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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One Earth is Niagara's Latest Certified Living Wage Employer

The Niagara Poverty Reduction Network is pleased to announce that One Earth has become a certified living wage employer at the Champion level.

Niagara-on-the-Lake-based One Earth designs and sells an inspired collection of beauty and wellness products, clothing, jewellery, and homewares made by Artisans around the world. For over seven years they have fostered the power of people helping people and have shown that creating a more flourishing world is possible. They currently employ two full time and two part time staff.

"We are honoured and humbled to join a growing group of like-minded employers that understand the value of investing in people. As part of our Corporate Values, we have worked with and paid a living wage to Artisans in Developing Countries for seven years so becoming a Certified Living Wage Employer at home is in many ways a dream come true for our company," says Terri-Lynn Woodhouse, Co-Owner of One Earth.

"We are very pleased to have certified over 30 Niagara area employers from various sectors who recognize the value and benefits of paying their employees at least a living wage," says Glen Walker, Chair of the Niagara Poverty Reduction Network. "Paying a living wage takes direct action to tackle poverty and we are excited to see the growing number of Niagara businesses joining us in this work."

A living wage reflects what earners need to be paid based on the actual costs of living and being included in the community. A living wage is not the same as the legislated minimum wage. It is a voluntary commitment that employers can make to compensate directly-employed and contract-employed full-time and part-time workers. The 2019 living wage for Niagara region has recently been calculated to be \$18.12/hour. If an employer's total compensation package includes benefits such as dental and prescription drugs, the living wage can be lowered by at least \$1.00/hour. Learn more about Niagara's living wage at www.wipeoutpoverty.ca

Niagara-area employers interested in becoming living wage certified can contact the Ontario Living Wage Network for more information at www.ontariolivingwage.ca

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The Niagara Poverty Reduction Network is a collective of over 30 agencies and individuals working to wipe out poverty in Niagara through education, collaboration, and advocacy to address poverty's root causes.

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