

# THE PINARD

Newsletter of the Canadian  
Association of Midwives

## “Beyond Boundaries” the first ever Joint North American Midwifery Conference

took place in Niagara Falls, Ontario in November  
2011. Anne Wilson, CAM President, and Geradine  
Simkins, MANA President at the event. PAGES 6-7

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Canadian Association of Midwives  
Association canadienne des sages-femmes

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## PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



Anne Wilson, CAM President

What a year 2011 was for midwifery! Thousands of women and families marched in over 30 different communities across Canada to support the Road to Durban campaign on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Canada won the bid to host the ICM Triennial Congress in Toronto in 2017, and over 650 delegates from across the continent attended the historic joint North American midwifery conference in Niagara Falls (p.6-7)!

The National Aboriginal Council of Midwives (NACM) continues to grow and to demonstrate incredible leadership. At their Gathering at Six Nations, Aboriginal community leaders attended NACM's first ever Symposium on Midwifery entitled *Aboriginal Midwives Working in Every Aboriginal Community* (p. 9).

Internationally, ICM launched the first ever Global Standards for education, regulation and professional associations. Presidents of CAM, ACNM, MANA and the newly formed Mexican Midwifery Association will continue to meet in 2012 to ensure the implementation of these ICM Standards in their region.

In 2012, CAM and NACM will continue to build on these achievements, with the focus shifting to issues within our own borders. Access to midwifery care remains a concerning issue from coast to coast to coast. In Ontario, the largest

province with over 560 practicing midwives and three midwifery education programs, four out of ten women who seek midwifery care do not have access. In Central Canada, 75% of women cannot access a midwife, and in most Aboriginal communities, in the Atlantic Provinces, and in the Yukon, the profession is virtually nonexistent.

It is time for this to change. All women in every region of Canada deserve to have access to midwifery care.

CAM will be launching a campaign to bring the issue of access to the forefront in 2012. This campaign will run from May 5<sup>th</sup>, the International Day of the Midwife, until October 17<sup>th</sup>, the opening night of the CAM conference in St. John's Newfoundland. CAM will be calling on members, provincial and territorial associations, NACM, consumers and stakeholders to take action for their region and for the unregulated jurisdictions. We need your help to bring these important issues to the forefront – and we need your presence at the CAM conference in Newfoundland, one of the last three unregulated jurisdictions in Canada. We look forward to 2012 as a year of change for midwifery, as we continue to push for increased access to care for all Canadian women and families. ■



Tonia Occhionero,  
CAM Executive Director



Congratulations to Joanna Nemrava who has recently been appointed President Elect. Joanna is a practicing midwife in Kamloops, BC. She has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2008, first as BC rep, then as Vice President since 2009. We look forward to working more closely with Joanna as she prepares to take on the leadership of CAM in 2013.



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CanadianMidwives](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianMidwives)

## ADVOCACY AND INITIATIVES



### WHY YOU NEED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE IN ST. JOHN'S IN 2012

1949, midwifery was no longer recognized. Midwives have spent the last 30 years working tirelessly to regulate the profession, but the government continues to drag its feet. "I am beginning to fear I will not see midwives regulated and funded in Newfoundland in my lifetime," says Kay Matthews, of the Association of Midwives of Newfoundland and Labrador (AMNL). "The women of NL deserve access to midwifery care now!"

**This year, the Canadian Association of Midwives will be focusing on advocacy initiatives to increase the visibility and influence of midwifery on the national health policy agenda.**

### 2012 CAMPAIGN: IMPROVING ACCESS TO MIDWIFERY CARE

In 2012, CAM will be focusing its advocacy efforts on increasing access to midwifery care for all Canadian families and communities. Access to midwifery care will be the theme of our May 5<sup>th</sup> campaign and will culminate on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Opening of CAM's national midwifery conference.

In 2011, the CAM Board unanimously voted in favour of bringing the national conference to St. John's NL. The message was clear – midwifery must be regulated and play a vital role in the primary maternity care systems of all provinces and territories, including in federal jurisdictions. Newfoundland & Labrador, PEI and the Yukon are still lagging behind, as they are the only jurisdictions in which midwives are not regulated and funded. In New Brunswick, even with regulation in place, there is still no employment for midwives. This must change. The midwives in the Atlantic Provinces need our support!

Unfortunately, lack of access to midwifery care is an issue in every province and territory. In



CAM Executive Committee 2012: Back row, from left, Anne Wilson (President), Katrina Kilroy (Secretary), Emmanuelle Hébert (Vice-President). Front row, from left, Joanna Nemrava (President-elect), Jane Erdman (Treasurer).

Manitoba, 75% of women do not have access to a midwife and even in Ontario, where approximately 90 students graduate annually, the number of women being denied access to care has not diminished over the past five years. The annual CAM conference is always an opportunity to not only share research and network with fellow midwives, but also highlight the issues facing midwives of the local region. This year, it is even more crucial that CAM members join their sisters in St. John's (October 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>) to highlight the dire lack of access to midwifery care in the Atlantic provinces, and across Canada.

*In preparation for the 2012 Conference, CAM will be asking members to participate in online activities on International day of the Midwife (May 5<sup>th</sup>) around the theme of access to midwifery care. Stay tuned!*

### CAM/NACM/CMRC/CAM-ED COLLABORATE ON ADVOCACY INITIATIVES FOR CANADIAN MIDWIVES!

An Advocacy Task Group that includes all midwifery stakeholders in Canada is being formed to focus on bringing attention to the lack of midwifery policy within the Federal Government. CAM and the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives will be working with the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Consortium (CMRC) and the Canadian Educators (CAM-ED) to address the major gaps in policy surrounding access to midwifery care in federal jurisdictions, such as on reserve in First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities. For example, there



## ADVOCACY AND INITIATIVES CONTINUED

is currently no job classification at the federal level for midwife, without which no midwife can be hired for either service delivery or to work within government on policy development. The Task Group is currently working on defining its purpose and mandate. We look forward to bringing you updates from this dynamic and important new group.

### CAN-MNCH

In 2010, participants of the first Ministerial Roundtable meeting on the Muskoka Initiative, including CAM, welcomed the proposal to establish a Canadian version of the global Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (PMNCH) to structure future collaboration and information sharing between roundtable participants and CIDA. Dr. Dorothy Shaw (Canadian Spokesperson; PMNCH) and Rosemary McCarney (Plan Canada) agreed to coordinate the establishment of this network.

In the Fall of 2011, the newly formed CAN-MNCH officially launched their new website:

[www.can-mnch.ca](http://www.can-mnch.ca).

Over the last six months, a mapping exercise has been completed which gives details of Canadian initiatives around the world and the organizations involved. The CAN-MNCH is also looking to develop a common set of MNCH metrics for tracking and evaluating activities in-country. CAM will

participate in the consultation process for the development of these metrics.

The Honourable Minister Oda has committed to funding the CAN-MNCH network until 2015.

### CAM PARTICIPATES IN THE SECOND MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON THE MUSKOKA INITIATIVE

In November 2011, the Canadian Association of Midwives was invited by the Honourable Minister of International Cooperation, Beverley J. Oda to participate in a second Ministerial Roundtable meeting on the Muskoka Initiative. Originally launched in 2010, CIDA's \$1.1 billion contribution to the Muskoka Initiative is being invested in strengthening health systems, improving nutrition, and reducing the burden of diseases and illnesses affecting mothers and children.

This roundtable meeting was an opportunity for health professionals, NGOs and researchers to discuss some of the challenging issues related to maternal newborn child health (MNCH) service delivery, and to consider how they might continue to advise the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in the coming years.

### Position Statements

#### Joint Position Statement: *Nurses and Midwives Collaborate for Woman and Family Centred Care*

Thank you to CAM members who participated in the consultation process. The CAM Board values feedback from its members. CAM will continue to use FluidSurvey as a tool to gather comments from members on important issues including position statements and future strategic planning. If you have any suggestions to improve this consultation process, please share your comments: [director@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:director@canadianmidwives.org).

#### Revision of CAM Position Statement on Home Birth

A working group is currently being struck to revise CAM's position statement on home birth, originally published in March 2001. CAM is looking for qualified members and researchers to share their expertise on this working group. CAM hopes to present a final draft to the membership by the Fall of 2012.

#### Resolution to Publish a CAM Position Statement on Reproductive Choice

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at CAM's Annual General Meeting, members voted in favour of a resolution to produce a position statement on reproductive choice: *Be it resolved that: The Canadian Association of Midwives adopt a position stating that: Reproductive health care is an integral part of maternal health; this includes contraception, family planning and access to legal, safe abortion care as a fundamental right of women regardless of where they live. CAM will be striking a working group in 2012.* ■

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

Interested in becoming involved in the planning for ICM 2017? Stay tuned for calls for interest for committees and email [director@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:director@canadianmidwives.org).

### CAM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE (CIC)

The CIC has launched an initiative to develop a database of the global experience of CAM members. This database will compile the information collected from the questionnaire that all CAM members have been invited to complete by email. This database will allow CAM to better understand and describe the collective experience of its membership. This knowledge will be increasingly useful in guiding CAM's direction, as our participation in international partnerships grows. The CIC invites all members to share their global experiences through the survey, and reminds members that their individual data will not be released without prior consent.

### NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EMERGENCY SKILLS WORKSHOP (ESW)

The ESW committee would like to welcome its new chair, Jane Baker, of Alberta.

### GHISLAINE FRANCOEUR FUND COMMITTEE (GFF)

The GFF committee once again held a successful live art auction during the CAM annual conference, this year in



Left to right: Tonia Occhionero, Katrina Kilroy, Carol Couchie, Céline Lemay, Julia Stolk, Kelly Stadelbauer, Malcolm MacMillan, Remi Ejiwunmi. Front row: Agneta Bridges, Anne Wilson

Niagara Falls. This year, the auction generated over \$2000 in funds that the committee will put towards future projects to strengthen midwifery in Haiti. The GFF committee would like to thank everyone that has donated, and encourage all CAM members to donate online, through the CAM website.

### ICM HOST CONGRESS PLANNING COMMITTEE

CAM recently struck the ICM Host Congress Planning Committee. This committee will oversee the Host Association's responsibilities as we prepare to welcome the midwives of the world in 2017. Some of the responsibilities of this committee include appointing a representative to the ICM Scientific Program Planning Committee (SPPC) and designing the Congress logo and

theme. ICM and CAM will strike a number of sub-committees in the next 3 years. They will include, Social Events Sub-Committee, Marketing and Promotion, Congress Volunteer (Stewarding) Sub-Committee, Fundraising Sub-Committee and other approved working groups as needed. If you are interested in participating on any of these sub-committees, let us know: [director@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:director@canadianmidwives.org) ■

## ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES



### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Canadian Association of Midwives Annual Conference will be held October 17 to 19, 2012 in St. John's Newfoundland.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to share your knowledge, expertise and research with midwives and other maternity care providers from across Canada!

We are now accepting abstracts for oral and poster presentations.

Please visit <http://www.canadian-midwives.org/conference/call-abstracts.html> and follow the instructions to submit an abstract online. The deadline to submit is March 30, 2012. Selected speakers will be notified by May 31, 2012.

### THE NORTH AMERICAN MIDWIFERY BEYOND BOUNDARIES CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 9-12, 2011, WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

This year, CAM teamed up with the Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) to organize a joint conference in Niagara Falls. The conference attracted over 600 participants, including 270 midwives from Canada, 290 midwives from the United States and midwives from Mexico, New Zealand, the Netherlands, France, and Brazil. Bridget Lynch, former President of the International Confederation of Midwives, gave the keynote address on the opening night. Her rousing speech encouraged midwives across North America and around the world to come together to lead the way in decreasing maternal and infant mortality. Her speech highlighted the key theme of the conference, as midwives from all over shared in inspiring discussions on how to bridge boundaries to better offer care to all women.

Other speakers included Naoli Vinaver, Dr. Andrew Kotaska, and Jay McGillivray, on topics that ranged far and wide. A particularly historic speech was given by the three presidents, Anne Wilson of CAM, Geradine Simkins of MANA, and Holly Kennedy of the American College of Nurse Midwives.

In addition to the conference sessions, participants also had the opportunity to mingle and network during the opening reception and the social event, which included a live auction and dance. And can midwives dance! They would have danced till sunrise if the hotel had not had to prepare the room for the conference sessions the next day. Participants also had an opportunity to attend one of two benefit events, either a night of comedy with Cindy Pierce to benefit the Foundation for the Advancement of Midwifery, or an evening at Six Nations to benefit the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives, complete with

tour of birthing centre, fabulous meal of traditional foods, and wonderful entertainment. All in all, it was a memorable conference, and a tiny taste of what it will be like to welcome the midwives of the world to Canada in 2017. ■

### FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS AT THE NORTH AMERICAN MIDWIFERY BEYOND BOUNDARIES CONFERENCE

*I loved that it felt like there was truly a sense that all midwives can work together.*

*It was truly historic to join the 3 North American midwifery associations together for one conference. I was most impressed with Bridget Lynch's ICM perspective of the influence Canada and the US have on midwifery around the globe and the challenge to us to take a wise, thoughtful, proactive leadership role to preserve midwifery throughout the world.*

*I felt really inspired to be surrounded by all the fabulous women! I am reenergized to keep doing the changing the world work of midwifery.*

*For me being an American midwife and going to Canada it really moved the dialog from the constant marginalization of homebirth to actual practice protocols. GREAT!!*



## ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES CONTINUED



See photos of ICM at:  
[facebook.com/CanadianMidwives](https://facebook.com/CanadianMidwives)



Naoli Vinaver, keynote speaker, standing against a painting by Amanda Greavette, exhibitor at the conference.



Midwives dance in anticipation of the live auction at the Conference Social.



From left to right: Valérie Perrault of the Ordre des sages-femmes du Québec, Josianne Loiselle-Boudreau, Health coordinator for Quebec Native Women), Usha Ramsdan, midwife, Melida Jimenez, midwife in Ontario, and Maricruz Coronado, first midwife to be hired by the Government of Mexico.



Kelsey Carriere, of Iota Birthing Stools, an exhibitor at the conference.



Anne Wilson, CAM President and Frances Ganges smile together during a break in sessions.



Beverly O'Brien of the University of Alberta and Kate Harrod of the American College of Nurse-Midwives catch up during the opening reception.



Midwives Brenda Epoo, Mary Nastapoka and Lizzie Sakiagak, of Nunavik, show Isabelle Brabant how to eat raw fish, at the NACM Benefit Dinner.



The midwives, students and graduates of the Six Nations Birthing Centre, Tsi Non-we Ionnakeratsiha Ona:grahsta. From left to right: Julie Wilson, Joyce Leaf, Laurie Jacobs, Naomi Wolfe, Dorothy Green, Sharon Smoke, Stephanie MacDonald, Melodie Smith, Katsi Cook.



## ACROSS CANADA

As CAM Student Representative, I am thrilled to announce that we had our first ever Canadian Midwifery Student Meeting in Niagara Falls! There were approximately 30 students from across Canada present at a tour meeting. We had the opportunity to hear Bridget Lynch speak on solidarity and leadership within the midwifery profession.

### Congratulations

To the midwifery students in Québec at l'Université du Québec à Trois Rivières for their new Midwifery Student Association! Check out their University radio: [www.uqtr.ca/co-naître](http://www.uqtr.ca/co-naître). To the midwifery students in Alberta who have created a student association and who have a new midwifery program at Mount Royal University in Calgary!

Please join us on FACEBOOK on our CAM student page @ studentCAMésf as an act of solidarity to help nourish some national connections among student midwives!

Chantal Gauthier-Vaillancourt, UQTR graduating class of 2012

## QUEBEC

There is lots of positive news to share from Quebec! Midwives have received their pay equity cheques this past fall after many years of under-payment. A step in the right direction!

Following our petition last May 5<sup>th</sup>, the Commission of Health and Social Services made the following recommendations to the Ministry of Health: that all efforts be made to provide midwifery services to 10% of women by 2019, through the development of 9 new birth centres and to run an awareness campaign promoting the high degree of safety and many benefits of midwifery practice for women and their newborns.

Finally, our renewal for the negotiations of our agreement was deposited and negotiations will start early 2012. A good negotiation is ahead of us. We will keep you posted on our progress!

## ONTARIO

Ontario midwives continued to campaign for a strong midwifery care system in Ontario, and this includes specific campaign work on pay equity, hospital integration and the development of birth centres. Members' campaign to bring birth centres to the province continues to build momentum. Midwives participated in an in-depth

project on quality assurance using HIROC's risk-management self-assessment modules (RMSAM). Midwives in Ontario have also recently approved a new Clinical Practice Guideline for Vaginal Birth After Previous Low-Segment Caesarean Section, which is available online at [http://bit.ly/vbac\\_cpg](http://bit.ly/vbac_cpg). For more information on the AOM's campaigns and work, please visit [ontariomidwives.ca](http://ontariomidwives.ca) or join us on Twitter and Facebook.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

The MABC has put significant work into the development of the Midwives Emergency Skills Program (MESP), which delivers continuing education to maternity care providers via community-based workshops and online learning modules. This highly accessible and affordable program is being piloted beginning in January, and we expect continued growth through 2012.

The MABC also expects a busy year of political advocacy including work with the Ministry of Health Services (MOHS) and Perinatal Services BC (PSBC) on the development of a provincial primary maternity care plan. We anticipate that the completed report will be presented to the MOHS in January, coinciding with our return to negotiations.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

The Canada – Tanzania twinning of associations project has really inspired the Midwives Association of New Brunswick this fall. MNAB hopes to start a dialogue involving a quadruplet of association members from Atlantic Canada to mutually strengthen our capacity and voice. Individually, in each of our eastern provinces, we have much to pioneer with regards to midwifery leadership, expertise and collaboration. However, collectively we have as much to offer each other, as we have to learn from each other. Likewise, MANB welcomes the ideas of other midwives across Canada who may feel inspired to share their experiences and knowledge to advance midwifery in the east. So we hope to broaden the midwifery dialogue to further the health of mothers and babies in Atlantic Canada.

Provincially, as we await funding for midwifery practice in NB, and as the new fiscal year approaches, we are aligning our voices with the women in the community wanting to see midwifery funded. Unifying and mobilizing our voice to that of the larger community has been our focus and with that we hope to also hear from you! On another note, our association is in the process of creating and adopting its by-laws, which as you all know, is nice dry work to balance all the exciting richness of developing the profession!



## ACROSS CANADA CONTINUED



Jasmine Benedict, Aboriginal midwife from Akwesasne, in front of NACM's new banner.

### NACM

The National Aboriginal Council of Midwives held its Annual Gathering at Six Nations from November 6-8<sup>th</sup>. Over 50 Aboriginal midwives and students turned out for the inspiring event, a record number! On November 7<sup>th</sup>, NACM held a Symposium on Midwifery, open to all and geared towards Aboriginal leaders from across Canada.

The goal of the Symposium was to share knowledge and stories from successful Aboriginal midwifery practices with leaders from communities that do not yet have access to midwifery services. The hope is that by sharing knowledge and providing support, other communities across Canada will be further empowered to take steps to bring birth back.

NACM midwives Katsi Cook and Carol Couchie took a few moments to honour Dawn Walker, who passed away in the previous year. Dawn Walker was a tireless advocate within the federal government for midwifery and the return of birth.

The Symposium continued with an inspirational keynote address from Dr. Don Wilson, Canada's first Aboriginal obstetrician. His words were echoed by Aani Tulugak, an Elder from Nunavik, who played an integral role in bringing birth back to the Inuit communities along the Hudson coast. Midwives from the Innulitsivik program in Nunavik, the Seventh Generation practice in Toronto, the Fort Smith program in the Northwest Territories and the Six Nations Birthing Centre in Ontario all gave presentations on the strengths and successes of their midwifery programs. The afternoon was completed with a tour of the Six Nations Birthing Centre, an inspiring place to visit for both midwives and community leaders.

As 2012 begins, NACM plans to host symposiums and community consultations in British Columbia, northern Saskatchewan and southeastern Ontario to continue to provide support to communities looking to re-implement midwifery care.

Please look for NACM's new logo and banner in the upcoming issue of the Canadian Journal of Midwifery Research and Practice. ■



Nunavik midwives Kimberley Morehouse and Brenda Epoo, and midwifery student Lizzie Sakiagak stand together at a break during the Symposium.

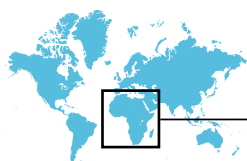


Dennis Peters, husband of late Dawn Walker and Don Wilson, Canada's first Aboriginal obstetrician, stand together under gifts of appreciation from NACM.



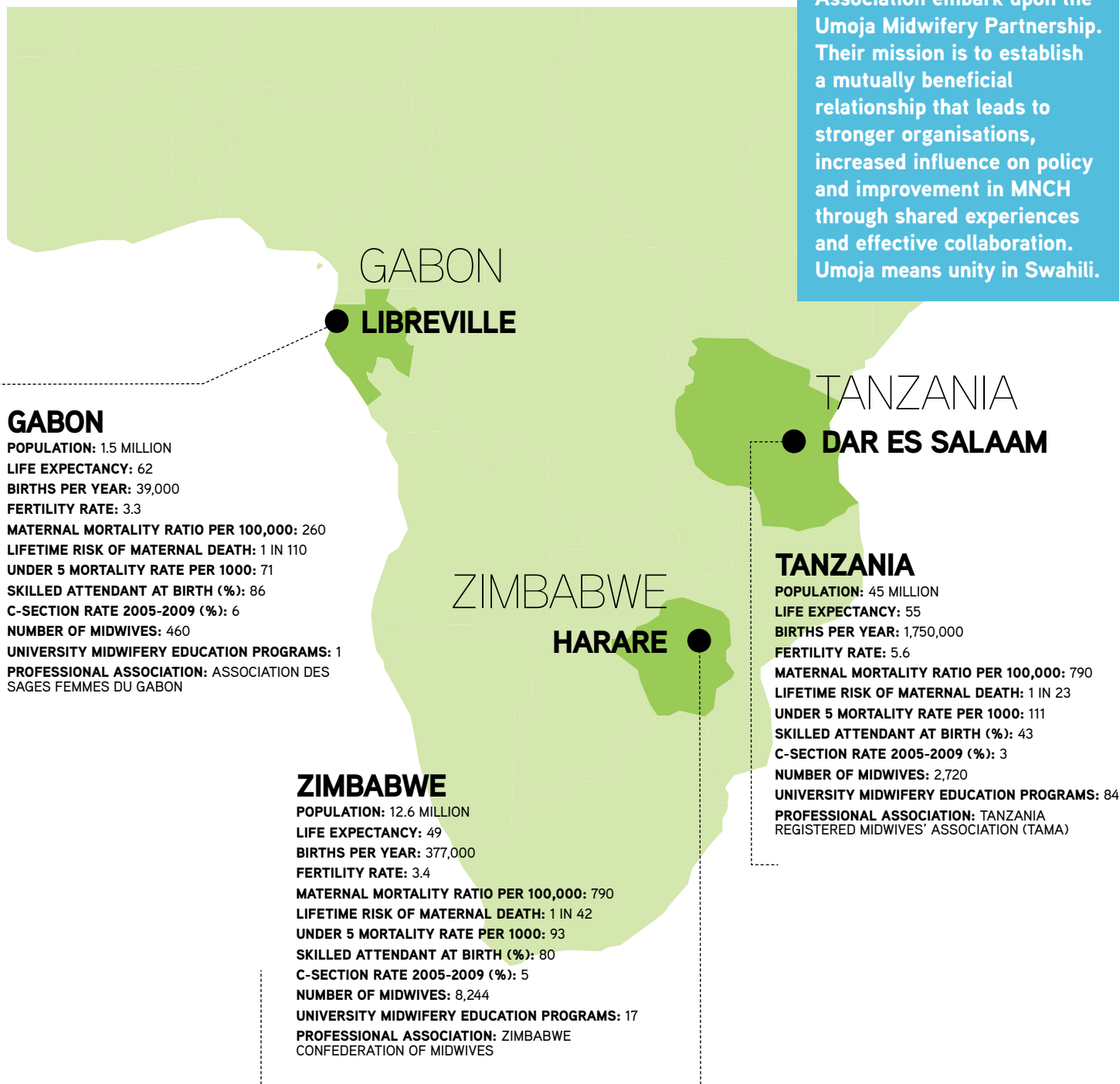
Midwives Laurie Jacobs and Katsi Cook, radiant with the success of the Symposium.

## AROUND THE WORLD



## UMOJA

The Canadian Association of Midwives and the Tanzania Registered Midwives Association embark upon the Umoja Midwifery Partnership. Their mission is to establish a mutually beneficial relationship that leads to stronger organisations, increased influence on policy and improvement in MNCH through shared experiences and effective collaboration. Umoja means unity in Swahili.



## THE HEARTBEAT

### WHAT IS IT?

The Heartbeat is a place for CAM members to place an announcement that will be seen by all CAM members. Anyone in your practice having a baby? Has a midwife in your community recently won an award? Did you have a wonderful experience with a preceptor and want to thank her? Want to welcome a new practice member or congratulate a retiring practice member? The Heartbeat is the place to announce any of these occasions and more!

We will also place job postings here if we have space, though the CAM website is still the best place for all job related news.

Please send title, location, and announcement to [eheller@canadian-midwives.org](mailto:eheller@canadian-midwives.org).

Announcements longer than 50 words will be accommodated if space permits.

Deadline for next issue: May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012.



**Welcome Jill DeWeese-Frank!**  
The CAM board and staff would like to welcome Jill DeWeese-Frank as the new CAM Conference Coordinator. Jill has

a background in communications and fundraising; she will make a great asset to our team. You can meet Jill in person in St. John's, Newfoundland in October!

#### Letter to the editors: Mexican Midwifery Update

My congratulations on the first issue of The Pinard. It is wonderful to receive news of what is happening in the midwifery world throughout Canada and internationally, and to know we will continue to be informed on a regular basis. Great photos, too!

I also am writing to update your "Around the world" information on Mexico (page 10). Mexico is making some positive progress toward the recognition of professional midwifery. This last year, Mexico included midwifery in its catalogue of health professions, which allows state health authorities to hire midwives in government funded clinics. Jobs have already been created in several of the states with the highest maternal mortality, part of Mexico's work toward Millennium Development goal #5. The federal Senate unanimously passed a new Health Bill which grants legal status to professional midwives, and among other things, opens the way to better salaries. In addition, Maricruz Coronado, a graduate of the first class from the CASA Midwifery School, San Miguel de Allende, was recently hired as Consultant with the National Centre for Gender and Reproductive Health – a first in Mexico. The federal government has also promised full scholarships for 50 CASA midwifery students each year. All these are evidence of a growing commitment to midwifery.

Meanwhile more than 7,000 traditional midwives attend approximately 300,000 births per year, mostly in more rural and remote areas of the country, and an additional 16,000 traditional midwives are registered in the country. A strong midwifery profession could help to support these women and the work they do, which largely is unrecognized. I appreciate the opportunity to add to the information you already provided to our members about Mexico, and also wish to say that the Mexican midwives associated with CASA who attended the CAM/MANA conference this fall were inspired by the work of Canadian midwives and by our model of practice, one which they hope to emulate as midwifery grows in their country.

Sincerely,  
CHRIS STERNBERG RM, TORONTO  
CHAIR, MIDWIFERY COMMITTEE, AMISTAD CANADA

#### Congratulations Shianna!

Shianna Pace gave birth to a beautiful 9 lb 2 oz son named Mack William on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (at home waterbirth). Congratulations and blessings to Shianna, Brad and big sister Tileen, from your colleagues at Cochrane Community Midwives.

#### Welcome Kimberly!

Cochrane Community Midwives are delighted to welcome Kimberly Brown (Laurentian 2010) from Newington, Ontario to our small rural practice, near Cochrane, Alberta. We look forward to working( and playing!) with you, and getting to know you and your family!

#### Robin Lim, CNN Hero of 2011

Robin Lim was named the CNN Hero of the Year for 2011. Lim is an American midwife who has helped thousands of Indonesian women have a healthy pregnancy and birth, through the work of her Bumi Sehat health clinics. We congratulate Robin Lim and thank her for bringing such wonderful recognition to the practice of midwifery.

#### Westjet policy now includes midwives!

Westjet will now accept a letter from either a midwife or a doctor for women wishing to travel between 36 and 38 weeks of pregnancy. Previously, letters could only be from licensed physicians. Through consultation with CAM, Westjet has gotten with the times and realized that midwives are primary care providers!

The Canadian Association of Midwives and the midwives of the birth centre of Pointe-Claire wish to thank Sinclair Harris for her many years of service. Congratulations Sinclair! We can't wait to hear all about your next adventures!



Bridget Lynch, RM and past President of the International Confederation of Midwives, was awarded the YWCA Women of Distinction award in honour of Women's Day 2012. Her award in the field of Health recognizes her long-standing commitment to the health of mothers and babies, both in Canada and internationally. Congratulations Bridget Lynch!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH

#### **Women's & Children's Health Conference**

MARCH 15 TO 17, 2012  
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

#### **Workshop: The Pelvic Floor: State of the Evidence and Practical Considerations**

FRIDAY MARCH 9, 2012  
NORTH YORK, ONTARIO

This day will take an evidence-based approach in considering the influences of the perinatal lifecycle and ongoing pelvic floor function. In-depth discussion about the state of the research will be balanced with hands-on skill building workshops including a Pilates Workshop. Dress comfortably for this informative and fun event! Please bring your own suture instruments

#### **Webinar: Findings from the AOM's "Management of Prelabour Rupture of Membranes at Term" Clinical Practice Guideline**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012  
Speaker K. Saurete RM, Author PROM CPG; T. MacDonald RM, MHSc, Director of Clinical Practice Guidelines, Association of Ontario Midwives, Author PROM CPG

### APRIL

#### **Midwifery Today Conference "Midwifery: Skill, Wisdom, Culture, Love"**

APRIL 11-15, 2012  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA USA

#### **NRP Instructor Course**

APRIL 19 AND 20, 2012  
SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

#### **A Safe Passage-Advanced Practitioner Training**

SATURDAY APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup> 2012  
ST. THOMAS, ONTARIO  
Program designed to help caregivers gain an understanding of the special needs of women survivors of abuse and learn the skills needed to support them through their pregnancy, labour & childbirth and early postpartum.  
<http://asafepassage.info/agenda.html>

### MAY

#### **National Council of Women of Canada 119<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting – 2012**

MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> TO JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO  
[http://ncwc.ca/whatsNew\\_agm.html](http://ncwc.ca/whatsNew_agm.html)

#### **Association of Ontario Midwives 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting & Conference**

MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>-17<sup>TH</sup>, 2012  
THE WESTIN PRINCE HOTEL, TORONTO ONTARIO  
"Strength in Numbers: Supporting the Growth of Midwifery"  
[http://www.aom.on.ca/Continuing\\_Education/AOM\\_Annual\\_Conference/](http://www.aom.on.ca/Continuing_Education/AOM_Annual_Conference/)

#### **Women Deliver**

28-30 MAY 2013  
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA  
Deadline for all scholarships April 15, 2012 (12pm EST)  
<http://www.womendeliver.org/>

### JUNE

#### **Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada**

JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup>  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO  
68<sup>th</sup> Annual Clinical Meeting

### SEPTEMBER

#### **Midwives Alliance of North America 2012**

SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2012  
ASILOMAR, CALIFORNIA  
[www.mana.org/mana2012](http://www.mana.org/mana2012)

### OCTOBER



#### **Canadian Association of Midwives / Association canadienne des sages-femmes**

OCTOBER 17-19, 2012  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND  
12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Exhibit  
<http://www.canadianmidwives.org/conference/>



More info on events at:  
[facebook.com/CanadianMidwives](http://facebook.com/CanadianMidwives)