



One Purchase Supports Artisans in Developing Countries, and Local Adults with Disabilities

For Immediate Release

October 8, 2010 (Vancouver, BC) – Throughout August and September mentioning “L’Arche” in West Broadway’s Ten Thousand Villages store meant 10% of the sale went toward providing homes and day programs for Vancouver’s adults with development difficulties. This partnership will be celebrated with a cake and a cheque ceremony at the store on Tuesday October 12th at 10:30am

“It is not often that we have the opportunity to partner with an organization that so closely reflects the spirit of L’Arche,” says Denise Haskett, Community Leader/Executive Director, L’Arche Greater Vancouver. “We are grateful for this gift and this new friendship.”

“Every day I am privileged to work in an environment where I can help artisans in communities all over the world. It is even more special when I can also help communities in my own city,” says Kristin Reffle, manager.

For more than 60 years, Ten Thousand Villages has been working directly with artisans in over 35 developing countries, providing them an important market for handicrafts in North America. From coffee and chocolate to home décor and personal accessories, all products in the store are handmade, making them truly unique. Plus, unlike other retailer experiences, the knowledgeable staff and volunteers are always ready to tell more about the items and artisans who made them.

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For more information, please contact:

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Note to Editor:

Ten Thousand Villages is the oldest and largest fair trade organization in North America. Through a network of 50 stores, as well as through hundreds of Festival Sales and E-shopping, Ten Thousand Villages Canada sells artisan-crafted personal accessories, home decor and gift items from around the globe.

Ten Thousand Villages works with artisans who would otherwise be unemployed or underemployed, providing sustainable income through Fair Trade. This income helps pay for food, education, health care and housing. Thousands of volunteers in Canada and the United States work with Ten Thousand Villages in their home communities.

Ten Thousand Villages is a non-profit program of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), the relief and development agency of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches in North America. Ten Thousand Villages has its roots in the work begun by Edna Ruth Byler in 1946.

Ten Thousand Villages is a member of the World Fair Trade Organization, a coalition of handicraft and agricultural producer organizations, and Fair Trade organizations from both the North and the South.

For more information, please visit our website: www.TenThousandVillages.ca