



For Immediate Release

## **SaltSpring Air Launches Direct Service to Painted Boat Resort**

*18 minute flight will depart from Downtown Vancouver*

*Sunshine Coast, British Columbia (March 9, 2009)* – SaltSpring Air has partnered with Painted Boat Resort to offer direct flights from downtown Vancouver to Painted Boat, located in Madeira Park on the Sunshine Coast. Beginning May 8<sup>th</sup> 2009, regular flights will depart at 11:00am every Friday and Monday from downtown Vancouver, and land at the dock at Painted Boat Resort 18 minutes later. The float plane will then return to Vancouver at 1:00pm the same day. The cost of the flight is \$79.00 one-way plus gst.

“Direct air service is going to really appeal to our guests and the owners at the resort,” explained Ken Delf, President of Painted Boat Developments Ltd., “Guests can now safely fly in directly to our harbour and stay at the resort for the weekend, or the week-it’s a really convenient and affordable option. These direct flights take Painted Boat to a whole new level of accessibility.”

Corporate groups or weddings may also charter the planes for unscheduled trips. Saturday tours are being developed, which will allow guests of the resort to explore the coast by float plane. The flights are also open to anyone wishing to access Pender Harbour, including area business owners and families.

The new service will utilize De Havilland Canada DHC-2 Beavers, which can seat 6 passengers with a moderate amount of luggage. The plane has a cruising speed of 130 miles per hour, and was designed to only require a short take off and landing space. For groups of four or more, pick up may also be arranged from the Vancouver Airport; there is a surcharge of \$25.00 per ticket for this service.

Painted Boat Resort will celebrate its one year anniversary in June, and features 31 waterfront vacation villas available to rent nightly or weekly, as well as offering fractional ownership opportunities. The resort features creative coastal cuisine at THE RESTAURANT at Painted Boat, a luxury spa experience at THE SPA (scheduled to open in May), and a 60 slip protected marina. A range of activities from on-site kayak rentals to soaking in the grotto hot tub are available, making Painted Boat Resort the ideal vacation destination for active families or couples looking for a romantic escape.

For more information about Painted Boat Resort, please call 1-866-902-3955 or visit [www.paintedboat.com](http://www.paintedboat.com) .

To learn more about Saltspring Air and the planes being used for the flights, please visit [www.saltspringair.com](http://www.saltspringair.com) or call 1-877-537-9880.

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*Painted Boat Resort is managed by Canadian Rocky Mountain Resorts, a company which owns and operates Emerald Lake Lodge in Field, British Columbia, Deer Lodge in Lake Louise, Alberta, and Buffalo Mountain Lodge in Banff, Alberta. CRMR also owns four Calgary restaurants: Cilantro, Velvet, The Ranche, and Divino Wine & Cheese Bistro, as well as a game ranch, The Canadian Rocky Mountain Ranch, a Calgary wine boutique, Bin 905, as well as a bakery in Canmore, Panino.*

**Media Inquiries:**

**Jennifer Santos**

**Media & Marketing Manager**

**403-781-4170**

**[jennifer@crmr.com](mailto:jennifer@crmr.com)**