

Biography: Aaron Markel

Aaron Markel was born in Mississauga but, being the son of a diplomat, grew up living with his family in many countries worldwide. As a youth, his unique experiences fostered a lust for change and growth and have shaped who he is, personally and professionally. He briefly attended Mary Washington College in a pre-medical program and completed business courses at Concordia College and Carleton University before realizing his entrepreneurial spirit and an unexplored passion for designing and building. This realization started him off on his journey to become a skilled contractor and business owner.

In his early twenties, he launched his first business, Markel Home Improvements, as a licensed flooring contractor servicing major building companies Richcraft and Tamarack Homes.

After a few years in the flooring trade, he was ready for the next step of his journey and joined the Behr Paint Company, where he was trained in Canada and the USA to become an expert in everything to do with paint.

From flooring to paint, Aaron was ready to continue expanding his knowledge of the trades, so he joined Carmichael Engineering, one of Canada's leading experts in thermal system technologies. Through his time at Carmichael, Aaron gained experience in commercial heating and cooling system installations, ventilation, and roof replacements. He designed and built clean rooms, fulfilling major contracts for Primus, the Saudi Arabian Cultural Center, Canadian Blood Services, Export Development Canada, and Bridgewater. Leveraging his knowledge of heating and ventilation systems, he built two hot yoga studios in Ottawa, Ontario.

When he felt confident in his HVAC knowledge and skills, he decided to partner with a mechanical company to open his next business, T&M Mechanical. This company specialized in commercial and residential plumbing, ductwork, and heating and cooling. This partnership offered Aaron hands-on learning and opportunities to advance his technical skills. He took courses in electrical, solar design and mass solar panel implementation, and received many certifications. At this point in his career, he was able to install all the internal components of a building.

Having mastered the interior, he was ready to work on filling his remaining knowledge gap: the exterior. With many connections in the construction industry, Aaron partnered with an experienced window and door specialist, and together they opened Unique View Windows and Doors and specialized in exterior installations.

As he was successfully implementing his plan to become skilled and knowledgeable in all areas of building construction, Aaron knew it was time to launch [AIM Project Management](#), a full-service general contracting company. Operating since 2014, the project management team has over 40 years of residential and commercial construction experience and is Aaron's flagship company.

Through AIM, Aaron worked on many exciting projects, including restoration of the Billy Bishop WWI building, rebuilding of the Saudi Arabian Embassy's air distribution system, installation of indoor pools, renovation of heritage buildings, basements and bathrooms, and building of home additions, cottages, decks and sheds. His latest and most defining projects include the complete design and building of the [Broken Stick brewery](#), [Hammond Hill Eco Resort](#), and the showroom for [Small Living Co.](#)

With his wealth of knowledge and experience built up over the years, Aaron's motto has become "rethink construction" which continually pushes him to improve and find ways to embed sustainable and innovative practices into his companies. He believes there is always room to do things better (even those practices deeply entrenched in an industry's culture) and hopes to one day provide consultative services to those in the industry who also want to "rethink" and improve their business practices.

Not only is Aaron an entrepreneur, but he also has a philanthropic nature and believes it's important to contribute to his community. Projects he's supported include: donating funds and materials to Habitat for Humanity, completing gratis work for Ronald McDonald House, donating tools and time in support of flood-relief efforts, donating space and food for an environmental community assembly, and sponsoring the building of a community garden.

Aaron is the owner or co-owner of a suite of aligned businesses that uniquely position him to provide clients with a full scope of services from concept design to equipment rentals. He is a creator and visionary – a self-made contractor and business owner that is guided by making ethical choices to deliver quality results.

[Connect with Aaron](#) to explore your next project!

To see Aaron's suite of companies and a list of certifications, [click here](#).

To read AIM's Sustainability Commitment, [click here](#).

To read AIM's Hammond Hill Case Study, [click here](#).