

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

1. APPLYING FOR FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY PRESSGO

The resources that PressGo administers are a very small part of the resources within the PCANZ; resources that are held by congregations and Presbyteries. It is PressGo's role to help the PCANZ redirect its attention and resources to "pursuing missional growth"¹. We want to support and encourage congregations who are committed to growing the Kingdom of God.

There are a number of ways PressGo can support your mission as a congregation or as a Presbytery. Sometimes the very best ideas for a new initiative will emerge from a little spark, other times it is from a bold vision that has captured your congregation. Even congregations who are struggling to understand what the future will look like for them can find imagination and inspiration in the tension of change. Many projects will be about "experiments around the edge" – in the community where God is already active.

We are moving away from funding "business as usual" and initiatives that just "make church better" for current members. Not every project will be funded, nor can we assist in all situations.

The PCANZ has articulated the key elements of a forward growth strategy in [Bringing Clarity to our Mission](#) (April 2014) so the following are reflected in PressGo's priorities for resourcing:

- Investment in the leadership we need
- Investment in new alternative congregations
- Church plants – yes, Amalgamations – no

PressGo's Strategic Framework 2013-14 described three inter-related strands of work:

1. Inspiring Mission
2. Capacity Building and
3. Seed Funding.

Priorities can be identified within each of these stands consistent with General Assembly's priorities.

PressGo does not work in isolation but in strategic partnership with Council of Assembly via the Leadership Subcommittee, Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, Presbyteries, Assembly Executive Secretary and national service team.

PCANZ Mission Funding is available to fund mission and growth initiatives within the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (including Co-operative Ventures).

¹ From PressGo Strategic Framework 2013-14, Business Strategy

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

PressGo is able to assist congregations in a number of ways, so ideally making an application is only one component and will typically follow a series of conversations or engagement in discerning, planning or other activity. In these cases, PressGo will work with the applicant to put together the application. Applications are not to be made in isolation from the other processes of the church (e.g. advising Presbytery of a proposed new initiative, advising CPT of desire to sell property etc.) and applicants should make sure that when Presbytery receives a PressGo application for endorsement is not the first time Presbytery has been made aware of the project.

Please note that applications must be accompanied by current Mission Plans and financial accounts. If you need assistance in preparing a Mission Plan contact the PressGo Catalyst.

2. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF PRESSGO FUNDING

- a. That the number of those participating in the worshipping life of our Church increases. This includes the variety of church expressions, not just the Sunday service.
- b. That churches show amongst their members such qualitative measures as a deeper faith, strengthened commitment to Christ, and increased willingness to be involved in serving others and advocating for those who do not have a voice.
- c. That vulnerable and socially disadvantaged groups, families or people receive the support they need to be a valued part of our church communities.
- d. That we as a church may have an avenue to share with each other for the advancement of God's Kingdom on earth and to show an attitude of generosity in keeping with our Christian faith.

3. SMALL GRANT CATEGORY

Small grants are usually under \$10,000 and for new projects such as:

- Mission and community focused projects
- New ministry opportunities
- Research and investigation of opportunities
- "Give it a Go"
- Leadership development
- Professional support / coaching
- Development of Mission Plans
- Capacity building

Application is open any time and applications will be accepted from churches, Presbyteries and individuals for small projects. Grants will be for no more than 50% of the total cost of the project or \$10,000, whichever is the lesser.

An Application Form is completed on-line and reviewed by the PressGo Catalyst. A summary of the application and grant recommended will be provided to the PressGo Board for approval. The PressGo Catalyst will communicate the decision to the applicant, agree reporting requirements and arrange payment.

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

When the project is complete an evaluation template will be filled in by the applicant. This will be reviewed by the PressGo Board. Where possible projects funded will be profiled through SPANZ, PCANZ website and other channels as appropriate. The relevant Presbytery will be advised what grants have been made each quarter.

We are not taking applications under this category until 2017. In the meantime, Presbyterian Foundation grants are open to applicants and information about these can be found on the PCANZ website.

4. DEVELOPMENT GRANT CATEGORY

Development grants will be for significant new initiatives. Grants are between a minimum of \$10,000 and a maximum of \$500,000 and may be paid over multiple financial years. Purposes for which you can apply include:

- Pilot or introduction of new missional venture
- Redevelopment of existing congregation / turnaround
- New congregation or missional community plant
- Capacity building
- Construction or building redevelopment (where supported by Mission Plan)

Application is open any time and applications will be accepted from congregations and Presbyteries. Applications may also be initiated by PressGo in response to emerging needs or opportunities. In these cases, support or involvement will be sought from other stakeholders such as relevant Presbytery(ies) and congregations or other organisations.

The first approach is through the PressGo Catalyst who will assist in the application process. In order to progress the application PressGo and applicant may agree on intermediate steps which may include further research (e.g. community consultation, Fundraising Feasibility Study, Operational Feasibility Study, Operational Audit etc.).

Applications are referred to the relevant Presbytery for comment and approval (or otherwise).

Ultimately a summary of the application and grant recommended, along with Presbytery endorsement, will be provided to the PressGo Board for approval.

A grant may take the form of a contribution to designated costs of project such as advisory services, capacity building services or professional fees; a designated or general contribution to the capital project; a contribution to the project's operational phase including but not limited to stipend and salary; underwriting of bridging finance costs through covering interest payments for a defined period. Grants may include contributing towards any or all of these costs, or other costs to be agreed between the applicant and the PressGo Board.

The PressGo Catalyst will communicate the decision to the applicant, agree reporting requirements and arrange payment of the grant.

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

Due to the size of these projects, it is anticipated that the PressGo Board or Catalyst will make regular informal and formal contact with the applicant over the course of the project's implementation.

When the project is complete an evaluation template will be filled in by the applicant. This will be received by the PressGo Board. Board members may request a presentation from the applicant, or undertake on-site visits where appropriate.

Where possible projects funded will be profiled through SPANZ, PCANZ website and other channels as appropriate.

5. INSPIRING MISSION EVENT CATEGORY

Inspiring Mission events are usually initiated by the PressGo Board, but congregations, Presbyteries and individuals are welcome to make contact to discuss a need or an opportunity that they are aware of.

Events may take the form of a seminar, workshop, networking or "learning party" as well as hosting speakers across the country. Grants are available for participant subsidies, the cost of venue and equipment hire, speaker costs, travel and other costs as appropriate. An application is completed on-line.

PressGo will aim to facilitate at least one event each year.

Inspiring Mission events will be promoted across the PCANZ and every attempt will be made to ensure that people from all locations have access to events. Events will be profiled through Bush Telegraph, SPANZ, PCANZ website and other wider channels as appropriate.

6. AROHA GRANT CATEGORY

Aroha Grants are for programmes, services, ministries which benefit identified vulnerable and socially disadvantaged individuals, families and groups in New Zealand. Grants in this category will be funded from the 20% proportion of MEF funds available.

PressGo will partner in the first instance with Te Aka Puaho when considering projects and also with the relevant regional Presbyterian Support organisation.

The process for these grants is still being developed in partnership with Te Aka Puaho.

7. THE ROLE OF THE PRESSGO CATALYST

The PressGo Catalyst is responsible for enabling the PressGo Board to provide capacity building resources to presbyteries and congregations throughout PCANZ so that the church is better equipped for mission.

The main focus areas for this role are:

- Strategic thinking in order to provide a healthy and sustainable church of the future

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

- Working with presbyteries and congregations on innovative projects to extend the PCANZ mission
- Facilitating and engaging in best practice systems for project and resource management

The Catalyst is the first contact most congregations have with PressGo and will provide guidance as to the most appropriate process for the congregation to follow. This may include any or all of the following:

- Email correspondence
- Phone call
- Visit to congregation
- Facilitation of meeting with congregation
- Provision of services such as advice and support for capacity building – either general or specific
- Assistance in preparing an application for the PressGo Board's consideration
- Advice and/or assistance in preparing other applications or approaches for funding or resourcing
- Provision of a workshop or seminar on a general or specific area
- Undertaking a professional capacity study such as a Fundraising Feasibility and Planning Study or an Operational Audit
- Assistance and coaching in preparing Strategic, Mission, Operational, Project or Fundraising Plans

8. PRESSGO CONTACT

To discuss a potential project or an application please contact the PressGo Catalyst on 027 4455 723, or lisaw@presbyterian.org.nz. Applications can be sent electronically to this address or mailed as hard copies to: PressGo Catalyst, P O Box 13-103, Dunedin 9052.