

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## BC Hotel Association Announces 2025 Awards of Excellence Finalists

*Honourees to be Celebrated at the BCHA Summit in Vancouver*

**VANCOUVER, BC (February 19, 2025)** — The [British Columbia Hotel Association](#) (BCHA) is proud to announce the finalists for the esteemed 2025 BC Hotel Association Awards of Excellence. These awards recognize the outstanding achievements of British Columbia's hospitality professionals and businesses, highlighting their dedication to excellence, innovation, and service. Winners will be celebrated at the highly anticipated Awards Gala on April 23, as part of the [2025 BCHA Summit](#), taking place at [The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver](#).

Bringing together the brightest minds in the industry, the two-day Summit serves as a premier gathering for BC's accommodation sector. Attendees will gain invaluable insights from industry leaders, participate in networking opportunities, and celebrate the accomplishments of their peers.

*"The 2025 BCHA Awards of Excellence finalists are an inspiration to us all," said Paul Hawes, President and CEO of the BCHA. "The passion, dedication, and commitment to excellence demonstrated by these individuals and establishments highlight not only the strength and vibrancy of the BC hospitality industry, but also its role as a professional sector. This is an industry where people build rewarding, lifelong careers doing what they love. We're excited to celebrate their achievements at the BCHA Summit."*

The finalists for the 2025 BC Hotel Association Awards of Excellence are:

### **Accommodation of the Year | Sponsored by Encore Canada**

- The Parkside Hotel & Spa – Victoria, BC
- Sun Peaks Grand Hotel & Conference Centre - Sun Peaks, BC
- Four Seasons Resort and Residences Whistler – Whistler, BC

### **Housekeeping Excellence | Sponsored by Ecolab**

- Paradox Hotel Vancouver – Vancouver, BC
- The Cove Lakeside Resort – Kelowna, BC
- Crystal Lodge – Whistler, BC

### **Community Contribution | Sponsored by BC Hospitality Foundation**

- John Kearns, General Manager, Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel
- Ozzy Goksel, Director of Rooms, Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel

- Lisa Jaager, General Manager, Summerland Waterfront Resort & Spa

#### **Leader of the Future | Sponsored by Fortis BC**

- Eddie Salehi, Director of Rooms, Delta Hotels by Marriott Kamloops
- Amandeep Kaur, Sales Manager, Sandman Hotel Group

#### **Hotelier of the Year**

- Jocelyn Bennett, General Manager, Delta Hotels by Marriott Kamloops
- Kimberly Hughes, General Manager, Delta Hotels by Marriott Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort
- Chelan Goonetilleke, General Manager, Four Seasons Resort and Residences Whistler

#### **Culinary Excellence**

- Renee Lauzon, Food & Beverage Manager, The Courtney Room, Magnolia Hotel
- Mitch Shafer, Executive Chef, Cordo Resto + Bar, Delta Hotels by Marriott Kamloops
- Lukas Exelby, Chef, Treetop Tapas & Grill at Tigh-Na-Mara Resort

#### **Sustainability Champion**

- Best Western Plus Kelowna Hotel & Suites – Kelowna, BC
- Black Rock Oceanfront Resort – Ucluelet, BC
- Sandman Hotel Group – Kelowna, BC

For more information about the BCHA Awards of Excellence and the 2025 BCHA Summit, visit <https://bcha.com/bchasummit>.

- ## -

#### **About the BC Hotel Association**

The British Columbia Hotel Association (BCHA) is a non-profit organization that has advocated for the best interests of the province's accommodation sector since 1917. Working closely with over 750 members, partner organizations, and all levels of government, the BCHA champions solutions to issues that affect the successful operations of accommodation businesses including the workforce shortage, labour mobility, affordable, available housing, immigration, the cost of doing business, and more. Through advocacy, education, and communication the BCHA promotes responsible and safe hospitality practices and drives economic, social, and environmental sustainability. For more information, visit [www.bcha.com](http://www.bcha.com).

#### **Media Contact**

Gareth Allen-Symmons  
Communications Manager  
British Columbia Hotel Association  
[gareth@bcha.com](mailto:gareth@bcha.com)  
604.440.6873