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**HOTEL LEADERS GATHER TO PLAN THE INAUGURAL CARIBBEAN  
HOTEL & RESORT INVESTMENT SUMMIT (CHRIS)**

**Costa Mesa, CA USA** --- Leading hotel and resort executives met last week for one of the largest Caribbean investment conference planning meetings ever held. The meeting took place at the InterContinental Miami on Friday, June 12, 2009. The purpose of the gathering was to officially kick-off the program planning for the inaugural Caribbean Hotel & Resort Investment Summit (CHRIS). The conference will take place next year, February 10-12, 2010 at the same hotel in Miami.

Planning meeting attendees had the opportunity to suggest topics for the conference, form committees, develop innovative networking ideas and to preview the CHRIS location. As is common in the development of other successful BHN events, the attendees participated in a highly collaborative brainstorming process. This process led to several hundred issues, opportunities and topics to consider for discussion at the 2010 conference.

“We are more than delighted with the results of this meeting and the incredible amount of valuable programming input we received from our planning committee”, said Jim Burba, President, BHN and host of the meeting. “CHRIS is well on its way to being the most important hotel and resort investment focused event for the Caribbean. We are looking forward to the improved investment climate in the coming months and the role CHRIS will play in assisting the region in attracting high quality investment and enhancing its tourism product” Burba added.

The CHRIS planning committee included key executives from the following companies: Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP; Bazarian International Financial Association, LLC; Carlson Hotels Worldwide; Ernst & Young; Fareed Zapala Koepke, LLC; Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts; Group RCI; *Hospitality Design* Nielsen Company; IHG InterContinental Hotels Group; InterContinental Miami; Interval International; ISHC (International Society of Hospitality Consultants); Jones Lang LaSalle Hotels;

NABHOOD (National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers); OBM International; PKF Capital; PricewaterhouseCoopers; Resort Development Consultants, Inc.; Starwood Hotels & Resorts; Sutherland; and WATG.

Detailed program information and registration will be available soon. To learn more about CHRIS please visit at [www.CHRISconference.com](http://www.CHRISconference.com).

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### **About the Host:**

**BHN** brings together more than two decades of experience in developing and organizing the world's most prominent gatherings of the hotel and tourism investment community. At these events, nearly 70 conferences completed and/or in development, the investment community has come together to network, conduct business and to learn about the latest trends. They have become "must attend" events for those interested in hospitality real estate. In addition to the Caribbean Hotel & Resort Investment Summit (CHRIS) in Miami; BHN events include: the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) in San Diego; ALIS Summer Update in Los Angeles; the Central America Tourism & Hotel Investment Exchange (CATHIE) in Managua in 2009; the Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific (HICAP) in Hong Kong, Hotel Investment Forum India (HIFI) in Mumbai; HICAP UPDATE Japan in Tokyo; HICAP UPDATE Southeast Asia in Singapore and the PATA CEO Challenge. The BHN website at [www.Burba.com](http://www.Burba.com) is the gateway for the information about the conference BHN produces, as well as a direct link to important player in the hospitality investment world.