

Couple finds image of love in lakeside living

New rural development offers large lots, scenic vistas and urban convenience

BY FHS STAFF

The natural environment and its preservation to accommodate country residential living with a beautiful lake as an additional amenity, is what a new development an hour north of Saskatoon offers to anyone who appreciates that lifestyle. This rural subdivision depicts the literal meaning of its name, Image D'Amour, "image of love."

Len Cantin and Glenna Frizzell focused on this theme throughout the development of Image D'Amour on D'Amour Lake. Although the property consists of approximately 195 acres, the subdivision is restricted to 36 acreage lots that range in size from 2.5 to 7.3 acres. The remaining area is dedicated to environmental reserve to ensure that it remains in a natural state in perpetuity. Wildlife, bird species from hummingbirds to eagles, a variety of edible wild berries and even hazelnuts are abundant throughout the property. Northern pike, walleye and perch provide

for exciting game fishing in the lake.

The couple is committed to keeping the development small and pristine, offering the best of year-round or seasonal lakeside living on acreage properties.

"We saw the potential of doing a development restricted to a number of acreage properties that would respect the environment," Len says. "We want to keep it as rural and natural as possible."

Why do they care so much? Because Len and Glenna are not only the developers, they will be residents. The couple are currently planning their own dream home in the 36-lot neighbourhood.

An emotional dedication

They also have sentimental reasons. Len's grandfather, Edward Cantin, homesteaded on the land and later his father, Albert

Cantin and mother, Nora, farmed this land. Len spent his early childhood at their home on the north shore of the lake but the family sold their farm in 1952 and moved to Prince Albert.

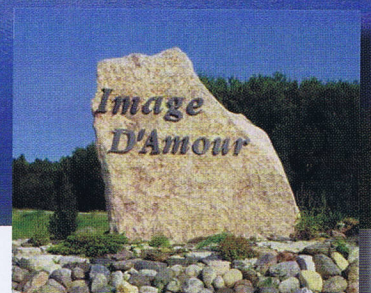
It was strictly by chance Len and Glenna were able to get it back in 2006, but it's almost as if it was fated.

"It was only about four years ago that in passing down the highway here, we noticed a real estate sign offering it for sale and that is where our dream began," Len explains.

What they found was paradise just about an hour from each of the three major centres of Saskatoon, Prince Albert and North Battleford, surrounded by recreational opportunities galore, including golf, snowmobiling, hiking and fishing. They also struck liquid gold in the form of an aquifer for potable water. The



LEN CANTIN AND
GLENN A FRIZZELL





LEN CANTIN WITH MOTHER, NORA CANTIN



couple immediately got to work, surveying the lots, building the roads and preparing the services.

Then it was time for a special ceremony honouring Len's father and grandfather by naming the internal roads after them—A J Cantin Drive and E Cantin Lane.

"Two years ago, we held the second day of the Cantin family reunion out on the development," Glenna relates. "We had an unveiling ceremony and Len's mother, who was 88 at the time, provided the honour in front of the family. It was very touching and emotional."

The best of both worlds

While Len and Glenna are committed to keeping the development rural, that doesn't mean roughing it. All the lots are fully serviced for power, natural gas and telephone, all underground so as not to mar the beautiful topography and scenic views. Each lot has its own potable water well. This is to accommodate the upscale quality of the homes being built at the development. Marketing began in earnest in 2010. The homes currently built and being built range in size from 1,550 to 3,200 square feet. As much as the developers intend to preserve the natural environment, Len and Glenna are equally adamant about ensuring the quality of homes built at this development.

In addition to the development's proximity to the three cities, the towns of Leask, Shell Lake and Blaine Lake are just minutes away, providing access to a full range of services including: gas, groceries, restaurants, churches, vehicle maintenance, schools, hockey and curling rinks, RCMP, ambulance and much more. Plus, the roads within Image D'Amour will be maintained by the R.M. of Leask, so residents can count on snow-clearing in the winter and maintenance year-round.

D'Amour Lake itself is a hidden gem. Spring-fed, covering nearly 200 acres, stocked with walleye biannually by the province and surrounded by natural vegetation and unique topography, it offers stunning views and great fishing.

Glenna says all of this, plus nearby

Memorial Lake Regional Park, Spiritwood and Martin's Lake Regional Park, is attracting interest in Image D'Amour from a wide range of potential residents including professionals, young families, empty nesters and retirees.

If you've ever even thought about how great it would be to enjoy all the benefits of lake country living while still having access to all the conveniences of the city, you owe it to yourself to give Len and Glenna a call, take a short drive out of town and see Image D'Amour for yourself.

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