

Fair Trade

Fair trade stands in diametrical opposition to free trade. Under **free trade** prices to farmers and producers are driven as low as possible, often with the aid of the International Monetary Fund's structural adjustment programs. This has exacerbated widespread poverty with sweatshops and child labour in developing nations. Under **fair trade** farmers and local producers receive a guaranteed minimum floor price and earn more if prices rise. This allows for a more economically and environmentally sustainable system of production and helps to lift local workers, farmers, and their families out of poverty.

Transfair at www.Transfair.ca is the certifying body for fair trade goods in Canada. Its label on coffee, tea, chocolate, sugar, fruit, cereals, and other food products as well as sports balls guarantees fair trade production. Look for this logo on Fair Trade Certified products to ensure that farmers and workers in developing countries have been paid a fair price. [place TransFair logo here]

Each May during fair trade weeks The **Edmonton Small Press Association (ESPA)** www.edmontonsmallpress.org and **Oxfam** host a **Fair Trade Fair Day** with fair trade goods and films.

Edmonton Fair Trade stores include:

Earth's General Store 10832 Whyte Ave. (upstairs) www.earthsgeneralstore.ca

Ten Thousand Villages 10432 Whyte Ave. www.tenthousandvillages.com

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