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200 - 1212 W Broadway, Vancouver BC V6H 3V2



February 28, 2008

Frits van Paasschen
President and Chief Executive Officer
Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.
1111 Westchester Ave
White Plains, NY 10604
USA

Dear Mr. van Paasschen:

Subject: Smoke-Free Sheraton and Four Points by Sheraton Hotels

On behalf of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of B.C. & Yukon and the BC Lung Association, which make up the Clean Air Coalition of BC, we want to congratulate you on your decision to make over 300 of your Sheraton Hotels & Resorts and Four Points by Sheraton Hotels smoke-free throughout the U.S., Caribbean, and Canada by December 31, 2008. Since 78% of Canadians and 79% of Americans don't smoke, the decision by your company to ban smoking in your hotels will be good for public health as well as for business.

Secondhand smoke is more than a nuisance. Secondhand smoke contains at least 4,000 chemicals of which 50 can cause cancer. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has labeled second-hand smoke as a class 'A' cancer causing substance, which is considered the most dangerous of cancer agents. You have taken a leadership position on this very important public health issue, and in doing so, you will be protecting both your staff and your guests from the known dangers of exposure to second-hand smoke.

Health Canada notes that two-thirds of smoke from every cigarette is not inhaled by the smoker and can drift from one room to another through cracks in walls, doorways, plumbing and electrical systems, heating and air conditioning ducts and outdoor patios and balconies. It is a major problem for many hotel guests, especially those who suffer from chronic health conditions such as heart disease, asthma, allergies, diabetes, and respiratory illnesses. As the serious health effects of second-hand smoke becomes better understood by the general public, more people are demanding to stay in smoke-free hotels and resorts.

Because there is no known safe level of secondhand smoke exposure, the decision to make your hotels completely smoke-free is an excellent one. We hope that your example will encourage other establishments to follow suit and implement a policy that reflects awareness of the dangers of breathing secondhand smoke. By taking these steps to protect your guests and staff, you are sending a clear message that secondhand smoke is dangerous and will not be tolerated. We applaud you for your decision on this important public health issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Bobbe Wood".

R.F. Bobbe Wood, MA
President & CEO
Heart and Stroke Foundation
of B.C. & Yukon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott McDonald".

Scott McDonald
Executive Director
BC Lung Association

cc. Jack Boomer, Director, Clean Air Coalition of B.C.
General Manager, Four Points by Sheraton Kamloops
General Manager, Four Points by Sheraton Prince George
General Manager, Four Points by Sheraton Vancouver Airport
General Manager, Four Points by Sheraton Victoria Gateway
General Manager, Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel
General Manager, Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre