

Bay of Quinte Conference of The United Church of Canada



Candidacy Pathways Pilot Process

The Ministry Reflection Group (MRG)

Role:

To provide a safe, confidential venue for the student to reflect, learn, and grow related to the Student Minister's effectiveness and experience of ministry; and to provide needed site feedback to the Student Minister and CAB with the goal of assisting the Student Minister's learning and development.

Responsibilities:

- The MRG meets at least every two months for support and feedback to the Student Minister.
- The MRG is comprised of a minimum of three and a maximum of four members with representatives from each point of a Pastoral Charge as approved by the Board/Council.
- The MRG meets with the Student Minister independently of other committees and makes no report to other church committees other than how often they have met.
- The MRG is a safe and confidential place for Student Minister to ask questions, to share, to receive feedback (e.g., body language, speed of sermon, eye contact, pastoral visiting, goal progression, etc.)
- The MRG helps the Student Minister to reflect, grow and develop toward readiness for ordination or commissioning and to develop their ministerial identity.
- The MRG reflects on the Student Minister's learning goals as they develop and emerge.
- It is recommended that committee chairs do not sit on the MRG. Neither the Chair of the Board/Council nor members of the Ministry & Personnel Committee may serve on the MRG.
- The Educational Supervisor meets with or has conversation with the MRG at least twice per year independently from the Student Minister.

Guiding Questions:

- What has been challenging? What has gone well?
- What are the learning goals you have set? How are they unfolding? What new insights in ministry have you gained?
- What have you learned about the governance and courts of the Church? How have you balanced the role of congregational ministry with participation of the courts of the church?
- Are you participating in fellowship opportunities offered by the church?
- How do you see that you are meeting the needs of the Pastoral Charge as expressed by the Joint Needs Assessment?
- How do you feel you have been received in the Bible Study you led, the pastoral visits, hospital, funeral weddings you have officiated over, worship?
- How are you balancing your time?
- Do you have a support system?
- How have your CAB interviews going?

Format for meetings:

Welcome Opening worship

Round table check in

Conversations based on guiding questions Confirm next meeting date

Closing prayer