those attending the event, it’s a fantastic opportunity to see what the latest trends and innovations are.”



## Official Charity of the Brandon Home & Leisure Show

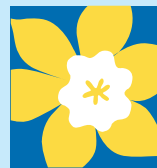
**K**nown for having everything anyone would ever want to know about your current or future home and now the Brandon Home and Leisure Show partnering with the Canadian Cancer Society to take on cancer.

Home Show general manager Dave Melcosky said in addition to increasing awareness about the dangers of radon gas, the show’s timing creates a wonderful opportunity to community-build and increase Brandon’s engagement in the cancer fight. He said the Show has designated the Canadian Cancer Society its official charity of choice.

“Due to the fact that April is Daffodil Month across Canada and the Show is in April or late March, it was a natural partnership,” Melcosky said.

Karrie Smyth, manager of the provincial Daffodil Campaign praised Melcosky and the Home Show for showing leadership and commitment to helping Manitoba cancer patients and their families.

## About the Canadian Cancer Society



**Canadian Cancer Society** **Société canadienne du cancer**

The Canadian Cancer Society is the largest national charitable funder of cancer research in Canada. Thanks to our generous donors and our rigorous, gold-standard peer-review process, we are funding hundreds of researchers in universities, hospitals and research centres across Canada. The Society has the most impact, against the most cancers, in the most communities in Canada. Together we are discovering new ways to change cancer forever. For more information, visit [cancer.ca](http://cancer.ca) or call our toll-free bilingual Cancer Information Service at 1-888-939-3333 (TTY 1-866-786-3934). Make your gift today at [cancer.ca](http://cancer.ca).

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Before → After

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Before → After

Commercial/Residential Polyaspartic Floor Coating



Before → After

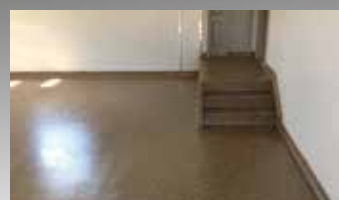
Steps with Polyaspartic Floor Coating



Decks



Sidewalks



Garage Floors



Fridges & Beer Kegs

# 50 Brandon Home & Leisure Show

## Show Guide 2016 Exhibitors List

For more show information, visit the Brandon Home Show online at [www.brandonhomeshow.ca](http://www.brandonhomeshow.ca).

### Kinsmen Arena

- Action Power
- Enns Brothers
- Kelleher Ford
- Krevco Lifestyles
- Murray Auto Centre

### UCT Pavilion

- 3% Realty Solution
- Alternative Landscaping Ltd
- Armital Jewelry
- Asessippi Parkland Tourism
- Blinds by Anita
- Chocolate Moose Fudge Factory
- Creasy Hot Tubs and Billiards
- Duraco Windows Brandon
- Epicure
- Forsythe Technical Design and Consulting
- Glass by DeeSign
- Hamiota Economic Development
- Harval Homes
- Harvest Chiropractic
- Infinity Kitchen and Bath
- Investors Group Financial Services Inc
- Janzen's Paint & Decorating Ltd
- Jenkins The Flooring People
- Keystone Contractors and Builders
- Keystone Geo Exchange
- Kitchen Gallery on 9th
- Louisiana Pacific Canada Ltd.
- Municipality of Killarney TM
- Municipality of Killarney TM
- My IT Source
- Njoi Santa Fe beach residences Honduras

- Noble Inn
- Norwex
- Oak Island Resort
- RBC Mortgage Specialist
- Redfern Enterprises Ltd
- Rivers-Daly CDC
- Royal LePage/Martin-Liberty Realty
- Scentsy Fragrance
- Sleep Inn and Suites
- Student Works Painting
- Sutton Harrison Realty
- Treehouse Furniture & Mattresses
- Turtle Mountain Community Dev
- V.K. Naturals Aromatherapy
- Victoria Landing Retirement Re
- Visit Minot
- We Care Health Services
- Westman Communications Group

### Curling Club

- A&L Get Active
- Aqua Splash Pools and Spas
- Avida Developments Inc
- Brooks Masonary
- C&C Rentals
- C.S.A .Construction ltd
- Con-Cor Homes
- Cruze Window Cleaning
- Elite Sunrooms
- Glendale Electric
- Heath Cabinetry
- Horizon Storage Sheds
- Keller Developments
- King-Stone Health & Wellness
- Livingstone Landscaping Ltd

- Mobile One Marine
- Premium Coatings
- ReedHein & Associates
- Suncoast Enclosures
- Thrive Life Food
- Tourism Moose Jaw
- Valentus
- Westman Mobile Hotwash
- Windy Acres RV and Storage
- Hispano Bakery
- Pascas Race Cars
- Tupperware

### Manitoba Room

- Aerus Electrolux
- Allen Leigh Security and Communications
- Arctic Spass Manitoba
- Best Buy Housing Inc
- Best Western Plus Pembina Inn
- Budget Blinds of Southwest MB
- Camelot Personal Care
- Chickadee Sales
- City of Brandon Planning&Building
- Coldspring
- Colored Shale Products
- CWD Satellite
- D and B Sprinklers
- Daughter On Call
- Duffy's Electric
- Elegance In Stone
- Fashion Trendz
- Good to Go Home Check
- Grandeur Housing Ltd.
- Greenedge Landscaping
- Heat Innovations Inc

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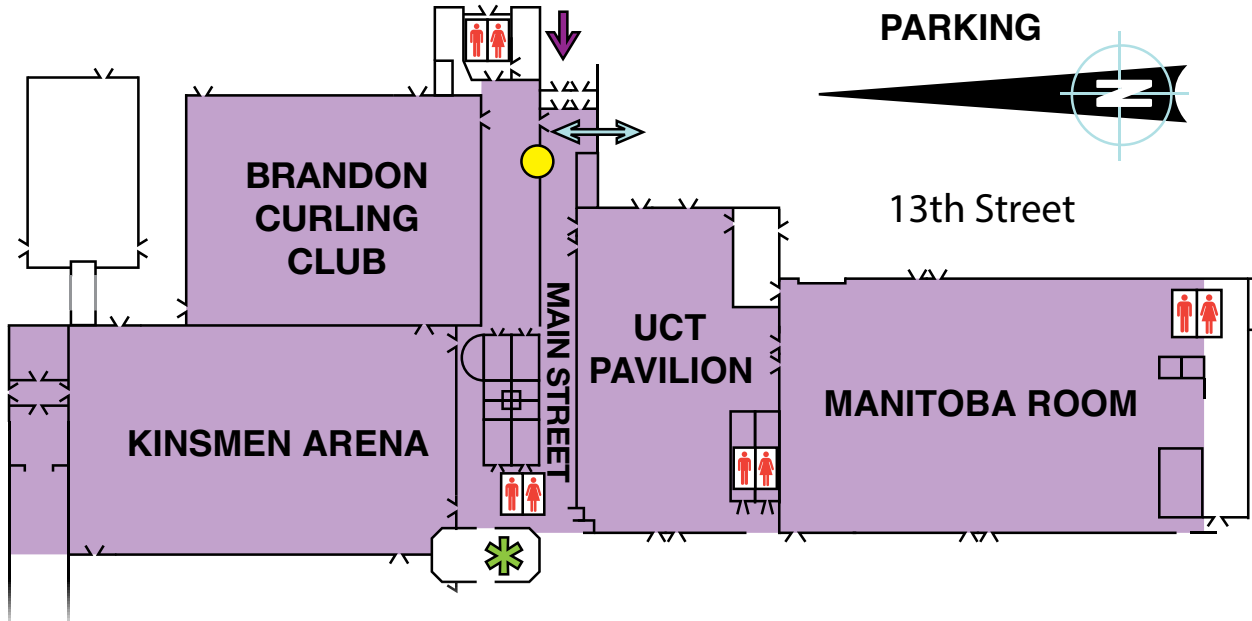
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### Brandon Home Show Main Entrance



- Hepson Equipment Inc
- Image Landscaping
- Isagenix
- J&M Industries Ltd
- Jeff's Clean Cut Yard Care
- JK Rubber Surfacing
- Jo-Brook Outdoors
- KDL Furniture Wholesale
- Kims Cotton Candy
- Lance Wagner Plumbing and Heating Ltd
- MTS
- Nu Trend Kitchens
- Ocean Sales Ltd
- Our Farm Green Houses
- Pacific Homes
- Pampered Chef

- Paradise Geothermal
- Pelican Landing Acres Inc.
- Polar Windows
- Rolling Spokes
- Sleep Country Canada
- Souris/Glenwood CDC
- Strictly Amish Furniture
- Summers Unlimited
- Sunrise Framing Ltd.
- Sunset Creek Flooring Cabinets & Design
- Sunset Gourmet
- Superior Wall Systems
- Taylor Jackson Financial
- The Green Spot
- The Natural Solution for Hot Tubs

- Timber + Lace Interior Design
- Titanium Exclusive Cookware
- Town of Melita
- Urban Theory Interior Design
- Virden Recreation & Watersports
- Waves Leisure
- Westman Custom Cabinets and Garage Interi
- Winmar Property Restoration

### Main Street Hallway

- Habitat for Humanity
- Brandon Tourism
- Cancer Society
- Concessions
- Edward Jones