

Steven Pelton • Sr. VP Cara Foods • Bio

Steven entered the workforce at the age of 14 as a dishwasher in a restaurant near his family cottage on Lake Huron. Over the years he continued to work in restaurants – working his way into bartending to help pay for his schooling.

After completing his studies at Fanshawe College in Finance, Steven moved to Toronto to look for a career that would make use of his education. After a few years working for Trimark Mutual Funds he took an opportunity to rejoin the hospitality industry running a Supper Club at Yonge and Eglington.

Over the following 10 plus years Steven was able to gain valuable experience working for both large companies (such as SIR Corp) and many small independents. In 2008 Steven join forces with a few partners and bought their first restaurant in Leslieville named Joy Bistro. Steve was to be the operating partner as the others had no restaurant experience. In 2009 they open their second restaurant on King Street West, and in 2010 they opened a third restaurant (which turned out to be their most important).

In June of 2010 Steven and his partners opened South of Temperance in the heart of the financial district of Toronto. It was a huge success. So much so that it caught the eye of many developers and Real Estate companies around the GTA, and soon Steven and his partners had their choice of several premium locations to open the next “South of Temperance” restaurant. Over the following few years the group opened Williams Landing (Liberty Village 2011), Hunter Landing (City Place Development 2013) and Harpers Landing (Oakville 2013).

In the fall of 2014 the “Landing Group” of restaurants had now attracted the attention of Canada’s largest full service restaurant company Cara Operations, and before the end of the year had completed a deal to sell 55% of the Landing group to Cara. Shortly thereafter purchased the remainder of the Landing Group with Steven taking a position directly within Cara Operations.

Now Steven is the Senior Vice President of Premium Dinning and CEO of the Landing Group of restaurants. He is responsible for growing the Landing Brand - which will be 9 restaurants by July 2017. He also now runs the Milestones Brand nationally (which has 54 restaurants). Combined, he is responsible for over \$200 million in annual restaurant sales.