

Arresting Smile



Born with a tumour in her lip, a self-proclaimed Jay Leno jaw and soft teeth, Susan Delaney, a police officer with Halton Region in Ontario, projected more of a mug shot than a picture-perfect image, which made her job more difficult. "I have a good sense of humour," says Susan, but admits it's easier to do her job with a confident smile. So when Susan decided to do something about her teeth, she went to Dr. Vineet Bhandari, her dentist of 12 years, in Hamilton, Ont.

Despite years of familiarity with Susan's mouth, Dr. Bhandari provided an in-depth, one-on-one dental consultation. From there, he created a physical, diagnostic wax mock-up of Susan's teeth. Crafting two replica models of Susan's upper and lower arches, Dr. Bhandari left one model as the original and used the second, a study model, to create the esthetic changes he would apply to Susan's mouth.

With pink wax, Dr. Bhandari corrected both sides of the study model gum tissue to create symmetry. Then he crafted more esthetically pleasing teeth from tooth-coloured wax. "She had an underbite, which gives a harsh, tough look to the face, so I

How one police officer made her smile her best defence.


BY ADRIANA ERMTER

softened her look," says Dr. Bhandari. Once he completed the study model, Dr. Bhandari showed Susan her new smile.

"Dr. Bhandari was very careful to get my input throughout the whole process. He also knew that I'm not made of money, so he was forthcoming with all of the information," says Susan.

Her smile makeover began with a laser that reshaped Susan's gum tissue. After a 24-hour recovery period, Dr. Bhandari used the Opalescent Ultra Boost System to whiten Susan's teeth in an hour. A month later, he bonded Susan's six upper front teeth and two lower front teeth with Empress crowns.

Dr. Bhandari was able to save Susan more than \$4,000 by cosmetically contouring her lower front teeth into shape instead of shaving the teeth down for veneers. He used minimal filling with a diamond disc, a process that helps avoid weakening of the teeth and potential root canals. The procedure cost \$9,000, with almost no recovery time.

"It may sound vain, but this has improved my confidence," says Susan. "I never used to wear dark lipstick because I didn't want to draw attention to my mouth. Now I'm wearing red lipstick. I love it." 

Smile high:
Susan's
makeover
included
bonding and
contouring.



BEFORE



AFTER