



## For Immediate Release

### **Nanaimo Region John Howard Society partners with non-profit, Connective**

*Local partnership includes name change and expanded services for Nanaimo's marginalized people*

(Nanaimo, BC) September 7, 2022 – [Connective](#) and the Nanaimo Region John Howard Society announced they are expanding services from Vancouver, Fraser Valley, Kamloops, Northern BC and the Yukon by establishing a partnership to now include the Nanaimo region. The union creates a valuable presence for Connective in additional BC and the Yukon areas while delivering consistent, high-quality services to marginalized people. The Nanaimo-based organization's name will change to Connective Support Society, Nanaimo, effective immediately.

The Nanaimo Region John Howard Society is one of five, self-managed John Howard Societies in BC with local programs including addiction treatment, restorative practices, community reintegration, employment, community health and wellbeing.

“With this new partnership, our local services and focus remain the same: we will continue to provide services to promote responsible and accountable behaviours that lead to a safer community,” said John Horn, Executive Director Nanaimo Regional John Howard Society. “And with the ever-growing need for community services in our area, we recognize the benefit to partnering with Connective and leaning on our shared values to further our goals and better address our complex social issues.”

Both organizations have seen an increased need for a unified response in programming to address the growing community demand for services for marginalized people experiencing homelessness, addiction and justice system involvement.

“We are partnering with the Nanaimo Region John Howard Society to expand our shared purpose of stronger client service, reach and impact,” said Mark Miller, Chief Executive Officer, Connective. “As we expand our services across BC and the Yukon, our shared experiences, local and regional knowledge as well as our dedication to improving lives will impact all communities we serve.”

For more information about the Nanaimo name change or to learn more about Connective, please visit our website: [connective.ca](http://connective.ca)

**About Connective:**

Operating for more than 30 years in BC, Connective provides person-centered programs and services with essential support to vulnerable and marginalized community members, including those involved in the criminal justice system, experiencing homelessness, employment barriers, problematic substance use, mental health challenges, developmental disabilities, or spectrum disorders. Connective also works with Indigenous partners to identify and fill the gaps in the support needed and provided for Indigenous people. The organization's story began nearly 90 years ago when the Society started delivering services to vulnerable populations in the Lower Mainland. In 2021, Connective launched a new name and brand identity to help differentiate its growth and expansion into service areas driven by the needs of diverse communities. Through partnerships and satellite offices, Connective recently expanded to include both the Yukon and Kamloops, now serving a greater number of communities with vital resources and support.

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**Media Enquiries**

Connective                    [communications@connective.ca](mailto:communications@connective.ca)  
604.789.9066  
604.872.5651 ext. 315

Nanaimo Region            [john.horn@connective.ca](mailto:john.horn@connective.ca)  
250.713.1402  
250-754-1266