



Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Christian Service in Relief, Disaster, Settlement and Development

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MEDIA RELEASE / PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Canadian Lutheran World Relief ships school supplies

and other valuable commodities to assist with relief efforts in Haiti

January 21, 2011

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Winnipeg, MB - Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) is finalizing a shipment of supplies which will assist Haitians displaced by the January 12, 2010 earthquake. The 40-foot shipping container is being loaded at the CLWR warehouse, located at 549 King Edward Street in Winnipeg, on January 20 and January 21, 2011. The supplies are estimated to arrive in Haiti mid-March.

Although the shipment contains everything from quilts to medical equipment, its focus is to provide for the education of children. CLWR's Director of Community Relations Tom Brook was part of a CLWR-led delegation that visited Haiti in the fall of 2010 to view 50 temporary and 60 semi-permanent schools constructed by CLWR. One hundred more semi-permanent schools are planned.

"As Haitians continue the difficult process of rebuilding their lives and livelihood, even a year after the earthquake the needs of that region are still great," says Brook. "Schools, although temporary, are available for use in Haiti, but school supplies are still needed."

In October 2010, CLWR put out a special appeal to the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church—Canada for donations of school supplies. In addition, a special request was made as part of the appeal for soccer balls for use during recreation breaks.

"On my last day in Port-au-Prince, I spoke to a young boy asked for only one thing which was to 'please send him a ball,'" says Brook.

Approximately 2,000 packs of school supplies – which include pencils, notebooks, and soccer balls - will be included in the shipment. The total goods' value is approximately \$100,000 CDN.

CLWR shipped approximately 30,000 kg of commodities in 2010-2011, including this Haiti shipment, and does not ship promotional or religious material along with material aid.

Photo Opportunity:

What: Loading of the shipping container and supplies.

Where: CLWR warehouse, 549 King Edward Street.

Date / Time: Friday, January 21, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

CLWR carries out international development programming, emergency relief, and refugee resettlement on behalf of the two major Lutheran church bodies in Canada (the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church—Canada) and Canadians of goodwill. As a registered not-for-profit agency, funding comes through donations and through agreements with Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). CLWR is a member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, the Lutheran World Federation and the ACT Alliance. The agency's head office is located in Winnipeg, with regional offices in Vancouver, Toronto, and Santa Cruz (Bolivia). www.clwr.org