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With a daily volume of clientele attending business conferences, plus international travelers and vacationing families, this resort is a revolving door. To keep up with a growing clientele, the Nottawasaga Inn maintains its appeal through renovations that deliver the highest quality of service to guests.

Sales director Sylvia Biffis says that renovations are a "non-stop job" in the hotel industry. As the property is over 40 years old, she felt that it was time to upgrade the inn's lobby.

"All clientele like to see reinvestment," Biffis says of the high traffic area. "There is a natural wear and tear, so the goal of investing in a major overhaul is to have an area that will last for another 10 to 15 years."

The inn has a high-turnaround occupancy of 269 bedrooms and 36 conference rooms that host corporate functions, but also a wide array of indoor and outdoor attractions. Nottawasaga Inn is the only hotel in North America with two NHL-sized ice pads and soccer fields on site. With 45 holes of golf, two swimming pools, a recreation centre, indoor mini golf and spa, there is no room for boredom.

The resort also offers premium dining from three restaurants, all of which integrate locally-sourced food, from freshly baked bread to the butter and eggs of Alliston's farmers. But Biffis believes that Canadian now culture extends beyond the attractions of the resort and resonates in its new renovation.

"The designers came up with a beautiful concept of canoe paddles that symbolizes our unique surrounding of the Nottawasaga Valley and river, reflecting the river into the lobby," she says of how the abstract wall art maintains history while complimenting modern, clean lines.

Designed by Toronto's Giancarlo Garafalo Architect Inc., the reconstruction of the Nottawasaga lobby incorporates select materials native to its surroundings. Excluding flooring with imported Italian stone, the entrance is enhanced by durable wood paneling, a fireplace with stones indigenous to the Algonquin area, and custom-crafted chandeliers from Quebec form an elegant completion.

Although Biffis drew upon local perspectives for design inspiration, she was inspired after visiting cutting-edge hotels in Miami and New York while vacationing with her husband.

"The smallest details caught my eye," she says of pairing materials like metal with stone. "We brought these concepts back, saw how they fit our environment and created something unique."

This is important for Nottawasaga Inn, as their clientele spans a vast range. From the German National soccer team to an industrial manufacturing company from Japan, Biffis and her team strive to welcome international visitors with stylish and warm hospitality.

"Every day is exciting because it is a challenge to meet the needs of different guests," she says.

Biffis believes that being successful in catering to a diverse crowd is pairing "up-to-date design with great service" to create a wonderful environment close to the city. As the establishment remains family owned and operated, she says that the true goal of Nottawasaga Inn is to create memorable moments for others.

"We are not only a destination for a one-time conference, but for families that come back year after year," she says. "For those of you that haven't yet discovered Nottawasaga Resort, come find out why we're here."





