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Vancouver boasts more than 1,000 laneway house permits

More than 1,000 laneway house permits have been issued in Vancouver since they became legal in 2009, according to a news release issued over the weekend. Since the program began until July of this year, 1,049 new laneway housing permits were issued. Last year, 354 permits were issued, up from the 192 issued in 2010. The city heralded the numbers as evidence of its commitment to affordable housing. Michael Lyons, vice-president of marketing for Smallworks, a builder of laneway homes in Vancouver, said last year that at least half his customers are building the small houses at the back of their lots for the next generation. "They can't afford to buy in the neighbourhood where they grew up. People want to stay close to their family," he said. The cost to build a laneway home is usually between \$250,000 and \$270,000; that price includes pre-construction costs of \$11,500, excavation and site work of \$30,000 to \$35,000 and another \$175,000-\$200,000 for the construction, Lyons said.

Mike Hager, Vancouver Sun

LANEWAY HOMES IN VANCOUVER | A SAMPLING



Smallworks built this laneway house in the 2100 block on East 8th.



Alexis Lum outside his laneway home.



This Dunbar Laneway house is by Frits de Vries Architect Ltd.



A laneway home was built in the 4600-block of West 11 Ave.

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