



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Nicola Blazier, media relations manager, Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, 416-441-4301, [nicola.blazier@fourseasons.com](mailto:nicola.blazier@fourseasons.com)

Emily McCormack, Hula Communications for Four Seasons Residence Club Vail, 970-331-6145, [emily@hulacommunications.com](mailto:emily@hulacommunications.com)

**FOUR SEASONS RESORT VAIL NAMES GENERAL MANAGER**

- *30-year Four Seasons veteran to open the first Four Seasons in Colorado*

VAIL, Colo. – September 30 – Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts and project developer Black Diamond Resorts – Vail LLC are pleased to announce that 30-year Four Seasons veteran Hans Willimann has taken the helm as the property’s general manager. Willimann will oversee the opening of the Resort in late 2009 when Four Seasons Resort Vail debuts as the first Four Seasons in Colorado and the third mountain property for the company.

“As a native of Switzerland and an avid skier, relocating to Vail is a dream come true for me,” said Willimann. “I’m looking forward to living and working here, and to making Four Seasons Resort Vail a vibrant member of this mountain community.”

Prior to his post in Vail, Willimann held the position of general manager of Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, starting before the Hotel’s opening in March 1989. Under his leadership, Four Seasons Hotel Chicago quickly became one of the country’s top hotels, setting a new standard of excellence in the city. Willimann’s reputation for finely-tuned attention to detail made every aspect of the guest experience memorable – from personal, gracious service, and dining excellence, to impeccably imagined surroundings. This focus garnered the hotel and its team numerous accolades, including both the Mobile Five-Star and AAA Five Diamond awards, after less than three years of operation. During Willimann’s tenure, Four Seasons Hotel Chicago was consistently recognized with many prestigious international and national awards.

Willimann joined Four Seasons in 1979 as executive assistant manager of Four Seasons Hotel Toronto. From 1981 to 1989 he held several senior management positions including general manager of Four Seasons Inn on the Park Houston, and Four Seasons Hotel Boston, before transferring to Chicago.

Willimann is fluent in Swiss-German, German, French, English and conversational Spanish. He graduated from the École Hôtelière in Lausanne and attended the Commercial School in Zurich, as well as the Swiss Mercantile College in London.

During his 20-year tenure in Chicago, Willimann contributed greatly to the community and his involvement earned him the affectionate title of “Mayor of Chicago.” He was recognized by the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association with the “Hotelier of the Year” and the “Ambassador of Hospitality” awards in recognition of his achievements and contributions over the past two decades.

Willimann and his wife, Louise, have settled in the Vail Valley. They both enjoy the outdoors and look forward to becoming active within the Eagle County community. Having grown up in Switzerland, Willimann is especially excited about the area’s abundant winter activities.

Situated at the main entry to Vail Village, Four Seasons Resort Vail is a multi-use resort featuring a 121-room hotel, a Four Seasons Residence Club – 19 fractional residences sold at 1/12 interests – and 16 private residences. Owners will enjoy an incomparable level of luxury living with full access to Four Seasons services and amenities, including a spa and fitness club, lap pool, fine dining restaurant, dedicated ski and snowboard valet service, and the signature “Kids For All Seasons” program.

Real estate sales for Four Seasons Residence Club Vail are managed by Playground Destination Properties Inc. For further information, contact Jeff Meier at (877) 748-VAİL (8245) or visit [www.fourseasons.com/ownvail](http://www.fourseasons.com/ownvail).

###

### **About Black Diamond Resorts – Vail LLC**

Black Diamond Resorts – Vail LLC is based in Minneapolis, MN and was founded in June 2005 to develop and hold Four Seasons Resort Vail. The principals comprising Black Diamond Resorts – Vail LLC have extensive experience in commercial real estate investment and development, hospitality investment and asset management, and equity investment management. The principals anticipate that Four Seasons Resort Vail project will be the first of many luxury branded resort developments. For additional information about Black Diamond Resorts, visit [www.bdr-vail.com](http://www.bdr-vail.com).

### **About Four Seasons**

Dedicated to continuous innovation and the highest standards of hospitality, Four Seasons invented luxury for the modern traveler. From elegant surroundings of the finest quality, to caring, highly personalized 24-hour service, Four Seasons embodies a true home-away-from-home for those who know and appreciate the best. The deeply instilled Four Seasons culture is personified in its employees – people who share a single focus and are inspired to offer great service. Founded in 1960, Four Seasons has followed a targeted course of expansion, opening hotels in major city centers and desirable resort destinations around the world. Currently with 79 hotels in 33 countries, and more than 31 properties under development, Four Seasons will continue to lead luxury hospitality with innovative enhancements, making business travel easier and leisure travel more rewarding. For more information about Four Seasons, visit [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com).

### **About Four Seasons Private Residences and Residence Clubs**

Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts has been a pioneer in branded residences since 1982. Today, with the movement to branded residences firmly established and gaining momentum yearly, Four Seasons remains an innovative leader, providing a portfolio of whole and fractional residences in the most desirable locations throughout the world. Four Seasons residences comprise two types of offerings: *Four Seasons Private Residences*, ranging from private homes adjacent to resorts to penthouse condominiums atop urban hotels, and *Four Seasons Residence Clubs*, a fractional ownership option featuring fully-appointed vacation villas as a worry-free alternative to year round vacation home ownership. All Four Seasons residential offerings provide owners with access to Four Seasons services and amenities which may include golf, spa, in-room dining, housekeeping, concierge service – everything that makes a Four Seasons experience so rewarding. For additional information, visit [www.fourseasons.com/residences](http://www.fourseasons.com/residences).

### **About Playground Destination Properties Inc.**

Playground Destination Properties Inc. is part of the Playground group of companies. This group of companies (“Playground”) is the premier provider of real estate sales and marketing services for destinations world-wide. With offices spanning the globe in Vancouver, Montreal, Orlando, Reno, Denver, and Lausanne, Playground is dedicated to fulfilling a mission of “connecting people with the ultimate places to play.” Playground provides a unique breadth of properties from beach and mountain destinations, to golf and urban locations. In addition to Four Seasons Residence Club Vail, Playground is currently offering ownership opportunities in a number of world-renowned locations including: Whistler Blackcomb—a host venue of the upcoming 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games; Honua Kai – the only new whole ownership condo hotel to hit Ka’anapali Beach, Maui in more than 24 years; and Florida’s Sandestin – 2,400 acres including white sand beaches and world-class golf. Playground is also proud to be the licensed broker for Edenarc 1800, a four-star resort located within the popular village of Arc 1800 in the French Alps. To learn more about Playground visit [www.playground.com](http://www.playground.com).

**WARNING: THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE HAS NOT INSPECTED, EXAMINED OR QUALIFIED THIS OFFERING.** This is not an offer to sell, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy, to residents of any state or province in which restrictions and other legal requirements have not been fulfilled. This advertisement is void where prohibited by law. Prices, plans, amenities, availability and improvements are subject to change without notice. This advertisement is being used for the purpose of soliciting time share interests in the state of Colorado. Improvements, facilities and programs are in formative stages, and there is no guarantee that they will be completed or developed.