



# Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

## FINANCE NEWSLETTER 175

**TO:** Parish Treasurers, Presbytery and Parish clerks  
**FROM:** Brendan Sweeney, Manager, Financial Services  
**DATE:** 31 July 2015

1.	<b>Health and Safety Reform Act 2015</b>
2.	<b>Charities Registration Update</b>
3.	<b>Fuji Xerox Product Offer</b>

### 1. Health and Safety Reform Act 2015

The Health and Safety Reform Act 2015 is currently before parliament and is likely to be passed into law later this year. This legislation has ramifications for the operations and management of churches, due to potential liability in the event of accidents resulting in injury to employees, volunteers and parishioners.

A task group to the Inter Church Bureau (formerly the Inter Church Working Party) has been established and tasked with investigating the impact of the Act and communicating and guiding churches accordingly. An initial ICB communication outlining support tools and presentations planned for later this year is presented in appendix 1. Please refer and contact me if you have any queries.

### 2. Charities Registration Update

As at 26 July, of the 276 Presbyterian parishes, the status of registrations was:

Registered parishes:	209
Applications in process:	21
Te Aka Paulo Maori Pastorates:	13
Applications not Received	<u>33</u>
	276

If you are an appropriate representative of any of the 33 churches that have not yet applied for registration, you are reminded that registration for charitable status by 30 June is a Council of Assembly requirement. I will be writing to this group of parishes directly later this week. Please give this your urgent attention or contact me if you require assistance.

### 3. Fuji Xerox Product Offer

I have had a few queries about the availability of photocopier and digitising equipment deals available to churches. We have an agreement through All Churches Services Limited (ASL) with Fuji Xerox to supply photocopy equipment and backup service to churches on a no rental and no capital outlay basis. This means the cost is entirely dependent on the volume of photocopying the church does. Details and the contact are below:

#### *Fuji Xerox Church Syndication Agreement*

##### Current and future goals of the syndicated church arrangement

*Cost Savings now and looking forward and continuous cost and solution optimisation. We will provide you with a machine to suit your requirements. There is no capital outlay, all we charge you is a rate for each colour impression you print and a rate for each mono impression you print.*

##### Current Denominations with Fuji Xerox

*Shore Vineyard Churches, acts Churches New Zealand, City Impact Church, Life, Elim, Baptist Churches of New Zealand, Equippers Churches and Assemblies Of God New Zealand.*

##### Managed Services Syndicated Agreement, the concept

- 1. Proved track record of delivering solutions to the New Zealand Marketplace.*
- 2. Flexibility to accommodate the ongoing and evolving document requirements of the syndicated churches.*
- 3. Ability to embrace the latest technology as delivered to the market.*
- 4. Provide tangible financial savings and business efficiencies.*

##### Managed Services Syndicated Agreement, core elements

- 1. Accommodate changes to church needs throughout the term.*
- 2. Can request relocation, removal or upgrade*
- 3. No minimum volume commitments*
- 4. Change equipment when required*
- 5. Add new equipment or services.*
- 6. Take advantage of new technology*
- 7. Responsive to volume decline or growth.*

##### Managed Service Syndicated Agreement

- 1. Single unit charge for mono and colour 1.99 cents monochrome and 9.25 cents colour which includes all consumables hardware, software, service and maintenance, installation and training.*
- 2. Billed on actual usage in arrears*
- 3. No minimum monthly volume commitment or fixed rental.*
- 4. Agreement is for 7 years.*

**For any further questions please call Craig Bradshaw on 021 082 00313 or  
[craig.bradshaw@nzl.fujixerox.com](mailto:craig.bradshaw@nzl.fujixerox.com)**

## Appendix 1

# InterChurch Bureau

(Formerly the Inter Church Working Party on Taxation)

PO Box 12-287 : Wellington, 6144, New Zealand

Phone 04 -473 9369 : Email Elizabeth@acpb.org.nz

---

**MEMO TO:** All Church Leaders and Church Trustees

### **Church 'working environments' and Health & Safety**

There has been significant coverage in New Zealand media about the upcoming changes to health and safety legislation and regulations. The focus has been on what the proposed Health and Safety Reform Bill will mean for businesses, organisations and their staff. The Bill is likely to be passed, approved and enacted into law by the end of the year.

The proposed Bill aims to update the Health and Safety in Employment Act of 1992. Health and safety legislation covers places we spend a lot of time when we are not at home. It affects everyone who works for organisations in any capacity, either paid or voluntary.

On any given day some of the places we visit are churches and church-owned buildings. Churches engage many people to further their mission, either as employees, ministers, or volunteers. Church attendees often also fulfil many different roles in any given week. In some way all these roles and places are governed by the current health and safety legislation and will continue to be governed by the new legislation.

Churches have always been known as places of sanctuary and safety. As a Christian organisation, and as church-mission leaders, church-property managers, and trustees, we are deeply committed to promoting the Interests of our congregations, pastors, employees & communities including best health and safety practice. In every way we aspire to be good stewards of church property and to ensure the safety of those who work with us to further and participate in our mission.

There is always some degree of risk with faith and faith practice. The present and proposed new health and safety legislation challenge us to balance the risks we take when we reach out to those in need and fulfil the Christian mandate while ensuring all participants in this process are safe and healthy – to clothe the naked, feed the hungry,

visit the sick and those who are in prison and welcome the stranger (New Testament, Matthew 25).

Administrators of many Christian denominations meet regularly within an organisation called the *InterChurch Bureau* (ICB). ICB allows churches to share common-interest information about legislation and its administration. ICB has been active in observing, analysing, and reviewing developments in the proposed health and safety reforms. Some denominations have submitted responses during the various consultation processes as part of the reform process.

ICB is taking steps to keep all Christian Churches up to date on developments. ICB is getting ready to provide helpful information for church leaders, their advisers, and congregations. The aim is to help all better understand and manage the existing and the new health and safety obligations and provide practical tools.

ICB will also organise presentations that cover the Health and Safety Reform Bill legislation and the new regulations to come into effect by the end of 2015. The presentations will be specific to the church environment and cover church-related schools, early-childcare centres, social-service providers and many other activities that involve church organisations and leaders. The presentations will focus on practical and effective steps and procedures to assist in meeting our legal and ethical obligations.

These ecumenical events, to be held in various regions later this year, will be of real value to church-community leaders, church property managers, trustees and front-line pastoral and administrative staff.

On behalf of the denominations and churches ICB looks forward to working with you all as we journey into a new way of understanding our health and safety obligations, within our calling to be at the service of those most in need.

Chris Bethwaite

**CHAIR  
INTERCHURCH BUREAU**

5 August 2015