

d3h Hotels to build Home Inn & Suites with First Nations as partner

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The construction of Home Inn & Suites, north of the Living Sky Casino and featuring 80 rooms made up of limited service rooms and larger suites, four of which will include high-end luxury-home amenities, will employ more than 60 people during the construction phase, and provide 25-30 new employment opportunities once construction is complete.

Other features of the hotel will be an indoor pool with two-storey waterslide, a whirlpool, fully-secure business centre, meeting space for small weddings and other gatherings, and a full-service salon and spa that includes an open spa lounge for small group bookings of six to eight people.

“As a company, we have been looking forward to have as partners in the project the File Hills Qu’Apelle Tribal Council,” said Candy McBride following the ground breaking ceremony. “As the owner of the Casino and Entertainment Center in Swift Current, we recognize that they have played a significant role in business development in Swift Current.”

The File Hills Qu’Apelle Tribal Council, owners of the Living Sky Casino and Sky Center, will partner for the first time with

d3h Hotels in this innovative project.

“I really want to acknowledge and thank d3h Hotels and their partners, their staff and construction crew for venturing forth with us in this unique partnership,” said Chief Edmund Bellegarde, Grand Chief of the File Hills Qu’Apelle Tribal Council. “I believe it’s one of the first of its kind for some of the partners within d3h Hotels and I’d really like to commend and thank you for your foresight and your courage to get into partnerships with First Nations people.”

“Being a developer is not a traditional role that First Nations have always had in the economy. It is something that we need – strong partnerships – not only the First Nations business community but also the public in the City of Swift Current, so I really want to acknowledge that strength of those partnerships and the fostering that has happened, not only in the short term but for many years.”

Mayor Jerrod Schafer noted, “The quality is something that our community should be proud of and I think it’s going to be a real showcase housing for tourists or business people that are coming. People are stopping to make Swift Current more and more of a destination all the time, for many events like the Windscape Kite Festival, Broncos Hockey, all different

events in Swift Current, so this is going to be a real feather in our cap.”

From the construction and design perspective, Candy McBride admitted, “In the short time that we’ve had contact with the City of Swift Current, it is their desire to work with us, and not against us, as a group and as a construction crew, and we’ve really come to appreciate that.”

Marty Salberg, referring to the new partnership between d3h and File Hills Qu’Apelle Tribal Council, said, “The product that you bring forward is something that I believe we’ve hoped for a number years in Swift Current. We’ve got 6,000 vehicles or so passing by on the Trans Canada every day and another 6,000 coming down Hwy. #4, so there’s a real opportunity to attract the people that come through Swift Current.”

The partnership of d3h Hotels, which includes Don Urzada, Don Rosten, Carolyn Genest, and Candy McBride, builds, owns and currently operates nine hotels in Western Canada from their head office in Saskatoon. Facilities include HomeSuites, an all-suite hotel in Regina, Days Inn locations at Calgary Airport, Edmonton South, Medicine Hat, Red Deer, Regina, and Regina Airport West and Motel 6 in Medicine Hat and Red Deer, “where kids and pets stay free.”