

Renaming our region to reflect our scale and impact

We are excited to be sharing some big news about a change underway at the JHS!

While the John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland has been traditionally known for its role in criminal justice, we deliver diverse programming that goes far beyond that. In recent years, we've experienced substantial expansion in our programming and geographic reach, including tremendous growth in our Community Living and Justice services, new Community-Based Residential Facilities, the introduction of our Indigenous-focused Miyáq'elhá:wetawt program, and innovative employment and community-based housing programs such as our Supervised Residential Housing in the Yukon.

In BC, we traditionally run programs in 3 regions spanning 27 municipalities and 16 cities. Now with the addition of our services in the Yukon, the total number of the population served by our region has increased to 2,889,745 across nearly forty municipalities. The term Lower Mainland, on the other hand, is commonly applied to the region surrounding and including Vancouver although it is not a defined geographical entity. As a result, the name *John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland* can create confusion for our service users, hurdles for funding applications, and barriers to accessing services from different health authorities or other public services.

With this tremendous growth and unavoidable challenges present in our current name, we've decided to change our name to **John Howard Society Pacific**.

John Howard Society Pacific accurately reflects our breadth and scope, and allows us to continue delivering the same essential services to our local communities while also providing opportunities to serve more people and communities across the west coast.

Our community is a key part of the reason we're in a position where our name no longer represents the size and scale of our collective impact, and we are so thankful for your support as we work together to create a safe, healthy, and inclusive community for all.

Sincerely,
Your friends at the JHS