Local Food & Beverage Procurement Policy
April, 2012.

[redacted] recognizes that our food purchasing decisions have significant economic, environmental, and social impacts. We fully support Ontario farms and producers and our procurement practices reflect our decision to purchase local food, beer, and wine wherever possible. Our multifaceted Local Food and Beverage Procurement Strategy is embedded in all aspects of our operations and embraced by each member of the [redacted] team. We are committed to achieving incremental increases in our purchases of Ontario-sourced food and beverages, and implementing measurement tools to assess our performance.

In delivering on this commitment, the [redacted] endeavors to:

- Increase the amount of Ontario Food and Beverage purchases by no less than 10% annually, and aim higher by achieving the percentage increase goals outlined in the Strategy (averaging 12% per year over three years);
- conduct quarterly audits and maintain transparent reports on our performance; revise targets based on market fluctuations and forecasts and ensure continued improvement while managing costs;
- Require the integration of strategy objectives into business decisions in a cost-effective manner and within the framework of normal operating procedures;
- Work with third-party certifiers Local Food Plus and Oceanwise to quantify our achievements and increase credibility and foster accountability;
- Work in partnership with our Sustainability professionals at the [redacted] and continue our efforts to decrease food waste and maximize environmentally responsible food waste management;
- Train key staff, encourage innovation, identify areas of improvement, and support the efforts of our Local Food Advisory Board;
- Enhance awareness of the [redacted] Local food initiatives amongst all stakeholders including employees, clients, and Retail Food vendors;
- Source responsibly. Ensure suppliers are aware of [redacted] local food strategy and sustainable seafood policies, encouraging procurement through those who have a similar commitment to local food purchasing in their operations;
- Continue to reach out and establish relationships and partnerships with the Local Food community and leverage our position to increase awareness of our program and its far-reaching benefits.

As leaders in our community and Province, [redacted] is dedicated to ensuring our significant purchasing power will improve economic vitality and quality of life for those who produce food in Ontario, while providing the exceptional quality of service expected by our clients and guests.

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Signature