



Aquariums By Design ~ Keeping Up with Baden's Fish Guy



by Barry Fisher, DECEMBER 2011

Stace Bleich's love for fish and aquariums came at an early age because Stace's father always had fish tanks in his home. His first part-time job was at an aquarium store in Cambridge and, after graduating from school, Stace worked full-time at a fish supply store in Kitchener. He eventually left the store and created Aquariums by Design.

Today Aquariums by Design is Canada's largest aquarium maintenance and design company serving most of central and southern Ontario. The company has six employees that service, design, and custom-build aquariums for residences, nursing homes, banks, and retail locations, including dentists and professional offices.

Stace's largest account is the Bass Pro Shop in Vaughan, Ontario. His team visits there Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week to service the 38,000-gallon main tank and the 10,000-gallon river tank that runs through the store. Each Wednesday is "Dive Day," the team deep clean the tanks while outfitted with scuba gear.

Aquariums by Design has been operating out of the basement of his house in Baden with large tanks and cleaning supplies stored there. Now he has taken the next step in the business by opening a 2,500 square foot store at 668 Erb Street West (the corner of Erb Street and Ira Needles at the Canadian Tire Plaza). The store's grand opening was on December 10th, and Stace and wife Jamie would like to invite everyone to check out their new venture.

The new store will carry fresh and salt-water fish and aquariums up to 180 gallons (larger custom-made aquariums are on request). The new store also sells all of the necessary supplies that are needed, such as lighting systems, filtration kits, and supplies for outdoor fishponds. The store is designed to be a bright, fun place for families to come in and build their aquariums. There is a 1,000 gallon Shark and Sting Ray tank in the middle of the store where sharks will grow up to three feet in length. This will be a one-stop shop for your entire aquarium needs. Stace has left space at the back of the store for their design business.

For more information visit www.aquariumsbydesign.ca or visit them on FaceBook. Drop into the store to say hello. You will find many surprises in the new store.

