



SUBJECT: FAIR TRADE POLICY

Policy No: 2020-30

Date: November 16, 2020

Review Date: November 2024

Pages: 3

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines with respect to the Fair Trade movement, its principles and how they should relate to the Innisfil ideaLAB & Library.

POLICY

Scope

This policy applies to all employees and volunteers in all branches and to outside organizations booking library facilities as much as is possible.

Definitions

Fair Trade is a trading partnership, based on dialogue, transparency and respect, that seeks greater equity in international trade. It contributes to sustainable development by offering better trading conditions to, and securing the rights of, marginalized producers and workers. Fair Trade organizations, backed by consumers, are engaged actively in supporting producers, awareness raising and in campaigning for changes in the rules and practice of conventional international trade.

Fairtrade describes the certification and labeling system governed by Fairtrade International. The Fairtrade system allows consumers to identify goods that have met internationally agreed Fairtrade Standards.

Fairtrade Certification Mark is an independent consumer label which appears on products to signify that Fairtrade standards have been met.

Fairtrade Canada is a national, non-profit Fair Trade certification organization that is recognized as a reputable certification and licensing body which provides internationally acknowledged standards.

General

The Fair Trade movement shares a vision of a world in which justice, equity and sustainable development are at the heart of trade structures and practices so that everyone, through their work, can maintain a decent, dignified livelihood and develop their full human potential.

The Library is committed to assisting all peoples in their efforts to attain the best possible quality of life, specifically for the residents of the Town of Innisfil, and for everyone in general. The Fair Trade movement and the Innisfil ideaLAB & Library ~~Public Library~~ share a vision of a just world in which all people are treated fairly, including economically.

Objectives and approaches that are common to Fair Trade initiatives include:

- Inclusive economic growth
- Gender equity
- Decent work
- Food security
- Sustainable livelihoods
- Thriving economies
- People first trade policies
- Ecological balance

Guidelines

Whenever and wherever possible, the Library will strive to promote and support the advancement of Fair Trade in Innisfil through education and the use of fair trade products.

These products will be identified by *Fairtrade Canada's* Fair Trade Certified mark in order to guarantee that it has been 'Fair Trade Certified'. This usage includes, but is not limited to, the use of Fairtrade tea, coffee, and sugar in staff rooms, library meetings and for public use. When outside organizations book library facilities, the Library will encourage the use of Fairtrade certified refreshments. Similarly, all staff will be encouraged to purchase Fairtrade certified products for personal use in library facilities (such as lunch rooms) and for library meetings and programs.

Resources

An updated International Fair Trade Charter enshrines the common vision and fundamental values of the Fair Trade movement in order to realise Sustainable Development Goals. Rising inequality, entrenched poverty and a deepening ecological crisis have led the global community to seek new models of business and trade that drive fair and sustainable economies. The Charter serves as the single international reference point for Fair Trade.

International Fair Trade Charter, updated in September 25, 2018

https://ce325540-bc7d-484f-b04a-a5cfded0ef09.filesusr.com/ugd/291e20_d0760267b37a41328b80e4df127f85cb.pdf

Sustainable Development Goals <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

Approved by the Innisfil Public Library Board, November 16, 2020,
Motion Number: 2020.97

Supersedes Policy #2016-21, approved November 21, 2016, Motion #2016.93, &
Policy #2012-05, approved May 22, 2012, Motion #2012.40