

# CMM CIRCULAR

Fall 2011



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*Statements, claims & opinions made in articles are those of the author & don't necessarily reflect the views of the CMM or Executive.*

*Submissions are subject to editorial changes.*

**The Leaves are falling...** I love Autumn... I love the colors, the smells, the baking... the Holidays... Love it all! It is hard to believe that the summer is pretty much behind us, and that we are all gearing up for another busy work year. We hope that each of you was able to enjoy some special time with family and friends over the summer.

The CMM registry of practising midwives appears to be growing. We welcome two new midwives to Manitoba, Jenna Mennie who is employed with Brandon Regional Health Authority, (BRHA), and Kelly Fitzmaurice, who is employed with Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA). Also, to those who have returned to practice from maternity leave, its nice to have you back! We anticipate that a few more midwives will be applying for registration over the next few months.

The Bachelor of Midwifery (BMP), University College of the North (UCN) students began their second year in September. They have relocated to the Bannatyne Campus in Winnipeg and are thrilled to have access to the library and computers. Linda Ross has been seconded to provide management support for the Program as part of COPSE's initiative to strengthen it. We understand that the three instructor positions have now been filled by Becki Wood, RM, Betsi Dolin, RM and Julia Allen, RM from BC. We wish students every success as they continue on their journey into midwifery.

The CMM has recently advertised for more appointed Public Representatives via the Manitoba Community Newspaper Association (MCNA). We have had several inquiries and hope that the Selection Committee is successful in recruiting a few good representatives for Council and committee work. We value our Public Representatives for their work and their commitment to support the midwifery model of practice in Manitoba.

The Birth Centre is well under way and is expected to open its doors to expectant moms and their families very soon! We look forward to the Opening Celebration of the Birth Centre; see board room news for further details.

We hope we have been able to keep you well informed with news relevant to your practice as a midwife. Let us know what you're thinking about how, we're doing and how we can improve. We want to satisfy and engage our readers. Continue to enjoy this lovely Autumn weather, doing what makes you happy! Kathy

### NOTE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Busy...busy...busy! When I referred to my Grandmother's Amber Pin at the Annual General meeting (AGM) as a symbol of how we are all going to be busy this year, I think I understand that truth. As we move into the Fall of 2011, we are all buzzing around as midwives, staff and volunteers. Some of us are busy building new 'HIVES', others are fostering the growth of midwifery and caring for families. Thanks to every 'BEE' out there - Take time to enjoy the honey! Kelly




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**COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES OF  
MANITOBA  
COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Kelly Klick, RM, Chairperson

Darlene Birch, RM  
(KD Council Designate)

Thelma Mason, (KD)

Kari Hammersley, RM

Gisele Fontaine, RM

Erin Eleuterio (Pub.Rep)

Terri MacKenzie (Pub. Rep)

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**CURRENT CMM  
MEMBERSHIP**

38 Practicing Midwives

17 Non-practicing Midwives

8 Students

**CODE OF ETHICS FOR  
MIDWIVES**

*Approved by the MIC as a Working Document June 12, 1995.*

*Each midwife shall act, at all times, in such a manner as to justify public trust and confidence, to uphold and enhance the good standing and reputation of the profession, to serve the interests of society and, above all, to safeguard the interests of individual clients.*

**NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**ELECTION UPDATE**

**Election of Members**

I am pleased to report that one nomination was received from the membership for the additional seat on Council (Council decision June 20, 2011). Sheila Mills, RM has been automatically elected to Council. Her term is November 2011 to October 2014.

As no other nominations were received, I am also pleased to announce that Kelly Klick, RM, Kari Hammersley, RM and Gisele Fontaine, RM have each been automatically re-elected to Council for a second 3-year term (November 2011 to October 2014).

**Appointment of Public Representatives**

The Committee to Select Public Representatives has determined that regrettably Terri Mackenzie is not available to be re-appointed for an additional 3-year term on Council. The Committee is in the process of appointing a new Public Representative to fill the position which will become vacant on October 31, 2011. Terri's commitment and perspective will be missed.

**CMRC Update**

Planning is underway for the annual in-person meeting of the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Consortium. Manitoba continues to serve as the Secretariat, with Kris Robinson at the helm. The CMRC meeting –November 7&8 –precedes the Annual CAM Conference and is also being held in Niagara Falls, Ontario. I will provide the highlights of our meeting in the next newsletter.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**Standards Committee:** The CMM has a very dedicated Standards Committee that works endlessly on reviewing and revising CMM Standards, Policies, and Guidelines. The most recent documents that have been revised/approved are:

1. Standard for Out of Hospital Birth
2. Out of Hospital Handbook
3. Standard for Postpartum Care of Mother and Infant.

Members are prioritizing the work for revising the Standard for Postpartum Care; Guideline for Management of Post Term Pregnancy, Guideline for Vaginal Birth after one Previous Low Segment Caesarean Section (VBAC), plus developing a Guideline on Water birth! Just to name a few. The work goes on.....

**Perinatal Review Committee:** The next meeting of the Perinatal Review Committee is scheduled for October 28. There are five cases set to be reviewed – four referred by midwives, and one referred to the Committee by the St. Boniface General Hospital, Perinatal and Mortality Committee.

**Education Committee:** The Education Committee has met over the summer and has begun a review of the Midwifery Education Program Approval. (MEPA) – Self Directed Process.

Each midwife is accountable for her practice and, in the exercise of professional accountability, shall:

- 1) Act in such a way as to promote and safeguard the well being of clients, advocating for their interests.
- 2) Respect birth as a natural life process and refrain from interfering in that process.
- 3) Care for women to the best of her ability without prejudice on the basis of age, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, mental or physical abilities, or socio-economic background.
- 4) Clearly inform and educate clients and the public as to the philosophy, role, function and standards of the midwifery practice.
- 5) Clearly inform clients and other health care practitioners of the scope and limitations of midwifery practice.
- 6) Respect clients' right to informed choice, acknowledging their individual needs, values and dignity.
- 7) Avoid any abuse of the information gained due to the privileged relationship, which exists with clients.
- 8) Refrain from disclosing confidential information obtained in the course of professional practice without the consent of clients or persons entitled to act on their behalf, except where disclosure is required by or by the order of the court.
- 9) Within her sphere of influence, ensure that no action or omission on her part is detrimental to the interests, or safety of clients.
- 10) Refrain from the practice of midwifery while her ability to perform any professional service is impaired.
- 11) Make known to an appropriate person or authority where it appears that the ability of a colleague to maintain standards of practice appears to be in jeopardy.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES CONT'D

As a reminder, the College had been developing this approval document a number of years ago. It was discovered that the current Midwifery Regulation however did not allow for a protection of the public mechanism – in this case the ability of the College to investigate a complaint against an “individual self directed program student”. The legislation is clear that a member of the public can submit a complaint against a ‘midwife’, but, this does not include a ‘student’. This problem does not exist in the case of an approved institutional midwifery education program student because the public is protected by virtue of the fact that complaints can be registered with institutions. As a result of this omission in the original regulation, the College submitted an amendment to correct this. This proposed amendment is still in the legislative drafting stage. The CMM Council received the results of the initial audit of the MEPA document at its September meeting and is considering the appropriate next steps.

**Board of Assessors:** This committee continues to review new applicants wishing to register and practice in Manitoba. We anticipate a few more midwives will be on the register before the end of this year!

**Quality Assurance Committee:** This committee has been working hard at revising the group practice audit tools that the College received from the College of Midwives of Ontario, which has been conducting group practice audits (as opposed to audits of sole midwives) for a number of years. The work that has been done is to ensure that the tools reflect the contents of the CMM’s Registrants Handbook. This work will be completed by Christmas, with the audit itself being done by the end of March 2012. This particular group practice will be conducted as a pilot – it will be a group practice and an audit of the revised group audit tools themselves. We are very much looking forwards to the results.

## TOPICS OF INTEREST

### Multi-Jurisdictional Midwifery Bridging Project (MMBP)

Regulatory Bodies, MMBP staff and sustainability consultants in Canadian provinces have been meeting with their respective government representatives to negotiate ongoing funding for the MMBP Program. The results of these meetings will be available at a meeting in Calgary on November 25 & 26, 2011. This moves the MMBP Pilot into the next phase of its development. We are pleased that there are a number of eligible Manitoba applicants in the current intake.

### Manitoba Midwifery Advisory Council (MMAC)

The College of Midwives of Manitoba has been invited as a member to the newly established Manitoba Midwifery Advisory Council. Other members include representatives from Manitoba Health, the Midwives Association of Manitoba (MAM), Regional Health Authorities, University College of the North (UCN), the Council on Post Secondary Education (COPSE) and Manitoba Labour & Immigration. The second meeting was held on September 21, 2011. The Council was formed to support the development and evaluation of midwifery in Manitoba. The College is pleased to be a part of this initiative. At the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting we were able to raise the important issue of inter-regional midwifery service agreements – and voiced our concern regarding the negative implications regarding patient safety for both clients and midwives.



## COUNCIL & COMMITTEES MEETINGS

Standards Committee- October 17, 2011 9:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Board of Assessors Committee – October 20, 2011 12:00- 2:00 p.m.

Perinatal Review Committee – October 28, 2011 9:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Council Meeting – November 28, 2011 9:00 – 2:00 p.m.

## UPCOMING HOLIDAYS/EVENTS

Water birth: A public lecture/discussion, with Barbara Harper, RN  
October 15 @7:00 p.m. McNally Robinson, 1120 Grant Ave, Wpg.

Opening Ceremonies for the Winnipeg Birth Centre- October 16, 2011; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies begin at 2:00 p.m, 630 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg.

CMRC In-person Meeting – November 7 & 8, 201, Niagara Falls, On.  
Canadian Association of Midwives & Midwives Alliance of North America-North American Conference & Exhibit-November 9-11, 2011, Niagara Falls, On.

Aboriginal Midwives Working in Every Aboriginal Community: A Symposium on Midwifery for Aboriginal Leadership –November 7, 2011, Ohsweken, Six Nations of the Grand River, On.

Remembrance Day – Friday November 11, 2011 Office will be closed.

Christmas schedule:

Monday December 26, 2011 Office will be closed.

Tuesday December 27, 2011 Office will be closed.

Monday January 2, 2012 Office will be closed. Please call ahead if planning to drop in person as we will be functioning with reduced staff levels.

## CONTACT THE CMM

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## CMM STAFF

Registrar: Janice Erickson, BA, RM, (non-prac)

Executive Director: Patty Eadie, BA, BSW

Administrative Officer: Kathy Kirby

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*A society that places a low value on its mothers and the process of birth will suffer an array of negative repercussions for doing so. Good beginnings make a positive difference in the world, so it is worth our while to provide the best possible care for mothers and babies throughout this extraordinarily influential part of life."*