

TIMES COLONIST

Division of Canwest Publishing Inc.

BY DARRON KLOSTER, TIMES COLONIST OCTOBER 3, 2009

- - -

Bill Lewis is home again.

After spending almost 20 years with the Coast Hotels chain, Lewis has been named general manager of the Magnolia Hotel and Spa downtown. Lewis had been at the Coast Harbourside in James Bay for 12 years -- working his way from night bellman to director of operations -- before managing the Coast Vancouver Airport and two of the company's properties in Edmonton for the past five years.

With two small children, he's happy to return to the city where he was raised and cut his teeth in the industry.

Lewis replaces Jana Cornelius in the top post at the 64-room Magnolia, a four diamond boutique hotel built in 1998 and for years ranked as one of Canada's top hotels by Conde Nast Traveller. "It is a beautiful property, one of the country's finest, and I want to build on that reputation," said Lewis, 35.

The Magnolia completed a remodelling earlier this year, adding Prime Steakhouse & Lounge and Spa Magnolia on the ground floor.

- - -