SUPERVISION IN NORTHERN PRESBYTERY
November 2024

On behalf of the Learning and Development Workgroup (which is returning to provisions for oversight of supervision), please complete this and return to the Presbytery Administrator by 28 February 2025. administrator@northpres.org.nz

The "priceless grace of self-knowledge", says contemplative pastor Richard Foster, brings insight and builds compassion. Today it is a 'given' that ministers need at least one person with whom they can honestly reflect on their daily work, and consider the tough questions of what's going on, and what might be underneath. Self-awareness shows up as emotional intelligence, the ability to know and manage our own feelings, as well as read and deal effectively with those of others.

Ministry Supervision is the tool that Northern Presbytery relies on to help ministers reflect on their work, in depth, in confidence, and on a regular basis. The supervisor needs to be outside the immediate sphere of the congregation/context, and have some experience and knowledge of pastoral supervision; a revised list of approved supervisors is available on the Northern Presbytery's website.

The supervisee normally sets the agenda, and the supervisor acts as a 'wise listener' in a conversation about skill, capacity and issues raised in the minister's daily work. Matters discussed might include difficulties in relationships with parishioners or colleagues, sad or vexing pastoral situations, coping mechanisms, boundaries, workload and self-care. The minister has a chance to stand back and reflect, and be encouraged to engage with new options. Sessions are normally one hour.

Supervision is a form of self-reflection seen as necessary for safe practice, and for the protection of those under the minister's care. It helps develop, support and motivate those who serve others. For this reason the cost of supervision is borne by the congregation. A full-time minister is expected to attend supervision monthly; making allowance for annual leave etc, this means that in a given year the minister will attend supervision around ten times.

Ministers Name: _____

Congregation or other context: _____

Name of Supervisor: _____

Supervisor's professional affiliation (eg NZAC, CAIRA): _____

Frequency of Supervision: _____

Who pays for the supervision?_____

How do you report attendance (<u>not</u> content) of supervision? _____
(Date noted in monthly ministry report is recommended)

Signatures

Minister …….. **Supervisor ……**

Date …….. **Date ……**

If your preferred supervisor is on not on the list, there is a pathway for inclusion. Contact the Learning & Development workgroup through the Presbytery Office.