

News Release

Members of L'ARCHE from across Canada to Gather in Ottawa-Gatineau, to Mark the 50th Anniversary of L'ARCHE

Ottawa, ON, November 5, 2014 – Members and supporters of L'ARCHE from across Canada will gather in Ottawa on Nov. 9 – 11, 2014, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of L'ARCHE, the worldwide network of homes and programs centered around people with intellectual disabilities. Following is a summary of their itinerary:

- *"Love and Belonging: Jean Vanier at L'Arche"* (Norflicks Productions & Vision TV/ZoomerMedia) – A free Film Premiere presented in partnership with the National Gallery of Canada, Sunday, Nov. 9th at 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.). Join members of L'ARCHE at the National Gallery for this inspiring event, which will also include a showing of the short film *"Pareil pas pareil."* (VisionTV Broadcast Premiere of *Love and Belonging* will take place on Monday, Nov. 24 @ 10 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. PT.)
- Special Gathering at the Centre Block of Parliament on Monday, Nov. 10th at 12:15 p.m. Hosted by the Speaker of the Senate, The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella. (Invitation only.)
- "Cinq à sept" at the Pavillion du Parc in Gatineau, Québec on Monday, Nov. 10th at 5:00 p.m. Hosted by the L'Arche Agapè community in Gatineau, QC. (Invitation only.) During this event Jean Dansereau, a long-time member of L'ARCHE, will be recognized for having recently received the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award.
- Special Gathering with Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, and Her Excellency Sharon Johnston, at Rideau Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 11th at 5:15 p.m. (Invitation only.)

L'ARCHE was founded in 1964 when Jean Vanier, son of former Governor General Georges P. Vanier, invited two men with intellectual disabilities to live with him in the small town of Trosly-Breuil, north of Paris, France. Driven by his passion for a more just society—and, in particular, for communities where people with intellectual disabilities could lead the way in teaching us about what is most important in life—Jean Vanier, like his father, dedicated his life to creating a better world for all.

Worldwide, there are now 146 L'ARCHE communities in 35 countries, spanning the globe—from Trosly to Toronto, from Edinburgh to Erie, from Cairo to Canberra, from Buenos Aires to Bangalore, and beyond.

In Canada, L'ARCHE communities have been established in 29 cities and towns across the country, with new projects currently under development in Fredericton, NB, and in St. John's, NL. Together, these communities operate hundreds of homes and programs that make a difference in the lives of thousands of people with intellectual disabilities, their families, and supporters.

For more information, or to arrange interviews, contact:

John O'Donnell, Senior Marketing & Public Relations Advisor
L'ARCHE Canada
902.664.7536
john.odonnell@larche.ca



###