



RETAIL THERAPY

The new look of Canada

A husband and wife team redefine homegrown casual for homebodies

For Province of Canada founders Jeremy Watt and Julie Brown, Canadian fashion has evolved well beyond the stereotype of lumberjack plaid. Focusing on elevated basics for men, women and children, their designs are inspired by their relaxed lifestyle, a feeling they've captured with the hashtag #CanadianHomebody. "It's kind of how we like to live, and it finds its way into the brand," says Brown, citing fellow Canada-founded brand Club Monaco as a source of inspiration.

The pair met in 2005 and eventually decided to turn their shared love of design into a clothing line. While doing research on what to call their company, they discovered that Province of Canada was the name given to the union of Upper and Lower Canada in the 1840s. "It spoke to Julie and I, one being from Quebec and one being from Ontario," Watt says.

Province of Canada was launched in 2014. All pieces are made in Canada and the two make a point of tapping into the strengths of the existing manufacturing industry with an expansion into housewares. "With our cushions and throws, we were able to use their machinery even though [our manufacturer] had never made something like that before," Brown says.

Last year, the pair opened their first retail space in Toronto's Leslieville neighbourhood. "It's minimal, there's a bit of a Scandinavian influence," Brown says of their monochromatic decor, something visitors often describe as cottage chic. "We would paint our cottage all white." Their designs are also available to order on their website.

Province of Canada, 1004 Queen St. E., Toronto, 416-551-1229, provinceofcanada.com.

— CAITLIN AGNEW

Special to The Globe and Mail

IN STOCK



La Canadienne Tee in White, \$42.



Logo Crewneck in Heather Grey, \$108.



Everyday Leggings in Olive, \$58.

Style news

Mulberry has relaunched its My Local series online. The lineup of musical performances and conversations has moved from locales in London, Tokyo, Seoul, Sydney and New York to live streams from the private homes of musicians, poets and artists. Performers in this year's lineup include Joy Crookes, Alan Power and Arlo Parks. My Local is part of the British fashion brand's Take Root, Branch Out campaign, which features commissions, collaborations and activities designed to unite and lift the spirits of its customer base. For more information, visit Mulberry's Instagram page, @mulberryengland.

Polaroid has launched an autofocus instant analog camera called Polaroid Now. This model has a newly developed autofocus lens system, longer-lasting battery, accurate flash and a more functional design easily used by photographers at any skill level. For a limited time, the Now is available in red, orange, yellow, green and blue. Black and white options will be available on a continuing basis. This new product coincides with Polaroid's rebranding from Polaroid Originals to Polaroid, reflecting a revival since the company paused the production of instant film in 2008. For more information and to purchase the Polaroid Now, visit polaroid.com.

A group of luxury watch companies has announced they're leaving the Baselworld watch and jewellery trade show to launch their own. Rolex, Patek Philippe, Chanel, Chopard and Tudor have decided to create a new watch trade show with the Fondation de la Haute Horlogerie. The show will be held in early April, 2021, at Geneva's Palexpo convention centre with the goal of creating a professional platform that can meet future challenges in the watchmaking industry. Further details, including the name of the show and any additional participants, will be announced at a later date.

Canadian fashion brands continue to build community support during the pandemic. Outerwear brand Thermo Kota (thermakota.com) has gone indoors with the new Kokkur apron; 15 per cent of apron sales will be donated to the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto. John Fluevog Shoes (fluevog.com) has created a limited-edition shoe inspired by B.C. Chief Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry. All of the presale proceeds from the shoes will be donated to Food Banks B.C. And as part of its Daily Hero project, jewellery brand Biko (ilovebiko.com) has been giving frontline workers a Biko item of their choosing. Until May 15, 15 per cent of online sales will be donated to Second Harvest.

— C.A.

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As the film industry hits pause, director Atom Egoyan is binge-watching a backlog of shows

I find myself in this strange disassociation between two realities. On one hand, we don't know how the [film production] industry is going to reorganize after this. Many productions are delayed - and may not be reconstructed - and thousands are out of work. On the other hand, here we are - myself included - voraciously consuming the fruits of our labour, binge-watching all these shows that come from an industry that has closed down.

Arsinée [Khanjian] and I have been watching this Israeli series, *Fauda*, which is incredibly intense, and I got caught up on *Ozark*. I also rewatched Ingmar Bergman's *The Seventh Seal*, which is set during the bubonic plague, as well as live productions of Peter Sellars's *St. Matthew Passion* and *The Ring Cycle* from the Met. You go down these rabbit holes because you have the time and they lead you some place else.

All the things I had on a list, I can finally indulge in and not feel like I'm playing hooky, because we're all playing hooky. I'm still working on a script but, like everything else in my life at the moment, it somehow feels like I've been given extra time because the society I live in has come to a standstill.

Thankfully I wasn't shooting, but [COVID-19] has affected my film [*Guest of Honour*], which was set for theatrical release this spring. It has been put on hold and I don't know if it will be released because there's such a backlog. But in Sweden it [went] ahead with subtitles on April 19. It seems surreal and reckless but it's happening. And I'm grateful.

— AS TOLD TO GAYLE MacDONALD



TINA ROWDEN

RIITUAL



What's the best way to do a pedicure at home?

Given that our feet carry us through life, it's a shame that foot care is so often perceived as an indulgence, rather than a part of daily self-care.

Michelle El-Chacra, a veteran aesthetician at Spa St. James at the Ritz-Carlton Montreal, says an at-home pedicure can give the same rejuvenating benefits as one at the spa. Begin by removing any nail polish from your toenails before soaking feet in warm water for five to 10 minutes. For an aromatherapy bonus, add a few drops of an essential oil such as tea tree oil, which has antibacterial properties, invigorating peppermint or relaxing lavender.

Once the skin has softened, exfoliate bottoms of feet with a pumice stone and then use an exfoliating scrub all over feet, including toes and around the cuticles (if you don't have one on hand, DIY a batch at home using sugar and oil). Toenails should be cut straight across, never at a curve, which can lead to ingrown nails, and edges should be filed. Use a toothpick to gently push cuticles and clean under the nails. Finally, apply a rich moisturizer. "Really take the time to massage your feet and give them the love they deserve," El-Chacra says.

— C.A.

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Need some advice about your skin and hair care routines? Send your questions to ritual@globeandmail.com.



Cake Cake Walk Rich & Reviving Foot Pretty Creme, \$8 through cakebeauty.com.