

## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

**IT IS WITH SOME REGRET** that I acknowledge that this will be my last annual report for the John Howard Society of Manitoba (JHSM). I've served eight years on the board – and seven of these have been as chair.

I'm confident that I'm leaving the JHSM in at least as good shape as when I began. We have a very capable Executive Director in Sharon Perrault. She has been wonderful to work with. We've been through some harrowing times together, but with her steady hand at the helm, JHSM is headed in the right direction.

I want to thank all the people who have served on the board over the past eight years. I especially want to thank Phil Lancaster who will also be stepping down. We started at the same time, and I guess it's fitting that we're leaving together. Phil has been our go-to guy when it comes to any questions concerning policy. He did a great job on the bylaw changes we introduced a couple of years ago. He's fair, equable, articulate and has a great sense of humour to boot.

I've been fortunate to have had many other board members who gave of their time and shared their expertise in service to our organization. Chantal English recently completed seven-years of service on the board. Thanks for all your support, Chantal.

Zilla Jones, our deputy chair for the last several years, has always been there for me. Despite her busy life as a self-employed lawyer, author and mother (to mention just a few of her roles), she has always made herself available to serve the JHSM whenever I've requested. I can't thank her enough for her insight and support through some difficult times.

And thanks to the staff at JHSM. The last few years have been difficult for everyone. Our staff have persevered through the pandemic to provide programming under less-than-optimal conditions. Well done, everyone.

*Ken Friesen, Chair of the Board  
The John Howard Society of Manitoba*



*New mattresses, mattress covers, pillows, towels, comforters and linens are now provided for residents of the Four Healing Roads Lodge - Community Residential Facility. Thanks to the Essential Needs Fund from United Way Winnipeg and The Richardson Foundation. In addition, we installed new lighting and a dishwasher in the kitchen, thanks to The Winnipeg Foundation.*

Photo: Staff

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