

## Big City Shopping Close to Home

Think you have to head to a big city to get great home décor? You might be surprised at what you can find in your own backyard. If you're looking for something original and different, check out these stores that rank in my favourites for local shopping.

### Conestogo Mercantile

Conestogo Mercantile is NOT your average home store. If you live in the Waterloo-Wellington region, and haven't been to check out their store, drop what you're doing, and GO! Located at 1857 Sawmill Road #2 in Conestogo, they have been told for years that they're different, and they love it. Everything they carry is fun, and somehow they manage to always keep ahead of the trends. In addition to home décor, they also carry a variety of handbags and fashion accessories, as well as many unique baby items. I simply can't say enough good things about this store. Looking for a great centerpiece for the holiday season? Get one your guests will admire and talk about at Conestogo Mercantile. Don't forget to check the name board while you're there—it is located behind the checkout counter, and if your first name matches a name on the board, you'll receive 10% off your purchase!



### Paula White Diamond Art Gallery + Design Studio



Dress your walls in unique, original art from PWD. Located in St. Jacobs, the Paula White Diamond gallery represents both established, and emerging artists in a variety of media, styles, and prices. The best part? Approximately 80% of the artists are local! The owner, Paula White-Diamond, is also the in-residence artist, and produces original large scale oils, acrylics and mixed media works to residential and corporate clients. PWD Art Gallery also offers sculpture, original works on paper, and limited and open edition prints. The gallery is currently located at 1369 King Street North, Upper Level, in the Sampson's Building, with plans to move to the new Bauer building on King Street in Kitchener soon. For more information, visit them online at [www.paulawhitediamond.com](http://www.paulawhitediamond.com).

### Structube

Located at 4585 King St E (near Sportsworld), this store has everything you need for your home, at great prices. Their funky, unique products are displayed in their large showroom, and everything that it not a part of the structure is for sale. Structube started as a family business in Quebec 31 years ago, and has since grown to 20 stores throughout Quebec and Ontario. Their store in Kitchener opened in January of this year, and they have seen great success so far. This is the kind of store that Kitchener has been waiting for. Contemporary and modern, great quality products, at prices lower than you would expect.

