

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK - NAME CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

I am thrilled to be writing to you – a valued supporter, to inform you about an exciting change happening at World Relief Canada.

Effective January 1st, 2018 World Relief Canada will continue our ministry to the world's poor as Tearfund Canada.

Motivation

Almost 50 years ago, two groups of pastors started World Relief as the relief and development arm of Canadian evangelical churches. They believed that Canadian Christians had to live out our faith in service to the poor.

Over the last year, as I considered how to extend the reach, impact and witness of World Relief Canada, I have spent time looking into our history, our vision and most importantly the values that have, and that will sustain us into the future.

After much prayer and discussion by the staff and board, and consulting with church and individual supporters, we have decided we need to change our name. **The name we chose for continuing the ministry of World Relief is Tearfund Canada.**



Wayne Johnson
CEO & President

THREE BIG REASONS FOR THE CHANGE:

- 1. To be part of something bigger** - Tearfund is the largest network of Church-based relief and development agencies in the world. For over 30 years, we have partnered with Tearfund on many projects around the world, often with the same local partners. There are independent, national Tearfund agencies in the UK, Ireland, Belgium, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, Australia and New Zealand. Together, the Tearfund family serve in over 50 countries. **With this change, we will become an official part of this international compassionate Christian network.**
- 2. Commitment to the Church** - We follow Jesus where the need is greatest – We are choosing to get further involved in helping the local church of the Global South serve their communities. Tearfund has been the leader in this area for almost 50 years. We have always been involved with the Church, but we will expand programming in that area. **Joining the Tearfund family will mean our name matches our ministry priority.**
- 3. Avoid name confusion** - Our name - World Relief Canada often causes confusion. There are multiple relief and development agencies with “World” or “Relief” in their names, but we are not just another relief and development agency. We are committed to the call of God to serve the poor, through the local church wherever possible. **The name Tearfund is internationally recognized and respected for this distinct call.**

We believe that God is calling us to continue and expand our ministry and mandate as Tearfund Canada. This will be done as an independent, uniquely Canadian part of the worldwide Tearfund family.

tearfund

CANADA

The name came from
The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund,
but it means so much more.



*Following Jesus
where the need
is greatest*

Foundations

Tearfund was founded in the UK with similar roots to World Relief Canada. Both our organizations were birthed by the Evangelical Alliances in our respective countries. Our missions, visions and values are perfectly aligned: A call to follow Jesus where the need is greatest, and a commitment to working with and through the local church, wherever possible.

Both Tearfund and World Relief hold the deep-seated belief that long-term social change can start with the local church. We see the local village church as part of the largest social service network in the world.

Tearfund invests heavily in the local Church of the Global South, and has become the leading church-based Christian relief and development agency in the world. As Tearfund Canada, we will formally join this \$200 million global network of Christian Agencies for greater reach, deeper impact and a more solid witness in the world.

Continue with us

As a faithful donor to World Relief Canada, you have responded over and over again to help the poor, through sustainable, life-changing, economic empowerment, conservation agriculture, clean water and hygiene development programs. You have responded with generosity to humanitarian aid appeals.

As we move forward together, we will be continuing these activities that the local church in Africa and Asia is asking for, PLUS increasing assistance to training Pastors and leaders in holistic mission and Jesus-centered responses to serve the poor.

WE BELIEVE THAT:

- We are called to be Jesus-centered in all we do.
- We seek to be a small part of the world-wide mission of God to bring restoration of all things.
- We are passionate about supporting the local church of the Global South in fulfilling their Jesus-given mission to serve the poor.
- We are called to be excellent in all we do, following the highest professional standards in leading whole-life transformational programs.

A PERSONAL NOTE

Many Canadian Christians know the name - Rev. John Stott. When I was 18, John Stott made the final call to action at the Urbana Student Missions conference. He called young men and women to stand up and respond to God's call to reach the world for Jesus. He called us to mission. Along with the young woman who would later become my wife, I stood up in response. I can still remember it.

From 1983 to 1997 John Stott served as Tearfund's President. He called me, and a whole generation to a simple life-style for the sake of those living in poverty. He influenced my understanding of the Mission of God, and the ministry of Tearfund and World Relief. I am very humbled to follow in his footsteps in leading a national Tearfund organization.



Final Thoughts

Our commitment to the highest quality of delivery, to humanitarian standards and to technical expertise in our prioritized areas will not change. We recognize that we still have much to learn and that our partners in poor communities around the world have much to teach us.

Our evangelical Christian identity, our calling, our values and our understanding of poverty as being rooted in broken relationships will not change. We acknowledge that it is God who restores relationships, and we celebrate the role of the church in whole-life transformation.

We seek to follow Jesus where the need is greatest, which we define as serving those living in greatest economic poverty. We will continue to serve the poorest within communities: women, children and the most vulnerable and marginalized.

As Tearfund Canada, working alongside the Church of the Global South, we look forward to an even greater impact in the years ahead.

I invite you to continue in this exciting new phase of ministry with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wayne'.

Wayne Johnson
President - World Relief Canada

Please feel free to contact me at 416-707-9066 or
wjohnson@worldrelief.ca (wjohnson@tearfund.ca after Jan. 1, 2018)

PRACTICAL ISSUES:

Leadership, Boards and Governance - Tearfund Canada will be a totally independent Canadian organization, with the same Board and staff as it had before as World Relief Canada. Tearfund Canada will remain dependent on, and accountable to its Canadian supporters.

Charitable Registration - We have submitted change of name documentation to the Canada Revenue Agency effective January 1, 2018. Our CRA registration number will stay the same - CRA # 10822 2191 RR0001

Donations - Our donation process will not change and we have made arrangements for it to be as seamless as possible.

1. Pre-authorized payments will continue to be cashed with no changes needed by you. Your Bank Statement will reflect the change to Tearfund Canada in 2018.
2. Pre-authorized credit card donations will continue to be processed with no changes by you. Your Credit Card Statement will reflect the change to Tearfund Canada in 2018.
3. Please continue to send cheques made out to World Relief Canada until Dec 31, 2017, and after January 1, 2018, make cheques out to Tearfund Canada. But don't worry if you make a mistake, the bank will process the cheques under either name.

Tax Receipts - In February we will issue our 2017 charitable tax receipts under the name World Relief Canada. 2018 charitable tax receipts will be issued by Tearfund Canada

Matching Gifts - Tearfund Canada will continue to have access to up to 4:1 matching funds through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and Global Affairs Canada. This will not change.

Wills and Estates - We know that some of our most committed donors have planned gifts for World Relief in their wills and estates. We have made arrangements with both the banks and lawyers to ensure that bequests to World Relief Canada can be settled by Tearfund Canada for generations to come. If you would like more information on leaving a planned gift for Tearfund Canada in your estate, please call me at 416-707-9066 or wjohnson@worldrelief.ca until Dec. 31st and wjohnson@tearfund.ca thereafter.

On January 1st, 2018, we will launch a new website at tearfund.ca. Our current website will automatically redirect to tearfund.ca on January 1st.



*Thank you for your trust
as we steward your
Kingdom investment in
life-transforming change
among the poor.*