



Reception desk at the BEST WESTERN PLUS Chateau Granville Hotel & Suites Conference Centre

BEST WESTERN GREEN HOTELS IN THE NEWS

BEST WESTERN PLUS Chateau Granville Hotel & Suites Conference Centre – This hotel was featured in November on the website greeningtheinn.com. The property is praised as a hotel that has “exemplified the city’s ambitious environmental goals; making their own operations more environmentally friendly, enhancing their guests’ ability to go green and embracing a broad coalition of sustainable visions.” Their efforts include reducing waste through composting, which is essentially a way to recycle food waste into fertilizer. In fact, approximately 80 percent of the food waste at the hotel is composted instead of going to the landfill. The food waste is picked up three times a week by the City of Vancouver, which takes care of the composting process. This hotel also participates in the EcoStay program, which allows guests to choose to contribute two dollars each night to help support eco-friendly initiatives. About 97 percent of guests choose to participate. The article also cited several additional green initiatives coming soon or already in place at the hotel:

ALREADY IMPLEMENTED:

- All lights have been converted to LED bulbs.
- Purchasing preference is given to local and organic food producers, with some produce and herbs grown on site.

TO BE IMPLEMENTED WITH ECOSTAY FUNDS IN THE NEAR FUTURE:

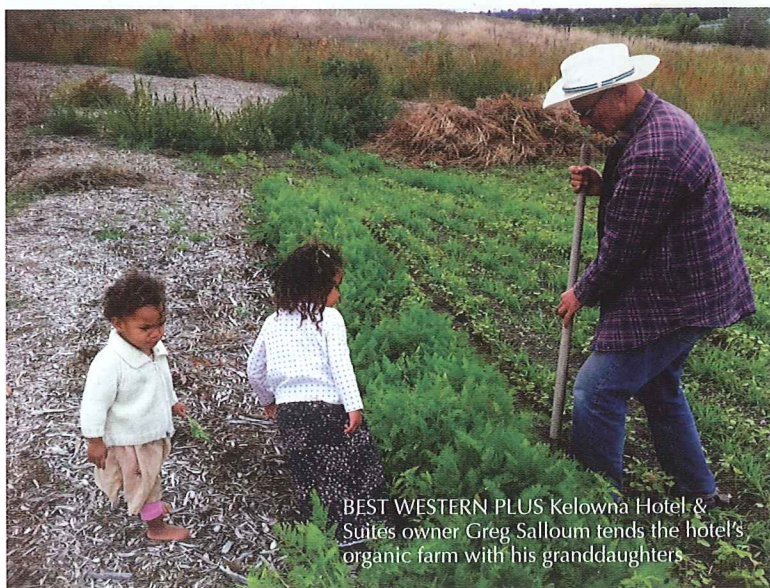
- Unused soap is donated and sanitized, recycled, and provided to less fortunate countries.
- Lights and HVAC operations in unoccupied conference rooms are turned off, with motion sensors to be installed for increased energy efficiency.

HOTEL INITIATIVES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS:

- Dimmers installed in all guestrooms to allow for lower energy use.
- All windows replaced with double-paned windows for energy savings.

BEST WESTERN PLUS Kelowna Hotel & Suites –

Thanks to their ongoing green efforts, this hotel was featured last summer in *Business in Vancouver* magazine. The article highlights the hotel’s LEED silver environmental wing, its solar-panel water-heating system that supplies 90 percent of the hotel’s energy for heat in summer and 60 percent in winter, and the fact that it uses 37 percent less energy and 40 percent less water than typical buildings in the industry. This hotel even maintains an organic farm that supplies ORA, the hotel’s restaurant, with fresh produce. “This is my second year growing organic vegetables,” said Greg Salloum, the property owner. “Time-wise it’s a challenge, but working in the field part of the day and the office for the other part, I feel great. We aim to be a good corporate citizen and part of that is recognizing that we are a wasteful industry and we need to take better care of Mother Earth.” ◀



BEST WESTERN PLUS Kelowna Hotel & Suites owner Greg Salloum tends the hotel’s organic farm with his granddaughters