



For more info, contact:

Media Contact: Suzanna Lopez - 604-782-3517

marketing@internationalfestival.ca
www.internationalfestival.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cancer Survivor, Zosia Ettenberg, actively participates in Langley's International Festival 2009 [as Coordinator of International Marketplace and Disabilities Pavilion]

Langley, BC, July 21, 2009 - The Courage to Comeback Awardee, Zosia Ettenberg, is actively participating in Langley's 8th International Festival on August 8th, 2009 at the Douglas Park in Langley City. Zosia has been active since the first year of the festival as a marketplace vendor but last year's request changed everything. As Zosia was helping out at the informational booth at last year's event, she was asked by the Marketplace Coordinator of 2008 to succeed her and take her place for the year 2009. Zosia gladly accepted the position as Marketplace Coordinator as she has had previous experience in organizing tradeshow in the Valley Women's Network and the Canadian Physiotherapy Association. With the idea of becoming the coordinator, Zosia also decided to take part in another new initiative. Zosia also approached the executive director of the Langley International Festival, Shar Dubas, in creation of a new and innovative idea of representation with the Disabilities Pavillion. This pavilion is a new addition to the event as this is the first and only time it has some great timing and impact on the society today. Zosia's dream for the Disabilities Pavillion is to make people know that there are people like her that deserves respect and that should not be overlooked. "Since we started planning the Pavilion and talking to individuals and organizations in the community, things have exploded," Zosia joyfully exclaims. Since the time she started, Zosia has been committed to put on a very successful event displaying many new and exciting activities for people coming to the event. With sponsors like Mainland Door Controls, Sidewinder Conversions and the local Shopper's Home Health, Zosia has established and gained equipment and sponsorships in support for the activities like a Wheelchair Obstacle Course. Zosia tells that her plan is to have different exercises to simulate various disabilities for able bodied people to try so that they can get a feel and understanding of what it might be like to have that challenge. "We will have a number of stations for people to 'try on different disabilities' to see what it might be like to have that challenge," Zosia says. With this new addition to the festival, she mentions that this new initiative would help the provincial wide "10 by 10" project tremendously as well as make people aware and

comfortable that everyone has an important part to play in the community whether you have a handicap or not. As the city of Langley is an active supporter of the 10 by 10 challenge, this event would greatly benefit the community in better understanding the governments' project.

The International Marketplace encourages exhibitors of different heritages and cultures to partake and sell their products. Since last year's marketplace was a great success of seventy vendors, this year's marketplace aims to bring in 100 vendors from all over the lower mainland. By far, the Marketplace is an important exhibit for the festival as it brings people to browse and become aware of what type of goods a country could have. It is also located at a very good area in the park. The range of products go from photography, hats, books, beads, jewelry, sporting goods, clothing, imported goods and toys. For more information on the Langley International Festival, check out the website www.internationalfestival.ca.

Zosia is also the author of "Cancer – I Won!" a personal journal of grief, survival and triumph, and is a cancer survivor

The "10 by 10" project is an ongoing community commitment that is gearing towards increasing employment within private companies of people with disabilities by ten percent by the year 2010.