



# Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

## FINANCE NEWSLETTER 181

**TO:** Parish Treasurers, Presbytery and Parish clerks  
**FROM:** Brendan Sweeney, Manager, Financial Services  
**DATE:** 31 March 2016

<b>1.</b>	<b>Health and Safety Workshop update</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Charities Services annual returns</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Power usage survey update</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>2015 Statistics</b>

### **1. Health and Safety Workshop update**

At today's date, the Northland, Auckland and Kaimai regions have hosted 10 of 30 Inter Church Bureau Health and Safety workshops planned for the nationwide roadshow. Below is a communication from the Inter Church Bureau summarizing feedback received and notifying church participants who have not yet enrolled:

*Dear ICB members*

*We have just completed five Health & Safety Workshops in Auckland. The response has been incredible, this certainly is a topic churches are very interested in. Feedback has been very encouraging: "the workshop was awesome"*

*"presenters were excellent and easy to understand"*

*"the workbook is a very helpful resource"*

*"so appreciate that the Inter Church Bureau has taken the time to do this for the churches"*

*'the workshops are practical, well presented with good discussions and learnings taking place amongst the participants'*

*Now that we are moving outside of Auckland, can you please send a reminder to your churches and strongly encourage that they register to attend a workshop near them. We have had over 1200 people register so far, however there are many more churches out there that should be attending. We are now hearing from people who are greatly disappointed that missed the Auckland Workshops, as they did not know they were happening.*

*The new legislation places a responsibility not just on employer and employee, but on fellow workers, including volunteers. So, please help us get the word out far and wide so that all the Christian community is fully aware and up-skilled in this area, and understands their new responsibilities.*

*Attached is the initial memos with the update workshop list.*

*Please distribute it as widely as you can, and ask your churches to send it on to their local Ministers associations.*

*Thank you for your assistance with this and encouraging your people to get along.*

*Many thank  
(Inter Church Bureau)*

Please refer to the February newsletter for the schedule of remaining workshops or contact me if you need advice. Please remember that the \$25 attendance fee will be underwritten by this office for representatives of presbyterian churches. Also please note that the workbook and soft copies of the forms will be posted on the PCANZ website at conclusion of the roadshow. I will include a link with the April newsletter.

## **2. Charities Services annual return update**

Following the church registration process last year, I can report that 97% of presbyterian churches are now registered, and that 65% of churches have posted their 2015 annual reports on the charities website. This is very encouraging and is a good indicator for 2016 reporting which will be required to be completed to the new accounting standards for Public Benefit Entities.

Charities Services have designed a new form which will be required to be completed by all churches by 31 December 2016 (assuming a June balance date). Details of the form and an audio explanation of requirements and process are contained in this link. I will provide further advice closer to balance date.

<https://www.charities.govt.nz/im-a-registered-charity/annual-returns/updated-annual-return>

## **3. Power usage survey update**

There has been a very strong response to the invitation to participate in the church power usage survey. To date the organisers, Nice 1, has received about 170 completed surveys (60% of all presbyterian churches). Nice 1 are now collating the results and negotiating bulk purchasing schemes with the power companies. They plan to contact participating churches with power price offers in late April or early May.

#### 4. 2015 Statistics

June 2015 church statistics have been posted on the website:

<http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-parishes/church-statistics/statistics-2015>

There has been a disappointing return rate with 38% of churches failing to complete the forms, up from 27% last year. Completion rate by Presbytery is:

Presbytery	# Parishes	# Statistics Returned	% Non Statistics provided
Northern Presbytery	73	51	30%
Kaimai Presbytery	29	22	24%
Central	49	35	29%
Alpine	38	26	32%
Southern Presbytery	65	38	42%
Pacific Island Synod	10	2	80%
Te Aka Puaho	15	-	100%
<b>Total 2015</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Total 2014</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>27%</b>

The report posted on the website can be updated so if you haven't returned statistics please do so as the data is used for the calculation of 2016-17 Assembly Assessment which will be done in May or June.