



Mission

Effective, just and humane responses to the causes and consequences of crime.

Description

The John Howard Society of Canada is an organization of provincial and territorial Societies comprised of and governed by people whose goal is to understand and respond to problems of crime and the criminal justice system. They are fiscally responsible for the continuance of the work and service of the National Office.

Methods

In furtherance of its Mission, the Society:

- Works with people who have come into conflict with the law;
- Reviews, evaluates and advocates for changes in the criminal justice process;
- Engages in public education on matters relating to criminal law and its application, and promotes crime prevention through community and social development activities.

Report from the President



*Catherine Gogan,
President*

The John Howard Society of Canada was faced with very serious challenges in the summer of 2010. A large part of the agenda at our AGM in Winnipeg, hosted by JHS Manitoba, was put aside to address these challenges. Our goals for the AGM were:

- To examine and reaffirm the values and principles of the JHS, and
- To reaffirm our commitment to advocacy and reform.

Members engaged in discussion about:

- The future of JHSC regarding: finances, programs and services, advocacy and influencing public opinion, rehabilitation and re-integration, strategic planning with fact-based information, and appropriate community-based services.
- Opportunities and threats regarding: finances, member societies, legal issues, political issues, and societal issues.
- Questions: such as where can JHSC make the most difference, how the JHSC and member societies work together, what are the needs of member societies that can be best met by JHSC, and what will it take for the JHSC to move forward productively into the future?

I am pleased to report that there was strong confirmation amongst the participants of JHS values, principles, and positions. Current ends statements - advocacy, community education, and network support were confirmed as equally relevant. It was very gratifying to know that that our core values and organizational principles still bind us together. The importance of improved communication and strengthened relationships with membership was emphasized. It was observed that organizational roles and responsibilities were not well understood; and therefore a need to clarify roles and responsibilities of staff and board members and roles of individual directors with respect to provincial societies and JHSC. Stability and growth of the JHS through securing the national grant and addressing current tensions and divisions with the JHS were also stated as being important.

To address short and long-term concerns, an Interim Management Plan was presented. The plan addressed concerns that had been expressed regarding: advocacy, management of day to day affairs, financial matters, the national grant, communications internally and externally, and the search for a new Executive Director.

Following the AGM, the JHSC board has continued its work in developing clearer accountability mechanisms, improving the linkage between the board and the Executive Director, and improving communications with member societies to ensure information is brought back to member societies in an accurate and timely way.

A major focus for the Board during the latter part of 2010 and early 2011 was to ensure the ongoing operation of JHSC and to recruit a new Executive Director. We were fortunate to be able to engage Mr. Ed McIsaac, recently retired from the Office of the Correctional Investigator, to serve as Interim Director of Policy; and Mr. Graham Stewart, former Executive Director of JHSC, was available to provide advice and guidance on an ongoing basis. They were supported by Mary Lou Howarth, Manager of Finance and Development, who did an amazing job of keeping everything running smoothly. Also, the 3rd National Staff Conference was held in Calgary in March 2011. We owe a huge Thank You to the staff at JHS Calgary who expertly took over the organization and reporting tasks for this very important event and made it a great success.

A recruitment steering committee was established in December 2010. The position was advertised and candidates were selected for interview. In February, the position was offered to Catherine Latimer who commenced employment with the Society in April 2011. The announcement of Ms. Latimer's appointment follows this report. Her qualifications and experience speak for themselves.

It has been an honour to be President of the Society over the past two years. The energetic contributions and support from my fellow board members has been much appreciated. I especially want to thank Fred Neale, who, due to the fact that I was not permitted to fly for health reasons, was able to step in as Chair at our AGM in Winnipeg, and very professionally lead the Society through what was a very difficult and sensitive time for the organization.

Finally, on behalf of the directors, I would like to thank Mary Lou Howarth, whose organizational skills and professionalism were so obvious over the past number of months. Going forward, I am confident that the Society will continue to address our mission: “Effective, just and humane responses to the causes and consequences of crime.”

**Catherine Gogan,
President of the Board**

Announcement

The Board of Directors is very pleased to announce that Catherine Latimer has been appointed as the Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Canada effective April 25, 2011.

Catherine has a B.A (Waterloo, Psychology and Sociology) L.L.B (Law, Queens) and M. Phil (Cambridge, Criminology). For the five years prior to accepting this position she was the Director General, Youth Justice and Strategic Initiatives and Law Reform with the Department of Justice, Canada. In that position she had a very broad scope of responsibility including youth justice, and departmental responsibilities for the National Drug Strategy.

Catherine was responsible for the development and implementation of the Youth Criminal Justice Act – progressive legislation that was responsible for a 40% decline in the rate of incarceration of young people in Canada.

Catherine has developed a deep understanding of correctional and justice issues having been central to many of the most important developments in the responsible government departments over the last twenty years. These areas include: legal aid, corrections, drug policy, sentencing, victims issues, firearms, anti-hate measures, anti-terrorism, research and evaluation, grant and contribution management, and many others.

Catherine has been a key advisor to the most senior members of the civil service, Ministers and the Cabinet, on many issues and legislative matters. She has significant experience with the political and governmental structures and processes while her extensive roles in intergovernmental and external relations have given her experience consulting within government, subject experts and the non-governmental sectors across Canada. She has taught courses on criminal law, juvenile justice, and domestic violence for Carleton University in the Department of Law within the Faculty of Social Sciences.

We welcome Catherine to this position of leadership within the Society and look forward to working with her towards our ongoing quest for effective, just, and humane responses to crime and the causes of crime.

Report of the Executive Director

Having long admired the work and values of the John Howard Society, I was delighted to join the team on April 25, 2011 as the Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Canada. While I bring with me some knowledge of how government works and the legislative reform process, I have spent the last six months on a steep learning curve and I still have a lot to learn. I particularly want to thank: the Board members for their patience and guidance; Graham Stewart, who's wisdom, knowledge, and generosity with his time, has been a huge benefit to my orientation; Mary Lou Howarth for sharing her insights and for her tireless contribution; Don Wadel and his fabulous team at the Ottawa John Howard Society who let me share space with them when I am in Ottawa and respond so informatively to my many questions; and to all of you who have made me feel so welcome.



*Catherine Latimer,
Executive Director*

There is more to be done than time allows so I am grateful that the Board has established some priorities. A key immediate priority is to ensure that John Howard Society values are known in the federal legislative reform and policy-making process. This has involved many meetings with government officials, other stakeholders in the justice and corrections system, contact with the media, and already three appearances before various Parliamentary Committees. This is particularly pressing in light of the massive overhaul of the criminal justice and corrections system set out in the Omnibus Crime Bill, Bill C-10, which is proceeding very quickly. I am grateful for all the advice and support from JHS members to ensure that our mission and perspective informs the policy and legislative reform efforts in a constructive manner.

Other important priorities include working with the federal government in shared areas of interest. These include “social enterprise” to support the effective reintegration of offenders, including mental health issues of offenders in broader mental health strategies, and perhaps participating with CSC in the development of regional plans. Many John Howard Society affiliates are involved in social enterprises and perhaps we can learn from each other more about what makes these successful. I am

grateful for the feedback received on input into the government's mental health strategy and will continue to make efforts to ensure that the mental health issues faced by those we serve are included in broader government strategies.

A particularly enjoyable priority is to improve communications within and to promote community education. I have been pleased that I have been able to attend some events and AGMs, (Ontario, Edmonton, Ottawa, and BC) and to be involved in discussions. While face-to-face meetings are always hugely beneficial, organizations as large and vital as ours need other ways to communicate with each other and I am open to suggestions for how that can be improved. I have had a couple of very useful conference calls with the provincial executive directors. We are looking into the technology of virtual meetings and an addition to our website has been designed that would be open to all executive directors with a view to determining if that would be a useful platform to share issues that are of particular interest to them. This will be launched in November 2011. JHSC continues to post information for the public on our website and it has also opened a Twitter account.

It has been an exciting first six months for me and I want to thank you all for your support. I look forward to working with you all on the challenges ahead.

*Catherine Latimer,
Executive Director*

Member Societies across Canada

John Howard Society of Newfoundland & Labrador

In 2011, the John Howard Society of Newfoundland and Labrador (JHSNL) is celebrating its 60th year of service to the province. The organization, which began with a group of volunteers in 1951, has grown into a much larger organization with a hundred staff and many volunteers who are committed to understanding the causes and consequences of crime. This is a significant milestone that has been made possible by a dedicated volunteer board and team of professional staff and volunteers.



*Cindy Murphy,
Executive Director*

Since its inception, JHSNL has been committed to building a safer community through the provision of rehabilitative programs and services, public education and advocacy. The anniversary was marked by a very special event during John Howard Society Week in February where the Society gathered to recognize staff and volunteers for their significant contributions. In an effort to highlight the Society's services we participated in several media interviews which highlighted our rich history of community involvement.

Throughout the past year the Society continued to partner with various government departments and community organizations. In February, we partnered with the Atlantic Halfway House Association to conduct a public consultation to discuss the positive role halfway houses have in assisting with successful reintegration. On the second day of the event, the Society provided a venue and gave input to Correctional Service of Canada as they conducted their Community Strategy Consultations.

In the fall of 2010, the Society participated in consultations with the provincial Department of Justice to provide input around the development of a new provincial Correctional Services Act. The new Act will replace and combine the current and much antiquated Prisons Act and Adult Corrections Act. Also in the fall, the Society participated in consultations with the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Court as they developed a new strategic plan.

The agency continued to be active on various committees including the Justice Minister Committee on Violence Against Women, the steering committee for the Canadian Mental Health Association Justice Project as well as the board of the Atlantic Halfway House Association.

A new initiative piloted this past year called the “Read to Ride Program” was introduced to encourage inmates at Her Majesty’s Penitentiary to utilize the library and ultimately read more. Each time they sign out reading material they are eligible to put their name in for a monthly draw for a new bike and helmet which they receive upon release. This pilot is made possible through the support of the United Way and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and has been met with much enthusiasm.

The Society is working harder than ever to assist individuals with a criminal record to secure a pardon. Through the provincial Department of Human Resources Labour and Employment, the Society helps to secure the necessary funding to cover the \$225 cost associated with the application process. At any given time staff are working with a vast number of individuals to this end. With additional changes being proposed by the federal government to the pardon system, it will likely make the costs prohibitive for many people to apply, thus creating further barriers to successful reintegration.

Later this fall the Society will be partnering with the CSC Citizen Advisory Committee to hold a community forum made possible through funding from CSC. This goal of the forum will be to open up discussions with employers and the business community that will foster a better understanding of the barriers and needs of offenders returning to the community and to labour market.

During the year the Society was happy to assist Sarah J. Chaulk, a PsyD Candidate (Clinical) with Memorial University of Newfoundland who was conducting research on the use of police cautions. The Society was able to assist her with data collection and she was able to present the preliminary results of her research at the Canadian Psychological Association Convention in early June.

During the year there were a number of opportunities to publicly comment on a variety of correctional issues including the proposed changes to the pardon process, issues related to the reintegration of high

risk offenders and once again to advocate for a new provincial correctional facility.

In conclusion, JHSNL welcomes Catherine Latimer as the new executive director of JHSC and we look forward to working with her in the coming year. A special thanks to all our volunteers who give generously of their time. The positive working relationships the Society continues to cultivate are extremely important to our work and we wish to thank all our funders and supporters during the past year. Finally, I would like to acknowledge our talented and committed staff for their work in providing programs and services to more than a thousand individuals each year.

*Cindy Murphy,
Executive Director*

John Howard Society of Prince Edward Island

While small, the Prince Edward Island John Howard Society is administered by a group of individuals who share a passion for the mandate and mission of the Society. One of the challenges our size presents is that, we not only function as the provincial entity, all program development and delivery is managed through the same office. The primary role in the area of direct service is programming that best addresses the needs of our clients, who range from those already involved in the criminal justice system to youth at risk.



*Donna Hartley,
Executive Director*

This past year, our Society has been at the forefront in bringing to the attention of justice officials the overcrowding in our provincial correctional center, the result of the massive changes to criminal justice legislation. Similar to other jurisdictions, PEI has experienced a spike in the number of prisoners in jail with an increase of 8000 bed days in 2010/2011.

Early in the year the former women's unit was emptied to ease overcrowding in the maximum male unit. The women were transferred to the recently opened intermittent sentence unit that had been specifically

designed to house inmates serving weekend sentences. There was concern expressed by the society that, due to this arrangement, the women's needs may not be met, and we called upon corrections officials to suggest alternatives to that solution.

The Minister of Public Safety recently acknowledged the change made was inadequate and may have inadvertently contributed to an increase in contraband in the facility because it created difficulties separating weekenders from long-term inmates. He announced the province was actively pursuing the idea of using an under-utilized youth custody facility to provide more appropriate conditions for women offenders, a solution that was proposed at our meeting. He characterized the issue as an "immediate priority". Inevitably, more problems in this area can be expected with the pending enactment of additional legislation that will again increase the number of Canadians in custody.

With one exception, our programming remains consistent with previous years and includes: LEAP; Wraparound; Employment Program and the Homeless Partnering Strategy. The HYPE pilot project, funded through Public Safety, completed the three-year contractual agreement. When we embarked on this venture the Director of Corrections was extremely supportive suggesting a working partnership through the offer of in-kind administration and financial management support. At its conclusion the intention of the Division was to incorporate this model into existing youth programming. Unfortunately, due to economic constraints within the division such an initiative was not viable at the present time.

Community education is a major focus for our Society and this is achieved through a variety of presentations to government departments and NGO's, as well as volunteer opportunities for students who are considering a career in criminal justice. There were also media interviews on topics such as; issues on Charter matters, overcrowding in the Provincial Correctional Centre female unit, and a number of interviews on homelessness.

The John Howard Society of PEI is a not only the Community Entity but also a member of the PEI Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness. In May the Committee released the 2nd PEI Report Card on Homelessness. The intent of the report is to develop public awareness and action on homelessness issues in PEI and to profile organizations and agencies providing services to this population. A panel of community

leaders discussed the findings of the second PEI Report and what it means for our province.

In November, on behalf of the Community Advisory Committee, the JHS Community Entity for Homelessness organized the PEI Affordable Housing Day. The event provided to those in attendance an overview of the Homeless Partnership Strategy Agreement. This was followed by presentations from two organizations that have accessed funding through the Agreement.

In February we once again entered into a contractual agreement with Department of Justice and Public Safety, with financial support from Justice Canada, to host the 2011 PEI Youth Summit. The keynote for this year was Dr. Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D, an internationally recognized authority on children in crisis. His presentation explored the long-term cognitive, behavioural, emotional, social and physiological effects of neglect and trauma on children and adolescents.



*Trish Cheverie,
President, JHS PEI
Director, JHSC*

During the past year Board Members developed a new Web Site, Board Member Guide and updated our brochure. The Society was represented on numerous committees that include; Employment Assistance Providers, Program Committee Provincial Correctional Centre, Youth Addiction, Homeless Partnership Strategy Community Advisory Committee.

In November the JHSPEI held its Annual Meeting with Justice Gerard Mitchell, the newly appointed Police Commissioner, as Guest Speaker his topic “Policing in a Free and Democratic Society” focused on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. He reported the regulations to the new PEI Police Act that came into force on March 13, 2010 include a code of professional conduct for police. Failure to abide by the code could result in a variety of disciplinary measures. He went on to say the most important rights we have are those guaranteed and protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom. The rights in the Charter are part of the constitution, the supreme law of the land.

As PEI and the other provinces and territories continue their efforts to impress upon the federal government the need to find solutions to

institutional overcrowding, JHSPEI is committed to nurturing our positive relationship with provincial officials and to explore innovative ways to serve the needs of our clients. Developing new goals and objectives are always at the forefront and the accomplishment of these goals will serve to enhance and reinforce the role of voluntary sector agencies within the criminal justice system.

Trish Cheverie
President

Donna Hartley
Executive Director

John Howard Society of Nova Scotia



John Peach,
Executive Director

“The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you can see.”

~ [Winston Churchill](#)

The quote “the farther forward you can see” by Winston Churchill, always struck me as counter intuitive to current business thinking. Business experts advise that you should not drive your

organization’s future by looking in the rear view mirror. They argue that by basing your future on patterns of past success you will be certain to lock yourself to “today’s opportunities” and put your business on a lifecycle that always ends with decline. Although it is always nice to know where you came from, and learn from your experiences, an occasional glance in the rear-view mirror is a good idea, but your main focus needs to be on looking ahead. Otherwise, you may be about to drive off the cliff. In the not-for-profit world we seem to be surrounded with an abundance of cliffs, particularly when our primary funding source comes from providing services for and on behalf of the various levels and departments of government.

I would suggest that The John Howard Society in Nova Scotia did just that, and was in a steady slow path of decline for a number of years. Why do I suggest that? By looking in the rear view mirror I can see that the organization that existed 25 years ago is very different from the Society we had until recently. It showed that we had been in a slow but steady decline. When one asked “why” and then looked at what we had been doing, for the most part, we had been delivering the same core services, in the same way, for most of this period. The small changes that had

occurred had just helped to offset the decline in our core services. I would also suggest that if we had kept on this same track we were headed in a direction of not being a relevant partner to the justice community.

Recognizing the problem is a big step toward creating the roadmap for where we want to get to, but first we had to know for ourselves where we wanted to go. Step one, was getting our own house in order. The past three years have been a challenge to create the base from which we can now build. The JHSNS today is a very different organization from what it was three years ago. The pace of change has been slower than an impatient person like me would have liked, but the pace at which the change has happened was necessary in order to allow our staff to adapt. JHSNS is blessed to have great staff and to work in a sector where a lot of very bright young people are looking to start their careers. Some organizations lament upon being the entry level point for new people who only stay with you long enough to get a bit of experience and move on to other employers who pay more, or offer more in the way of upward mobility. I have never encountered anyone who was leaving us because they were not being challenged for what they did. It has always been for more extrinsic reasons such as more money, or the opportunities a larger organization can offer. They bring tremendous energy, enthusiasm, and creativity that can be harnessed to help the Society grow.

When I look in my rear view mirror, I see tremendous opportunity. Sure, many of our staff only stay three to five years and then move on, but that can be strength for the Society. The JHSNS alumni is scattered far and wide across the criminal justice system and this network represents tremendous opportunity. Many of the JHSNS Board members are former alumni, some going back many years and several now are retired but would like to give back. It is just a question of asking: "What is the opportunity ahead?" The JHSNS has remained relevant in to the justice community because a lot of our alumni, now in other key positions in other criminal justice organizations recognize the intrinsic worth of the work we do and are somewhat forgiving of our 'blips' when we may have floundered and gone through a 'difficult' period. They want the JHSNS to succeed as we contribute substantially to the "effective, just and humane responses to the causes and consequences of crime", not only in Nova Scotia but in Canada. This intrinsic worth is why we must keep their confidence and connection with us.

This has been an exciting year for us at JHSNS. Janis Aitken, our President in her report will outline many of the changes that have taken place. New opportunities are on the horizon, but more importantly the JHSNS is being sought out to participate and provide input into significant and

developing provincial criminal justice issues. For me, that is the measure of whether what you are doing is relevant, when your input is being sought in the design phase versus your reaction to what someone else has produced. To quote one of my Directors when asked why he was taking on a particular task he responded: “I only want to do things that I think can make a difference now!” I share his view.

Finally, I would like to thank our members, staff, Directors and system partners for making this another successful year for the John Howard Society of Nova Scotia.

John Peach
Executive Director



Janis Aitken,
President, JHS NS
Director, JHS Canada

“What a difference a year makes!”

The John Howard Society of Nova Scotia has continued to witness changes this past year. The Board has increased in size and developed representation from a wider geographical spectrum of the province. The Head Office has again relocated due to building renovations where it was situated in Dartmouth, NS. Staff changes have occurred due to both the retirement of a long term Director in the North Eastern Region Office, a change in position duties of the Director of the Halifax Region and the resignation of the former Director of the Central Region who assumed a community mental health agency position which offered a level of remuneration far beyond the wage capacity of the JHSNS. While these staff were valued members of the JHSNS, their departures opened up opportunities for growth and advancement of existing staff in those regional offices affected by these changes. Staffs in all the offices have also continued to demonstrate their commitment to our work, as well as a willingness to ‘rise to’ the challenges which occurred during the past year.

In addition to the change in directors for the Central Region Office, the new Director assumed not only her new role as Director but took on the responsibility for the office’s involvement, as one of two pilot sites, in a

new Adult Restorative Justice initiative undertaken by the provincial Department of Justice. This is a 'shared skills model' which requires the collaboration between the local Community Corrections staff and the JHSNS Central Region Office which previously was only responsible for providing restorative justice services to youth aged 12 - 17 years. This required upgrades to the physical structure of the offices in keeping with provincial standards for Occupational Health & Safety as well as a change in 'mindset' for the staff and Board. I am delighted to report the project has been, to this point in time, very successful for all involved!

Our membership drive has continued through the efforts of a long time supporter and former Executive Director, Bob MacDonald. It has achieved great success in unearthing former members and in the acquisition of a significant number of new members.

John Peach, our Executive Director has continued to pursue technological advancements which have improved our efficiencies and work product significantly. As a 'technophobe' I couldn't begin to explain the changes, aside from the acquisition of a scanner whose assistance I fully comprehend. Additionally, John has deftly handled all the staff changes, the relocation and re-establishment of the Halifax Regional Office to its new location (with a minimum of negative feedback from current staff) and is pursuing contract work with various federal government divisions with all their accompanying frustrations and challenges. The Board continues to be impressed with his ability to 'multi-task' and meet what seem to be ongoing changes with a minimum of exasperation. He makes the job of this President—and Board—very easy!

As we leave 2011, JHSNS is looking forward to a successful year in 2012 and is most appreciative of the ongoing information sharing and support provided by not only the local Board but the Board and new Executive Director of the JHSC.

Janis Aitken,
President

John Howard Society of New Brunswick



*Bill Bastarache,
Executive Director*

It has been an exciting year for the John Howard Society of New Brunswick Inc – a year of innovation, challenges and accomplishment. Our focus remains rebuilding and re-establishing ourselves as a diverse, bilingual, province-wide organization that promotes safe communities by understanding and responding to the problems of the criminal justice system.

We believe that the delivery of our program service base is strengthened by strategic thinking and collaborative initiatives with our Branches/Affiliates who share our vision for a safe community. In partnership with Youth Justice Canada our Strengthening Families Program is being operated in three communities to address the illicit drug use of young offenders.

Our Quantum Opportunities Program, in partnership with the National Crime Prevention Centre, provides extensive services and multiple mentors to the most at-risk youth transitioning from middle school to high school. A pilot program to host a Skills Link Program, sponsored by Human Resource and Skills Development Canada, has received support for another year. These programs resulted in stronger connections with our Branches/Affiliates.

We also embarked on research studies with the Strengthening Families Program and the Quantum Opportunities Program. These studies explore means, tools, and opportunities to leverage existing knowledge and resources, enhance operational capacity and sustainability, and strengthen position as an agency of choice for criminal justice services. We would like to thank Dr. Susan Reid, our program service evaluator, for her exemplary research work.

On the building front, we warmly welcomed Elsipogtog as our second First Nations Affiliate. This year we hope to start a John Howard presence in Edmunston as our third francophone affiliate. We now have a John Howard presence in every region of the Province. We continue to look forward to new affiliates throughout the Province.

Regarding community engagement, our “Employment of Value” workshops in Northern New Brunswick facilitated networking, correctional communication and exposed the John Howard Society to a cross-section of community partners in the northern region. This year’s forum is entitled “Changing Trends in Aboriginal Corrections: Emphasizing Strengths of Youth and Communities”, which will strategize plans for community-based services initiated by First Nations peoples for First Nations peoples by building on the knowledge gained by experts and expertise of First Nation Elders.



*Harold DeCoursey,
Director JHS NB
Director, JHSC*

The Agency is also a key sponsor in the Experience Hunger forum, which is designed to heighten awareness in decision-makers regarding the costs associated with poverty.

It has been a year of great teamwork and we would like to acknowledge the office’s management team and Board of Directors – they are a dedicated, talented and caring group of people who provide excellent service on behalf of the John Howard Society of New Brunswick Inc.

***Bill Bastarache,
Executive Director***

John Howard Society of Quebec

The John Howard Society of Quebec has been working for a few years now to rebuild the organization in Quebec. We conducted research on services in the metropolitan area of Montreal and we also met with various organizations whose mission is the social rehabilitation of former prisoners. Thus, we were able to identify the most pressing needs and establish what we wanted to offer as an organization to complement the existing organizations that have set up shop in Montreal.

The John Howard Society of Quebec has therefore chosen the mandate to support and encourage individuals experiencing or who have experienced in the past trouble with the justice system. We are determined to assist them in their journey and our goal is to guide them towards self-reliance



*Pierre Cinq-Mars,
President*

and respect for the law. It is through a transitional home, including a dozen beds that we will be able to provide accommodation services, counselling and guidance. These services will be offered in French and in English so that all the clients receive the assistance requested in the official language of their choice. Indeed, we found during our research and our interviews with professionals that many former inmates are actively seeking assistance in their efforts towards social rehabilitation. Unfortunately, services are scarce for this clientele, especially for people who have reached a certain age and for unilingual Anglophones.

In order to provide the most professional and the most varied services to our clients, we are working to establish a partnership with a Montreal-based organization working with men in distress. This service agreement will allow us to offer a wide range of services to our clients enabling them to reconnect with their community, to break social isolation and to avoid falling into homelessness. Their experience with men in distress and our experience with criminalized men will certainly allow us to take effective actions on crime and its causes. We hope to put a stop to the revolving door syndrome by providing the necessary support to these men and by encouraging them to become law abiding citizens.

We are currently in the final stages of negotiating this partnership and look forward to receiving our first residents.

Although we do not offer services per se right now, our website allows us to keep in touch with the community. Many prisoners, former prisoners and family members of inmates turn to us for assistance. We are happy to help them the best way we can and refer them to the appropriate agencies. These numerous requests demonstrate the needs of the community and prove that despite the absence of our organization in Quebec for several years now, people still have the reflex to turn to the John Howard Society for support.

In order to achieve the highest standards of quality we must surround ourselves with partners who have proven expertise in the field and volunteers dedicated to the well-being of their community. We believe that their support will be essential in the realization of our projects and in

providing quality services. We take this opportunity to thank the organizations who have shared their experience and expertise with us, in particular the John Howard Society of Ottawa who has never hesitated to advise and help us in achieving our goals.

So, the John Howard Society of Quebec is working hard in order to provide rehabilitation services to men in need and who wish to break the vicious cycle of social isolation and crime.

Vanessa Fable
Coordinator

Pierre Cinq-Mars
President

John Howard Society of Ontario

Engaging Times

Over the past few years, social media has dramatically altered the way in which we engage the broader community about the work of the Society.

In 2010, the John Howard Society of Ontario launched our presence on Twitter under the name “ReducingCrime” and we have just completed our first successful year of engaging and educating the public through social media. Twitter has enabled us to connect with a new and diverse group of supporters, as well as others who share an interest in criminal and social justice issues.



Paula Osmok,
Executive Director

Centre of Research, Policy and Program Development

The JHS Ontario Centre of Research, Policy & Program Development has been busy submitting a variety of proposals, establishing research partnerships and assisting Affiliates with research and proposal-related requests for information on various social and criminal justice related topics. In 2010/11 we were responsible for the development, implementation, oversight, analysis and reporting on six multi-year program evaluations.

The Centre was successful in obtaining funding from the Wellesley Institute to design and conduct a case study examining the JHS Toronto Housing Program. This research study will explore the Housing Program as a successful community intervention and multi-sectoral model which ultimately contributes to reducing health disparities among homeless individuals. The results of the study will be mobilized to shape the public policy discourse around effective responses to the problem of health inequities which exist among the homeless population.

The Centre also had an exciting year of active engagement in the public debate around criminal and social justice policy issues. Through public education, submissions to government, meetings with key stakeholders and media work, we advance our mission statement which calls for effective, just and humane responses to crime and its causes.

The Society made a submission on behalf of our Affiliates to the Social Assistance Review Commission, which contained a number of recommendations for improving the eligibility for and the provision of social assistance programs in Ontario. JHS Ontario has released a new Fact Sheet on the topic of FASD and the Criminal Justice System which elicited unprecedented demand and positive feedback.

The Society also launched its Prison Visit Booklet – a guide for those visiting loved ones in Ontario’s institutions – on our website. The Society prepared mission-based election guides for both the federal and provincial elections in 2011. The Society also published an Op-Ed piece on the topic of pardons in the Toronto Star, and submitted letters-to-the-editor to a variety of publications on topics such as remand and prison expansion.

Prison Conditions Committee

In accordance with its terms of reference, the JHS Ontario Board’s *Standing Committee on Prison Conditions*, monitors, assesses, and reports on the conditions within Ontario’s provincial correctional institutions and within federal correctional institutions located in Ontario. The Committee prepared an executive summary report of its May 2010 tour of three federal institutions in Kingston and distributed its recommendations to CSC Deputy Commissioner and the respective wardens of each institution toured.

In December 2010, the Prison Conditions Committee attended a meeting with senior staff at the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS). The MCSCS staff provided a detailed presentation on the progress of the construction of the Toronto South Detention Centre. It was apparent to the Committee that much effort has been put into designing a positive correctional environment that will emphasize direct supervision and meaningful interaction between staff and prisoners.

The issue of remand in Ontario continues to be a significant area of focus for the Committee, given that over two-thirds of these provincial prisoners, who are presumed innocent, continue to be housed in maximum security facilities that offer them little to no rehabilitative programming and minimal discharge planning. The Committee members were encouraged to hear from MCSCS that there have been some increases in the number of meaningful programs offered to remanded prisoners in the past year. Given that the overwhelming majority of imprisoned Ontarians are in fact serving “dead time” on remand, rather than a sentence of imprisonment, the provision of programming and other support services to all prisoners is crucial.

Affiliates

We must acknowledge our Affiliate Executive Directors across Ontario who have, through ongoing committee work, contributed significantly to the John Howard Society collective. During the past year their work has included revisions to various components of the Society’s operational policies; participation in two Affiliate reviews to help ensure ongoing compliance with standards and policies; extensive work, including outreach to other community partners on the Mental Health and Addictions Committee; and, finally, intensive planning for our Ontario-wide staff conference. They also provided feedback and advice regarding the Society’s Benefit and Pension Plans.

JHS Ontario Staff Conference

The provincial staff conference was held in early June of this year, at Cleveland’s House in the Muskoka region. For four days, over 160 staff from across Ontario gathered for networking and professional development. A wide range of sessions were facilitated by staff including

an intensive Mental Health First Aid certification stream. Participants were given the opportunity to attend presentations by criminal justice experts James Lockyer, lawyer for the wrongfully convicted and Anthony Doob, Professor of Criminology at U of T; as well as Gordon Leigh, Historian; and Inspector Tom Girling, Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau of the Ontario Provincial Police. The conference was a resounding success and we look forward to planning the next one in 2013.

Development and Communications



*Ken Doan,
Director, JHS ON
Director, JHSC*

As mentioned, our Twitter identity “ReducingCrime” was launched this year and to date we have posted over 1,500 tweets and have reached out to over 1000 followers with information and discussion around important social and criminal justice issues. This has been a great opportunity to engage with many like-minded organizations and individuals, many of which we would not have been aware of, had it not been for this social media channel. We will continue to make these important connections, learn what is happening around the world in the areas of criminal and social justice, and promote effective solutions to dealing with crime and its causes.

The Institutional Services and In Touch Family Transportation programs, operated by our local Affiliates, continue to receive funding from our direct mail and other fundraising programs. Together, with our generous donors, we are successfully impacting the lives of thousands of individuals and creating healthier communities.

Accountability

We continue to adhere to Imagine Canada’s Ethical Code Program which demonstrates our commitment to the responsible management and accounting of donations. Recently, we have been given the opportunity to participate in a new broader set of standards. Over the course of the next year, we will be re-examining our policies and practices in the areas of governance, financial accountability, fundraising, staff management and volunteer involvement to ensure that we will be in compliance with the Program.

General

We are very pleased to announce that Jacqueline Tasca has joined the John Howard Society of Ontario staff team as our Policy Analyst. Jacqueline holds an MA in Criminology from the University of Toronto and, as part of her previous work experience, assisted with various research projects at its Centre of Criminology. Most recently, she was employed by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services in the Public Safety Division.

We continue to attract outstanding staff members and volunteers. They have demonstrated tremendous passion and commitment to the mission and values of the Society. Their initiative and expertise are clearly evident in the work that has been accomplished this year.

We must also acknowledge our donors who continue to generously support our programs and services. We are very grateful to those members of our communities who share our commitment to, and belief in, our mission and values and understand the important role philanthropy plays in the work of the voluntary sector.

The Year Ahead

We understand and recognize the importance of good social and criminal justice policies, reliable research and effective and evidence-based programs and practices to achieve healthier and safer communities. The results of the Society's collective work across Ontario clearly indicate that such strategies and supports have a greater positive impact on the majority of people who find themselves involved with the criminal justice system, or at-risk of involvement, than overcrowded prisons. We look forward to finding new ways to engage with members of our communities and promote research-led solutions to crime and its causes.

Paula Osmok
Executive Director

Ken Doan
JHS Ontario Representative

John Howard Society of Manitoba, Inc.



John Hutton,
Executive Director

2010-11 was quite an active one for this Society and saw us raising issues on the national level, hosting the annual meeting of JHSC here in Winnipeg, expanding our network of agency partners and developing a unique new bail program.

In October of 2010, we partnered with the Association des juristes d'expression française du Manitoba, the Faculty of Social Work of the Collège universitaire de St-Boniface, the Comité consultatif clientele judiciairisée adulte of Quebec (CCCJA) on a two day event, focused on *the impact of a criminal record*. The event was a unique opportunity as it allowed us to partner with Manitoba's francophone community and participate in a French language event; a new experience for us. It also allowed us to partner with a group from Quebec and strengthen their awareness of the work of the John Howard Society, which is for the most part focused on English-speaking Canada. We received funding from Correctional Service of Canada to stage the event, which was attended by more than 100 people over the two days. The guest speaker was an airline pilot, Captain Piche, famous in Quebec for making a safe landing in his Airbus after its engines died over the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. In the publicity that ensued, the captain's criminal past became known as well. The conference looked at how those with a record could be encouraged to move on while acknowledging the barriers they face.

Also in October, JHS Manitoba was proud to host the annual meeting of JHS Canada here in Winnipeg. Board members and executive directors from the various provincial associations arrived in Winnipeg for three days of meetings, and received a warm welcome from our staff and board members. Representatives from JHS Brandon attended as well and joined us in making a presentation to the delegates on the work of the John Howard Society in Manitoba. As special guests, we invited staff from Stony Mountain Institution's Ni Miikana Aboriginal healing range to speak about their work and to bring art and handicrafts created by the inmates, which were available for purchase.

Since receiving a grant from the Manitoba Law Foundation in 2009 to develop a plain language guide to getting a pardon in Manitoba (adapted with permission from a guide originally developed by JHS of Alberta), JHSM has been active in creating more awareness around the issue of pardons. When the federal government first introduced legislation in June of 2010 that would have denied pardons altogether for certain offences, and for anyone with more than three convictions for an indictable offence, we lead a campaign against the proposal at the provincial level. Only a small part of the original bill was subsequently adopted, as Bill C23A. However, last fall the government re-introduced some of the measures that had not passed, as Bill C23B. In light of the work we had already done on the issue, we were encouraged by JHSC to raise the issue nationally. Last November, we organized a delegation from Manitoba that included staff and clients from Opportunities for Employment, BUILD and a board member from JHSM with a criminal record and travelled to Ottawa to speak against the legislation to the House of Commons Committee on Public Safety. Our delegation received quite a bit of media coverage, including an interview on CBC Radio, As It Happens and we were well received by opposition MP's. As well, a number of groups also opposed to further changes, notably those in the business of helping clients obtain a pardon contacted us afterwards. The legislation was subsequently buried in committee where it died on the order paper when a federal election was called last spring. However, changes to the rules for pardons will likely be introduced a third time, as part of the new omnibus legislation and we are prepared to speak out on this issue again.

Many of the initiatives we took part in over the last year were done in partnership with other agencies or organizations. We joined with Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba in observing Prisoner Justice Day in August and work closely with the Lifeline "In-reach" worker employed by the St. Leonard's Society. We also worked with a number of organizations, including Elizabeth Fry, Onashowewin, Just TV and Mediation Services to organize events as part of Restorative Justice Week last November. As the year came to a close we had a different kind of opportunity to partner with a 'collateral agency'. Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin (OPK) has worked for many years providing occupational training to ex-offenders, many of whom are also ex-gang members. As a result of funding changes, OPK had to downsize their administrative structure. They approached JHSM about providing financial

administration for their program and to provide office and class room space for them in our building. We were happy to accommodate the request and look forward to working more closely with this group in future, as they operate out of our offices.

In early February, we received official notice that our proposal for a Bail Assessment, Support and Supervision program (BASSP) with a residential component had been approved for funding by Manitoba Justice. The program is unique in that it focuses on those who would otherwise not get bail, and involves assessing the risk they pose to the community, creating a bail program together with the client to address these risks. If bail is granted the program would then support the individual as they work through the plan, with responsibility to report any non-compliance to the crown. The program is designed to work with up to 75 clients at a time, 20 of whom may live in a residence being created in our building. The resources these men need, such as treatment; employment and training programs; and are very hard to access from a correctional centre and especially so for those on remand status. Through this program we expect our clients to begin addressing some of the issues using resources readily available in the community while awaiting trial. The alternative is that they are held in custody for months at a time with little or no access to specialized resources. We are excited about the possibility of expanding this program to other areas of the province in future. It is also the first new major expansion at JHSM in almost 20 years effectively doubling our staff.

John Hutton,
Executive Director

John Howard Society of Saskatchewan

The John Howard of Saskatchewan and three District Council offices in Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw have a staff compliment of 80 employees. In November 2010 we opened a new home called Stewart's Place, in Regina, which is a mentor home for male youth ages 16 – 18 who are in the care of the Ministry of Social Services. This past year we received funding through the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment & Immigration to deliver a Workplace Essential Skills (WESS) program in Regina and Saskatoon.



*Greg Fleet,
Executive Director*

Over the past 2 years the John Howard Society in Saskatoon has been developing a program for people who want to exit the gang life. The program is called “Str8 Up”. There is no age limit but participants are generally over 18 years of age. There are 3 visions or goals: to be responsible citizens, to be a faithful partner, and to be loving parents. There are 5 conditions each participant has to be willing to adhere to: drop colors, deal with their addiction, be honest (drop attitude and manipulative ways) be humble, and to be willing to give the program a chance and accept support and partake for 4 years. Activities involved are: visit guys in the correctional and hold meetings there; present in schools, reserves, addiction centers, and basically anywhere that expresses need. The group meets once a week. They learn about healthy lifestyles and positively contributing to and partaking in community. The program also offers support in areas such as looking for housing, employment, and general community errands.

John Howard Society Awareness Week

Each year, John Howard Society of Saskatchewan sets aside a week in February to celebrate *John Howard Society Awareness Week*. To ‘kickoff’ this year’s celebration, during the week of February 13 to 19, both provincial and civic proclamation ceremonies and certificates were presented by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Mayors of Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon.

Each of our three JHS local offices celebrated throughout the week, hosting Open Houses and inviting the public to attend. Along with the Open Houses, staff and volunteers organized a number of activities throughout the week to allow the public a chance to learn more about JHS, including community agency visits, university and high school presentations, local TV and radio interviews, and a number of print news articles highlighting the programs and services that are provided.

2010 National Restorative Justice Symposium

The 2010 National Restorative Justice (RJ) Symposium was held at the Ramada Hotel in Regina, Saskatchewan, on November 14-16, 2010. The Symposium is an annual event coordinated by the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and hosted by a community-based agency in different locations around the country. The 2010 Symposium was hosted by the John Howard Society – Regina Council and was organized with assistance and support from many organizations and individuals. The theme was “Reflexions Past, Present and Future”, which was also the theme for National RJ Week.

The Symposium included an opening plenary discussing the past, present and future of restorative justice in Canada; a plenary on victims and restorative justice; 23 workshops based on five (5) streams (youth, schools & families, Aboriginal justice, victim issues, national and international developments, and the future of restorative justice); a banquet and the presentation of the Ron Wiebe National Restorative Justice Award; and a prairie kitchen social.

Historically, the Symposium has been attended by about 150-160 people each year. To achieve its goal of having 200-300 people in 2010, the Planning Committee identified target groups and made extensive efforts to advertise through local, provincial, regional, national, and international networks. The Symposium was primarily advertised through e-mail, the website, and word of mouth. As a result of these efforts, it sold out with 327 registrations.

Public Education

During the year there have been a number of opportunities to publicly comment on a variety of correctional and community justice issues,

including the government's toughening of the Pardon Bill; the "Truth in Sentencing Act", Bill C-25, putting an end to the two-for-one credit commonly used throughout the court system; concerns regarding the implementation of a new phone system at all four of Saskatchewan's adult jails raises concerns that such a system will hinder the ability to maintain a vital link to an inmate's support network and costs likely to be out of reach for the majority of its users; or commenting on the merits of restorative justice practices in addressing extreme youth vandalism in northern Saskatchewan.

In June 2011 we participated in public consultation on the repeal and re-write of the Correctional Services Act for Saskatchewan and submitted a brief that outlined our concerns on proposed amendments. Our main concerns were changes to Visiting where most visits would not involve any contact between the inmate and the visitor, except in a few very limited circumstances. It is our view that if an offender is denied human contact with their loved ones for year that probably wouldn't be good for reintegration. Our second major concern dealt with Inmate Communication and the new system for monitoring, blocking, and recording inmate communications.

Each year we serve thousands of people who have been affected by the Criminal Justice System. This work is accomplished through the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers. Thank you for the services you have provided and continue to provide on behalf the John Howard Society of Saskatchewan.

Greg Fleet,
Executive Director

John Howard Society of Alberta



*Fred Neale,
Director, JHS AB
Vice President JHSC*

The John Howard Society of Alberta (JHSA) celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2009 as an incorporated Society. Since its inception, the JHSA has been committed to creating safety and harmony in our communities. It has grown from a handful of volunteers and staff in the 1950's, supporting a minimum of services to Albertans, to a large organization consisting of hundreds of employees, and even more volunteers, dedicated to understanding the true nature of criminal activity and alleviating the risk factors associated to offending.

The years 2009/10 were a significant time of change and growth for the John Howard Society of Alberta in terms of staffing and organizational direction. A new Executive Director, Office Manager, Researcher, and Curriculum Developer were added to the organization. Although this group brings with them exceptional experience, knowledge, and ideas, it has been difficult to fill the shoes of their predecessors. By early 2011, however, the staff at the JHSA developed fully into their roles and work increased exponentially. Our goals for 2011/12, many of which have been accomplished already, are and continue to be:

- To build on our relationships with the JHS affiliates in Alberta.
- To strengthen our relationships with our funders and government partners.
- To extend further into the community for education purposes.
- To increase our profile through significant media attention.
- To engage in significant primary criminological research.
- To secure further operating funding.

The JHSA continues its participation on a number of Boards and Committees. The following is a short, but non-exhaustive, list:

- The Edmonton Drug Treatment and Community Restoration Court Program Management Committee.
- The Corrections and Criminal Justice Speaker Series.
- Alberta Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health
- The Alberta Minister of Justice and Attorney General's Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC).

- The Alberta School Boards Association Drug Awareness and Society for Safe and Caring Schools Committee.
- Alberta Community Council on HIV.

The strength of the JHSA is best demonstrated through the work and dedication of its Provincial affiliates. While the core mission of these affiliates lies with the client services and programs that they provide on a daily basis to Albertans, their work develops from an evidence-based or research approach, which the JHSA supports and provides.

The Alberta John Howard Societies (JHS), coordinated through the JHSA, are strongly involved in supporting and participating in local community education and social justice developments. One program, offered by the affiliates and coordinated by the JHSA, is called the Criminal Justice Education (CJE) program. This program is unique within the John Howard Society family across Canada. The CJE program provides age appropriate information on the Youth Criminal Justice system and other aspects of the law.

The CJE program is fully supported and funded by the Alberta Law Foundation and, thanks to its support, the program has operated for over 20 years. In 2010, over 40,000 students in Alberta were visited in their classrooms and participated in the program. This number is expected to increase significantly in 2011. Further, in 2010, the JHSA received Alberta Law Foundation funding to secure a full time curriculum developer, with the goal being the creation of online modules of the CJE program to reach teachers and students in more rural communities in Alberta. At the time of writing this document, we are one year into this project and we have now revised and/or created 6 modules on a variety of topics for teacher and student consumption in the online environment.

To further support the JHS's work across Alberta, the JHSA has recently undertaken a number of initiatives. The JHSA has started to create critical and succinct "fact sheets" on a number of topics to support the JHSA affiliates in strong evidence-based research. Further, the JHSA, in an attempt to better educate the public, has increased its media discussions and discussions at post-secondary institutions and community forums. A comprehensive presentation was created to have frank discussions with the above-noted groups in order to dispel the myths that currently exist about offending and how our justice system operates. Finally, the JHSA

continues to conduct primary and secondary research into criminological issues, risk factors, recidivism, and reintegration strategies that are available to all interested parties.

It has been a pleasure to work with our justice partners to create safety and harmony in our society. We look forward to the opportunity to develop and strengthen our relationships further.

Chris Hay,
Executive Director

John Howard Society of British Columbia



Tim Veresh,
Executive Director

The John Howard of British Columbia and the nine Regional Societies met four times this year to discuss opportunities to improve inclusion and safety within our communities, clients, services and the future. We continue to address issues and provide solutions for the betterment of persons involved or at risk of involvement in the criminal justice system.

Overcrowding conditions within Remand and Provincial Custody Centres continues to remain a grave concern for the Agency. Increased support for incarceration rather than bail, eliminating remission on pre-conviction time served in custody, and mandatory minimum sentencing have increased pressure on overloaded custody centres.

All regions reported rising percentages of clients with conditions of mental health and substance misuse. Often the people we support are conflicted with both ailments reducing the options for services available to them. Many regions reported the clientele they are supporting have been banned or suspended from other local service providers for safety reasons. The supportive relationship provided by our staff teams allow for clients to continue to receive services, remain safe and not endanger those providing assistance.

Affordable Housing continues to present the greatest challenge to all regions as they support their communities and the people involved or at

risk of involvement in the criminal justice system. Increased skill building, rehabilitative or reintegration supports require further investment.

Our partnership with the Provincial Government of British Columbia to provide Advocacy Support in Youth Custody Centres throughout the Province continues to be a success. This multi-year agreement has been contracted with the JHS Lower Mainland, Northern and Victoria following the United Nations Rights of the Child provisions. We have also entered into a partnership with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver for gender specific programming through this initiative.

Provincially there were many milestones throughout the year including the implementation of the Client Administration Management System (CAMS). Now all of the John Howard Societies in British Columbia are working from the same data base system. This will allow for greater data collection and research opportunities in the future. Though our teams are experiencing a learning curve, the efficiencies and sustainability of operations is greatly enhanced throughout the Province. We are also pleased to report three of our Regions are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Residential Facilities.

We are very pleased to operate in many communities and have offices in fifteen: Victoria, Duncan, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Campbell River, Comox, Port Hardy, Vancouver, Surrey, Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Kelowna, Vernon, Kamloops, and Prince George.

The Society continues to provide meaningful and needed contributions of service throughout the Province in the areas of criminal and social justice. These services would not be effective without the support of members of our communities, government partners, foundations, non-government colleagues, the John Howard Society of Canada and Provincial Societies and caring concerned citizens who support our innovations. For the support we thank you.

Tim Veresh,
Executive Director

John Howard Society of Northwest Territories



*Lydia Bardak,
Executive Director*

Highlights during this period include continuing to operate the much needed Day Shelter for Yellowknife. Thanks to the generosity of BHP Billiton, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the City of Yellowknife and the Yellowknife Health and Social Services Authority, we were given the opportunity to operate the Dene Ko (“People’s Place”) Day Shelter as a 3 year pilot project. Open to anyone in the public, but specifically for individuals who are homeless and living with mental health issues and or addictions and other disabilities, we offer a warm, safe place to access washrooms, phones, a hot breakfast, snacks, and beverages. Workers at Dene Ko take phone messages, offer support, crisis management, problem solving and referral to other services such as addictions counselling, residential school survivor programs, adult education, etc. Public health nurses attend to provide education and follow up services and Aurora College has placed nursing practicum students with us.

- We currently have 254 individuals registered at the Day Shelter
- 183 (or 72%) are male; 71 (or 28%) are female
- More than half come from 5 communities and Nunavut
- 32 come from Behchoko
- 21 come from Lutselk’e
- 19 come from Deline
- 17 come from Fort Resolution
- 12 come from Inuvik
- 33 come from Nunavut (various communities)
- 48 are under the age of 30 and 16 are over the age of 60

Businesses and individuals have made donations to Dene Ko and even the clients bring in recyclables, shovel our sidewalk, and donate pocket change to us. Open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. every day, we see more than 60 people per day in Dene Ko. The local hospital reports that they no longer need to call the RCMP for disturbances in the hospital waiting area where many homeless individuals once spent their days. The RCMP are dealing with far fewer intoxicated individuals during daytime hours and the emergency personnel from the ambulance and municipal enforcement departments of the City of Yellowknife are getting fewer calls. We assist

individuals who are required to complete court ordered community service hours or fine option hours by assigning volunteer work to reduce breaches of conditions and we remind people of their court appearances so that we can reduce the number of failures to appear (and not waste court time).

We continue to receive Territorial Government funding for our three programs: the Fine Option Program, Community Service, and the Community Justice (diversion) Program. Our programs are available to males and females, youth and adults. We held volunteer recruitment and orientation for new volunteers on two occasions in the past year and currently have 12 active members available for the Justice Committee which continues to meet weekly. Community agencies continue to support the Fine Option Program and Community Service by supervising volunteers as they complete their court ordered volunteer hours. Those include the Center for Northern Families, the SideDoor Youth Center, the YWCA, Yellowknives Dene First Nation and the City of Yellowknife to name a few.



*Mike Keohane,
JHS NWT President
JHSC Sec/Treasurer*

Our court diversions have now gone from 13 cases in 2004-2005 to 30 cases in 2005-2006 to 62 cases in 2006-2007, to 59 cases in 2007-2008, to 52 cases in 2008-2009, down to 42 cases in 2009-2010 and 64 cases this year. The Fine Option client numbers are increasing (13 in 2007-2008, 24 in 2008-2009, 35 in 2009-2010, and 46 cases in 2010-2011). Both the Crown and the RCMP are very supportive and our attendance in court on docket days is helpful.

The John Howard Society of the Northwest Territories (JHSNWT) continues to enjoy strong partnerships with the staff in the Community Justice Division of the Territorial Justice Department, Probation Workers, the RCMP, and Crown Prosecutors.

We continue active involvement in National Addictions Awareness Week, and are partners in the Yellowknife Homelessness Coalition and the NWT Coalition Against Family Violence. The Coalition Against Family Violence has received funding to develop and deliver programming to men who use violence in intimate relationships. We continue to be involved with this initiative.

During Restorative Justice Week, we hosted our second old time family fiddle dance with fiddlers of all ages and even a square dance was called. More than 120 people enjoyed the fish chowder and bannock and all had fun...without alcohol!

It was our pleasure to host 3 nursing students from Aurora College in this past year. First year students were at Dene Ko Day Shelter for 8 weeks to learn about community agencies and to interact with our visitors.

Half-way through the year, we said good bye to our office assistant and have been aided in the office by volunteers from the Katimavik program. This has worked well for us. Staffing at the Dene Ko Day Shelter has presented challenges. We provided training throughout the second half of the year and hope to secure funding in order to do this on a regular basis. There are 7 part-time workers at Dene Ko.

In 2011-2012, we will work to stabilize Dene Ko Day Shelter with a view to the end of the pilot project. We will once again search for funding to engage a much needed youth outreach worker. We will also continue to be involved in the development of programming for men who use violence in intimate relationships; and we will seek the support of additional volunteers to support our work in the community. We also want to explore the possibility of a halfway house for Yellowknife as none currently exists.

Lydia Bardak,
Yellowknife Community Justice Coordinator,
Executive Director

Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Financial Statements

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF CANADA

For the Year Ended March 31, 2011

785 Midpark Dr., Suite 201, Kingston, Ontario K7M 7G3

Telephone (613) 634-5581 Facsimile (613) 634-5585

Website: www.wilkinson.net

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of The John Howard Society of Canada:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The John Howard Society of Canada, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011 and the statements of revenue and expenditures and fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many charitable organizations, The John Howard Society of Canada derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of The John Howard Society of Canada and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations revenue, excess of revenue over expenditure, assets and fund balances.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The John Howard Society of Canada as at March 31, 2011, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

KINGSTON, Canada
July 28, 2011

Wilkinson & Company, LLP
Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF CANADA
Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2011

2011

	Operating Fund \$	Senator Hastings \$	Total \$	2010 Total \$
Current Assets				
Cash	39,987	5,214	45,201	5,207
Short Term Invest		201,993	201,993	199,663
Accts. Receivable	8,985		8,985	153,969
Prepaid Expenses	2,547		2,547	2,711
	51,519	207,207	258,726	361,550
Property, Plant & Equipment				
Building	71,173		71,173	75,765
	71,173		71,173	75,765
Total Assets	122,692	207,207	329,899	437,315
Current Liabilities				
Outstanding cheques				39,578
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	13,792		13,792	12,387
Deferred revenue	26,560		26,560	60,784
Total Liabilities	40,352	NIL	40,352	112,749
Fund Balances				
Internally restricted		207,207	207,207	204,870
Investment in capital assets	71,173		71,173	75,765
Unrestricted	11,167		11,167	43,931
	82,340	207,207	289,547	324,566
	122,692	207,207	329,899	437,315

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF CANADA

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and Fund Balances at March 31, 2011

	2011			2010 Total \$
	Operating Fund \$	Senator Hastings \$	Total \$	
REVENUE				
Donations	169,401		169,401	174,072
Grant – PSEP				
Provincial Allocations	342,106		342,106	342,106
Administration	133,598		133,598	108,879
Travel Pool	69,458		69,458	65,000
Interest	271	2,337	2,608	3,301
In-kind donations	5,146		5,146	
Member Assessments	1,100		1,100	1,100
Dept. of Justice – project funding				140,277
National Staff Conference				18,400
Other Income	840		840	719
	721,920	2,337	724,257	853,854
EXPENDITURES				
Bank charges and interest	227		227	70
Dues and subscriptions	1,376		1,376	1,737
Equipment and computer	4,221		4,221	1,427
Grants to provincial societies	342,106		342,106	342,106
Insurance	4,529		4,529	4,647
In-kind donations	5,146		5,146	
Mail Campaign	38,533		38,533	47,384
Occupancy	7,207		7,207	6,788
Office Supplies	22,903		22,903	25,188
Project Costs	5,592		5,592	64,996
Professional Fees	64,019		64,019	27,313
Publications	1,893		1,893	1,415
Salaries + Employee Benefits	166,836		166,836	160,829
Staff Development	440		440	1,081
Telephone	5,307		5,307	6,548
Travel - general	4,172		4,172	6,836
- Travel pool	60,469		60,469	67,947
- other	19,708		19,708	70,836
	754,684	NIL	754,684	837,148
Surplus / (Deficit) before amortization	(32,764)	2,337	(30,427)	16,706
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	4,592		4,592	5,454
Surplus / (Deficit) after amortization	(37,356)	2,337	(35,019)	11,252
Fund Balances – beginning of year	119,696	204,870	324,566	313,314
Fund Balances – end of year	82,340	207,207	289,547	324,566

AGM 2010, Winnipeg, Manitoba



The John Howard Society of Canada National Award for Humanitarian Service is presented to Dawn Hrycun by Pamela Smith-Gander and accepted on her behalf by Ross Greenwood. Dawn is the Executive Director of JHS in Kamloops. Dawn recognized the need for supported housing for persons transitioning to the community from prison in the Kamloops area and through her leadership and determination, JHS Thompson Region has become the largest social housing provider within the JHS in BC..

The John Howard Society of Canada Jim MacLatchie Award was presented by Fred Neale, Vice President of JHS Canada to Gordon Sand, Executive Director for the John Howard Society in Calgary. Gord has demonstrated sound leadership in the field of community corrections through his tireless efforts with community partners in finding a new location for Bedford House. JHS Alberta delegate Kathy Borthwick-Chalifoux (right) accepted the award on Gord's behalf.



A presentation was made to the conference by Murray Monkman, A/Manager of Aboriginal Initiatives at Stony Mountain Institution. Handcrafts were displayed and made available for sale from inmates involved in the Pathways, Aboriginal Healing Range program at SMI.

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National Office

The John Howard Society of Canada
809 Blackburn Mews
Kingston, ON K7P 2N6
Executive Director: Catherine Latimer
Telephone: 613-384-6272
Fax: 613-384-1847
Email: national@johnhoward.ca
Web: www.johnhoward.ca

MEMBER SOCIETIES ACROSS CANADA

JHS British Columbia

763 Kingsway
Vancouver, BC V5V 3C2
Exec. Director: Tim Veresh
jhsed@jhsmbc.ca

JHS Manitoba, Inc.

583 Ellice Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1Z7
Exec. Director: John Hutton
jhutton@johnhoward.mb.ca

JHS Ontario

603-111 Peter Street
Toronto, ON M5V 2H1
Exec. Director: Paula Osmok
posmok@johnhoward.on.ca

JHS New Brunswick

68 Carleton Street
St. John, NB E2L 2Z4
Exec. Director: Bill Bastarache
info@jhssj.nb.ca

JHS Prince Edward Island

PO Box 1211
Charlottetown, PEI C1A 7M8
Exec. Director: Donna Hartley
johnhowardsociety@pei.aibn.com

JHS Northwest Territories

Box 1508
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2P2
Exec. Director: Lydia Bardak
lydia_jhswt@theedge.ca

JHS Alberta

10523-100th Ave.
Edmonton, AB T5J 0A8
Exec. Director: Chris Hay
exec.dir@johnhoward.ab.ca

JHS Saskatchewan

Suite 203, 2505 11th Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 0K6
Exec. Director: Greg Fleet
g.fleet@sk.johnhoward.ca

JHS Quebec

c/o Catholic Comm. Services
1857 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montreal, QC H3H 1J9
Coordinator: Vanessa Fable
fablevanessa@yahoo.ca

JHS Nova Scotia

541 Sackville Dr., Suite #1
Lr. Sackville, NS B4C 2S1
Exec. Director: John Peach
contact@ns.johnhoward.ca

JHS Newfoundland & Labrador

426 Water Street
St. John's, NF A1C 1E2
Exec. Director: Cindy Murphy
CMurphy@jhsnl.ca

*More information about John
Howard Society offices and services
across Canada can be found on our
WEB site at:
www.johnhoward.ca