

PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Port Madison Enterprises CEO Earns Top Tourism Honor

Russell Steele receives Kitsap Peninsula Visitor and Convention Bureau lifetime achievement award

SUQUAMISH, February 6, 2009- Port Madison Enterprises CEO Russell Steele's efforts to increase tourism opportunities in Kitsap County earned him top honors this week. The long-time hospitality executive received the Bob Morrissey Lifetime Achievement Award during the annual Kitsap Peninsula Visitor and Convention Bureau Luncheon Wednesday February 4, at the Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton, WA.

Steele joined PME in 2001. Since then, he has spearheaded the successful opening of the first casino destination resort on the Kitsap Peninsula. It includes 3 restaurants, a main casino gaming instillation, full-service spa and 85-room waterfront hotel. He has also overseen the acquisition of the award-winning Kiana Lodge and expansion of retail operations for the corporation owned and operated by the Suquamish Tribe.

In addition to providing more tourism opportunities, Steele has worked tirelessly to promote industry initiatives for the Kitsap Regional Economic Development Alliance and coordinated with Puget Sound area chambers of commerce to provide networking opportunities for tourism operators in the area.

Prior to working for PME, Steele was involved in the opening of Quinault Beach Resort and Casino- a fifty million dollar project for the Quinault Indian Nation. He also spent five years as a Regional Manager for ARAMARK Corporation where he oversaw operations of Lake Quinault Lodge, Kalaloch Lodge, Cascade Peaks and Coldwater Ridge. He has also managed properties for John Q. Hammons Hotels and Sterling Hotels. Steele started his hospitality industry career in the scullery, after earning his Business Administration degree at Seattle University

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