

Westin Nova Scotian Goes Green with Natural Gas, Hybrid Shuttle

Halifax, Nova Scotia: April 23, 2008 - As globally-recognized Earth Day initiatives are underway this week, the Westin Nova Scotian is taking another step in being more “green” by converting its heating and cooking methods from oil to natural gas. By using the most environmentally friendly of all fossil fuels, the hotel will reduce its overall emissions.

“The Westin Nova Scotian has a long history of providing green solutions for both our guests and associates,” said Guido Kerpel, general manager of the hotel. “We audit all our energy and water consumption and are always looking for new and innovative ways to help our environment.”

Since 2007 the Westin has provided guests who drive hybrid vehicles with preferred parking for the duration of their stay. For those guests without a vehicle, a complimentary hybrid shuttle is available for rides anywhere in downtown Halifax. The Westin is the only hotel in Halifax that offers a complimentary shuttle for its guests.

In January 2006 the Westin chain of hotels became entirely smoke free in all guest and common rooms. Westin was the first hotel chain to introduce this policy, which offers guests and staff a clean atmosphere and greatly cuts down on the chemicals used to clean the rooms.

The Westin Nova Scotian uses environmentally friendly products throughout the hotel and has eliminated toxic pesticides. The hotel also practices environmentally friendly procedures such as the use of aerators, low-flow shower heads, high efficiency light bulbs, controlled paper towel dispensers, and as well recycles and composts waste.

For adherence to environmental best practice standards in the hotel industry, in 2005, the Westin Nova Scotian earned a four leaf rating from the Audubon Green Leaf Eco-Rating Program. The ratings range from one to five leaves and take into consideration performance in energy efficiency, resource conservation, pollution prevention, and environmental management.

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About The Westin Nova Scotian Hotel

Deep in the heart of downtown Halifax, The Westin Nova Scotian, owned and operated by New Castle Hotels & Resorts, offers first-class accommodations in elegant and historic surroundings. With 297 well-appointed guest rooms and a great location, guests are provided with a complimentary shuttle service for fabulous downtown shopping, exciting nightlife, historic attractions, and numerous restaurants. For more information visit www.westin.ns.ca or call toll free at 1-877-9-WESTIN.

About New Castle Hotels & Resorts

New Castle Hotels & Resorts owns, manages and has under development 31 resorts and hotels in the United States and Canada. The hotel management company consistently ranks in the country's top 100 hotel management and development companies in hospitality industry trade publications. New Castle celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2005. For more information on New Castle Hotels & Resorts, please contact Gerald P. Chase, president, chief operating officer, at (203) 925-8370, or visit the corporate website at www.newcastlehotels.com.

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