

*The Cat's Meow hair salon*  
**City woman  
fulfills dream**

*Steel*

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Sharon Huckle is offering patrons a different kind of menu at a former "Where to Eat in Canada" dining establishment in Belleville.

Her new 'service' menu now includes women's, men's and children haircuts and styling as well as colouring and highlights.

Huckle owns and operates The Cat's Meow Hair Salon in the same 20 Victoria Ave. location where she and her husband, Tim Hennig, operated the successful Urban Herb restaurant.

"It's the first part of my dream and it's still evolving," she said. "I still have big plans for my salon but I am being reasonable about it."

Huckle has been a hairstylist for 10 years, the past six at Studio 237 on Front Street, before venturing out on her own.

But she got the idea for the name of her business and the logo of a swirling cat while still in hair-styling school.

"We had a project to make your own salon and The Cat's Meow has always stuck with me," she said. "I just like the idea of the cat's meow because it's all about making people feel good, like they're the cat's meow."

The couple closed the Urban Herb in October of 2003 even though the dining establishment had been listed in the Where to Eat in Canada guide for four consecutive years. Her husband is currently employed as the executive chef at Carmela Estates Winery in Wellington.

Renovations began in January to convert the old limestone building circa early 1800s into a hair salon and Huckle opened her business recently after returning from maternity leave.

"We are strictly a hair salon right now but with the intention of adding more complementary services in the future, like esthetics," she said. "I'm very pleased with my space right now."

Huckle will be implementing a training program at her salon "to bring more talent into the shop."

She already has an apprentice joining her in September.