



For Immediate Release

December 7, 2011

Photo attached - available in larger format by request. Suggested caption: Kimberley Hughes (left), general manager at Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe, receives the COR certificates from Arlene Keis, CEO at go2.

DELTA VICTORIA OCEAN POINTE FIRST TOURISM BUSINESS IN VICTORIA TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR CREATING A SAFER WORKPLACE

VANCOUVER, BC – Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort & Spa is the first tourism organization in Victoria to become certified under go2's Certificate of Recognition (COR) program. go2 presented the COR certificates to Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe at Tourism Victoria's Christmas Luncheon today.

"I am extremely proud of my team and team leaders who are focussed on creating and maintaining a safe working environment," says Kimberley Hughes, General Manager at Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe. "I am glad to see that their efforts are being recognized."

In partnership with WorkSafeBC, go2 launched the COR program for tourism and hospitality businesses in October 2010. go2 is the BC tourism industry human resource association and the industry Certifying Partner for the COR program. The COR program is currently open to all tourism employers with 20 or more employees.

"We congratulate Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe for being the first tourism business in Victoria to become certified. The COR program is one way our industry can be leaders in employee safety and customer service, and strengthen their bottom line at the same time," says Arlene Keis, CEO at go2.

Certified companies can earn a rebate of up to 15 per cent on their WorkSafeBC premiums by demonstrating that their health and safety programs go beyond the legal requirements with a best practice approach.

In addition to the financial incentives, businesses that embrace a culture of workplace health and safety are seeing significant human resource upsides, including fewer employee injuries, injured employees returning to work sooner, and greater success in retaining and attracting the best talent.

"A systematic and detailed approach to employee safety reduces workplace accidents and enhances the sense of well being among all members of our team, and this level of engagement translates right through to our guests," adds Hughes. "We all know that it is the people who create a fabulous customer experience."

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There are 13 COR-certified tourism businesses in BC, including Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe and two other Delta properties. Another 28 tourism businesses have registered to pursue the certification, with many other organizations expressing interest in participating in the program.

go2 also provides a variety of industry health and safety resources that can help tourism businesses of any size implement an effective health and safety program. Visit www.go2hr.ca/ihs for articles, templates, tools, sample policies, as well as resources customized to the various sectors in tourism and hospitality.

About go2

go2 is BC's tourism human resource association responsible for coordinating the Tourism Labour Market Strategy, a key component of the industry's growth plan. Tourism is one of the largest industries in BC comprising 18,000 mostly small to medium-sized businesses which directly employ more than 127,000 British Columbians. For more information, visit www.go2hr.ca.

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