



Volunteer with MCC  
and make a difference

# Niska Artisans Volunteer Position Pop-up Market Assistant

## Impact:

In addition to recognizing the work of gifted Artisans, this fair-trade program seeks to educate patrons about the unique cultures in Ontario's Far North.

Niska is the Cree word meaning goose; the life-giver to hunters in Northern First Nations.

**Volunteer Position:** Niska Artisans Pop-up Market Assistant

**Program/Department:** Indigenous Neighbours Program - Niska Artisans

**Purpose of Assignment:** A project of Mennonite Central Committee's Indigenous Neighbours Program, Niska Artisans took flight in 2007 and supports the work of more than 25 Indigenous artisans in First Nations and communities stretching across Northeastern Ontario. Niska Artisans is looking for a volunteer to help facilitate the sale and care of products at MCC Ontario's 50 Kent office, as well as at occasional events.

**Geographic Location(s):** MCC Ontario office, Kitchener, ON and the Kitchener-Waterloo area for sales events at churches

## Skills/Knowledge/Attitude Requirements:

- cultural competency on Indigenous issues in Ontario
- willingness to learn about Indigenous issues in Ontario and Canada
- strong social skills
- basic Excel skills and ability to manage numbers and finances

## Tasks and Responsibilities:

- manage sales of Niska Artisan products
- facilitate set-up of Niska sales table, displays and promotional materials
- use cash register and square money reader for sales
- send updated sales inventory to supervisor(s)
- follow and enforce the following COVID-19 protocols:
  - wear a mask and sanitize hands between transactions
  - organize display table to ensure social distancing
  - encourage use of square reader for product payments

## Time Commitment

- one day per week or two half days when sales events at churches or markets occur. Most of these will occur during the build up to Christmas and then periodically throughout the rest of the year.

**Supervision:** Indigenous Neighbours Program Assistant

## Training and Development:

- training on product details and origins, stories around the products and traditional uses, artisans, etc.
- training about the Indigenous Neighbours Program and areas it works in

## Other:

- for sales taking place outside of the MCC Ontario Head Office, gas mileage and costs associated with travel will be covered by MCC

All MCC volunteers are expected to be respectful of the MCC mission statement: "*Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, shares God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. MCC envisions communities worldwide in right relationship with God, one another and creation.*"

MCC Ontario

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