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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Leader of Church Revival in Cuba Returning to Canada**

**BRAMPTON, ON. – October 20, 2015** – With tensions beginning to decrease between Cuba and the United States, the Baptist Convention of Eastern Cuba (BCEC) hopes to continue to grow in size as many continue to hear about the Gospel Message for the first time. As part of Partners International Canada's fall Hope In Action tour, a leading figure in the BCEC is arriving in Canada to speak on the incredible ways that God is moving in the country of Cuba. Christianity in Cuba continues to be an underground movement, and yet has grown immensely in recent years due to the effectiveness of Ghost Churches. These are church gatherings that take place in homes or tents, easy to set up and just as easy to disappear. It has contributed to the growth the Church has seen in Cuba. Victor will be in Ontario from October 19th - 23rd and will then be journeying to the Maritimes from October 24th - November 2nd. Victor was previously in Canada for the Hope in Action Spring tour.

“This is the harvest time in Cuba! This is an opportunity,” says Victor. “Tomorrow will be different, come and join us!” A previously struggling alcoholic, Victor's life was changed while attending a gospel service with his grandparents. His life was forever changed when the evangelist said, “if you are born once, you'll die twice. If you are born twice, you'll die only once.” Ever since hearing those words, Victor has become a passionate speaker and loves to serve his fellow countrymen through

sharing about his Creator and Saviour.

The Cuban Church continues to face difficulties as many in Cuba believe in the religion of Santeria, which combines Catholicism with animal worship. This false teaching has increased the obstacles that the BCEC faces and yet the church is continuing to spread. Victor and the BCEC continue to train evangelists that operate in the towns and villages of Eastern Cuba. By 2014, they had started 606 Church plants that have ministered to over 40,000 children. Their goal by 2020 is to have planted 1,000 churches in a country that continues to engage international interest.

Partners International has been a leading Christian nonprofit specializing in holistic international development since 1963. By working through local entities, they gain the advantage of grassroots knowledge that enables them to overcome the hurdles and challenges often missed by outsiders. Their rigorous selection process enables them to partner with the most effective local leaders and organizations in each context including children-at-risk, education, health and wellness, water, Christian witness, entrepreneurship and justice issues.