Oak Bay Beach Hotel welcomes Executive Chef Kreg Graham to lead culinary team

Oct. 5, 2015, Victoria, BC – The Oak Bay Beach Hotel has welcomed Kreg Graham as their new Executive Chef, bringing more than a decade of hotel and kitchen leadership experience from around the globe to the 100-room seaside property.

Chef Graham started on Oct. 1, leading a culinary team of 22 and overseeing the menus for the hotel's six food and beverage outlets which include in-room dining, The Snug Pub, the Dining Room, Oceanside dining at the Boathouse Spa & Baths, Kate's Café, and the David Foster Foundation Theatre.

"We're excited to welcome Executive Chef Kreg Graham to our team," says Michelle Le Sage, general manager of the Oak Bay Beach Hotel. "Chef Graham brings a wealth of experience from high-paced resort environments in nearby Whistler, BC, as well as those from further afield in Thailand, The Seychelles, and Fiji. His combined hotel and kitchen experience is an excellent fit for our property and its high-volume and high quality dining spaces."

Chef Graham's food philosophy is focused on the creation of extraordinary food through the best ingredients available. He believes that finding the best products and creating great relationships with the purveyors who grow, fish, raise or hunt those ingredients is what allows a chef to cook something really special.

"A chef's job is to make the most memorable meals by taking great products, treating them with respect, knowledge and accentuating their best qualities by pairing them wisely and simply," says Chef Graham. "I want my diners to feel like they have had a truly unique experience, providing authenticity, elegance and an element of surprise and excitement."

Graham joins the Oak Bay Beach Hotel from The Fairmont Chateau Whistler where, as Executive Chef, he was responsible for the operation of the 550 room hotel's culinary department that was comprised of more than 75 cooks, five restaurants, and 3,000 square metres of banquet and event space.

Prior to his time with The Fairmont Chateau Whistler, Graham worked for the Shangri-La Hotel in Chiang Mai, Thailand; the Shangri-La Fijian Resort & Spa in Yancuna Island, Fiji; the Hilton Seychelles Northolme Resort & Spa, Mahe, Seychelles; the Hilton Toronto; and the St Charles Country Club in Winnipeg, MB.

About the Oak Bay Beach Hotel
Reopened in the fall of 2012, the new Oak Bay Beach Hotel has been completely rebuilt on the same spectacular oceanfront lot where the previous hotel sat for more than 80 years. Oak Bay is a residential community with its own village centre, just six kilometres outside of British Columbia's capital city, Victoria. Today, the Oak Bay Beach Hotel offers 100 hotel rooms and 20 luxury residences. Built to five-star standards, hotel amenities include seaside hot mineral pools, a fitness studio, Boathouse Spa & Baths, The Snug pub, the David Foster Foundation Theatre, Kate's Café and a fine-dining restaurant with a 1,600 bottle tasting room. www.oakbaybeachhotel.com.

-30-

Note to editors: A headshot of Executive Chef Kreg Graham is attached. Photo credit: Oak Bay Beach Hotel.

Media contacts:
Brian Cant, Tartan Group: 250-592-3838 or 250-888-8729 (cell) or brian@tartangroup.ca
Kate Rogers, Tartan Group: 604-880-1494 or kate@tartangroup.ca