

# INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE MIDWIFE

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## THE PINARD

Newsletter of the Canadian  
Association of Midwives

# DANCING WITH AND FOR MIDWIVES

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



There are exciting things happening in Canadian midwifery with the ICM Congress only weeks away, the launch of CAM's new website, and our upcoming virtual flash mob dance for International Day of the Midwife. I hope you will be motivated to participate in some or all of these events. Adding to the excitement, New Brunswick has hired their first midwife and we

are waiting to hear similar news coming from Newfoundland.

The CAM Global Program continues to recruit CAM members for various volunteer and consultant positions. I urge you, no matter what your experience level, to visit the CAM Global website's opportunities page, (link: <http://cam-global.org/opportunities-for-midwives/>) to see what is happening there. Even if you are not actively looking to be involved in international work, the diversity of positions might surprise you and midwifery may indeed take you to exciting new places.

Here at home, CAM staff held a retreat in early March. One part of the retreat was recreating a 'herstory' of the organization. This was a way to share with all of the new staff some of 'where we have come from'. The exponential growth of the organization, in terms of numbers of members, staff, and budget, deserves to be highlighted here, from 500 members in 2005 to over 1700 members today and from 1 to 14 staff in less than ten years. Our budget has tripled in just the past two years. And the list goes on.

Through all of this, CAM's mission continues to be to provide leadership and advocacy for midwifery throughout Canada as an autonomous, self-regulated, publicly funded and vital part of primary maternal and newborn care. Even as midwifery moves forward in New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador, we know that the work of making midwifery care accessible to all who need it is far from over. We invite you to fully celebrate your profession in the coming months. Dance your heart out on May 5th, share and meet with your peers at the ICM Congress, and be rejuvenated as the work continues.



Please join me in welcoming our very own Emmanuelle Hébert as CAM's new Director of Global Program Operations. We are glad to have her vast and varied experience to count upon as we continue to work with midwifery associations around the world.



Follow us at:  
[facebook.com/CanadianMidwives](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianMidwives)



CAM is now on Twitter!  
Follow us at [@Canadamidwives](https://twitter.com/Canadamidwives)



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## NEWS FROM SOUTH SUDAN

# PHASE 2 OF STRENGTHENING MIDWIFERY SERVICES

Canadian midwife consultants Sarilyn Zimmerman and Basak Ardalani recently returned from a 5-day trip to Juba, South Sudan, where the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) are collaborating, in partnership with South Sudan's Ministry of Health, to implement the second phase of the Strengthening Midwifery Services in South Sudan (SMS II) project.

South Sudan has among the world's highest maternal, newborn and child mortality rates, due in part to the critical shortage of skilled health care providers. By increasing capacity building initiatives for midwives and other health care providers, CAM and its partners hope to reduce the number of mothers and newborn babies who die every year in South Sudan. This five-year project (2016-2020) is being funded by the Government of Canada, through Global Affairs Canada, and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). One part of this project is the development of a Clinical Procedures Manual, being carried out by Canadian midwives Sarilyn Zimmerman and Basak Ardalani in collaboration with UNFPA and the midwifery stakeholders.



For the Canadian consultants, work started months earlier as they worked remotely with the UNFPA and stakeholders in Juba to develop an outline of content for the manual and brainstorm creative practical aids for users of the manual. The goal was to not only create the manual, but also tip sheets and teaching aids that midwives could easily carry with them. The manual is geared to be a teaching tool and skill refresher for all levels: students, tutors, midwives and traditional birth attendants.

Sarilyn Zimmerman explains that the plan going forward was to “decide on potential relevant clinical topics together and then produce a draft of two topics”. The objective of the Canadian midwife consultants' trip to Juba was to review with



**“WE SAW TWINS BEING BREASTFED, A MIDWIFE RUBBING A LABOURING WOMAN'S BACK AND ANOTHER ASSISTING A NEWBORN TO THE BREAST, LABOURING WOMEN, THEIR FAMILIES AND LITTLE CHILDREN WALKING IN THE HALLWAYS, FOOD BEING COOKED OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL AND MIDWIVES PROVIDING CARE.”**

**- SARILYN ZIMMERMAN**

the stakeholders the drafts of the two selected topics: 'Active Management of Third Stage of Labour' and 'Breech Management and Delivery'. “Basak and I would present the drafts in workshops in Juba for feedback from those who were going to use it as a teaching tool, an update and a skills refresher.” This feedback would then be used to model the other topics.

Despite a limited timeframe, both consultants were able to meet with various key groups, introduce the drafts, conduct a review and receive feedback. They also had the opportunity to observe first hand where the midwives studied and worked. “We wanted to get a sense of what it was like to be a midwife in South Sudan considering resources and the barriers they faced which currently include war, famine and lack of funds.”

Understanding the resources available in various settings was essential to ensuring that the consultants will be able to develop an appropriate Clinical Procedures Manual and learning tools. “From our four workshops, we now have a clearer idea of what is wanted in the manual: what topics would be most important to them, how they would like the topics presented and their desire for an accessible and practical guide with diagrams and information posters.”

# TANZANIA: PHASE 2 OF THE IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY FOR SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROJECT

CAM recently spoke with Jamie Robinson, Project Officer for CAM's Global Program, regarding her work on the launch of the second phase of the Improved Service Delivery for Safe Motherhood project.



## **CAM: How would you summarize Phase 2 of this project?**

**Jamie:** The Improved Service Delivery for Safe Motherhood Project: Phase 2 (or ISDSM2) aims to increase the skills and availability of midwives across six zones of rural Tanzania. The first goal of the project is to improve midwives' abilities to handle emergencies through Midwifery Emergency Skills Training (MEST). Second, our partner association, the Tanzanian Association of Midwives (TAMA) is excited to bring ICM's Competency Based Education model, which has been successful elsewhere, to Tanzania. We are working sustainably to help midwifery educators stay on the cutting edge of midwifery pedagogy. In this phase, 200 midwives will receive MEST training. Our goal is to achieve 100% MEST coverage across the district's primary health facilities.



On the right: Lucy Mabada RM, Sanofi Project Coordinator

We are excited for this extension of our our Global Program's flagship initiative "Improved Service Delivery for Safe Motherhood" which started in 2013. It was the first project to grow out of our twinning relationship with Tanzania. The Sanofi Espoir foundation, the funder, saw that it was a successful project and decided to fund this second phase of the project.

## **CAM: Tell us more about the context in which the ISDSM II project is taking place?**

**Jamie:** This project targets some of the more rural regions within Tanzania, especially those most in need. Tanzania is one of 10 countries which account for 61% of global maternal

mortality, so there is definitely a need to create a safer and more supported environment for mothers. Within Tanzania, the Lake and Western zone regions are those with the highest maternal mortality rates, which is why TAMA and CAM have chosen to work there.

The second piece of context is that we are doing this within the framework of everything both TAMA and CAM have learned from the first phase of this project. In the first phase, Tanzanian and Canadian midwives worked together to create the MEST training. This training was then delivered to over 300 midwives.

It is great to be building upon our past work. In the first phase, we felt like we were 'inventing the wheel' in terms of looking at other ESW and MEST training workshops and determining what would work in this specific context. Now that we are in the second phase of the project, having this first experience under our belt is definitely helping us roll out the new phase more smoothly.

Importantly, Tanzanian midwives are trained in the combined nurse/midwifery model. Midwifery is therefore a subsection of their curriculum and training. This is very different from the Canadian midwifery model which specifically focuses on the practice of midwifery. As a result, there is a need for midwifery training which exclusively focuses on maternal and neonatal emergencies, as opposed to the general skills of emergency nursing.

## **CAM: Are Canadian midwives presently working in Tanzania?**

**Jamie:** We are currently in the planning and recruitment phase of this project. In total, four Canadian midwives will travel to Tanzania for this project to deliver MEST training. These placements will begin in the summer of 2017 and carry through to 2018.

In addition, we will also be supporting a Competency Based Education training. For that facet of the project, we are hoping to employ a midwife from the East African region with ICM certification in that field.

# MIDWIVES SAVE LIVES LAUNCHES IN BENIN & TANZANIA

Midwives Save Lives (MSL) project officer Cindy Hénault-Robert was in Pobè, Benin, in January, for the much-anticipated launch of the Midwives Save Lives (MSL) project. The project, aimed at reducing maternal and child mortality in Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia and Tanzania, is being implemented by CAM, in partnership with Cuso International, and is being funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.

At the launch event, guests were greeted by joyous singing and banners displaying: "Midwives Save Lives!". Visible from the stage is the region's referral hospital, where a team of eight midwives work around the clock to deliver between 100-150 births per month. It is one of several maternity units in the project's target region and its presence stands as a reminder of why the project is being carried out – to contribute to the reduction of maternal and child mortality in Benin.



Project launches such as these are occasions to celebrate, but they also serve to reinforce the ties between all of those working together to make the project a success: the national midwifery association, midwives, local populations, CAM, Cuso International, the national Ministry of Health, and local governments. Speaking to a crowd of approximately 100 guests, the President of the Benin Midwives Association, Mrs. Laurence Monteiro, underlined the importance of strong partnerships and community participation. The last word – or in this case, song –, was Benin's national midwife anthem. The midwives enthusiastically sang to remind all those present that "for women to no longer die when giving birth is every midwife's goal." (<https://youtu.be/XCWzKZvVCrs>)

A week following the Benin launch, it was the Tanzanian Midwives Association's (TAMA) turn to launch its MSL Project. Several high-profile guests were in attendance, including Tanzania's Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDGEC), the Honorable Umyy Mwalimu (MP).

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/udGo-1jmkvl>



Benin Midwives Association board member Karamato Bangbola meets with Cuso International staff members Astrid Bucio and Ernestine Denali to discuss annual planning for the MSL project.

**"WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER. WE NEED TO BE STRONG. IF WE REALLY WANT TO BE A MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRY, WE HAVE TO REACH OUT TO ADOLESCENT GIRLS. GIVE THEM THE RIGHT INFORMATION. GIVE THEM THE RIGHT EDUCATION. GIVE THEM THE RIGHT TO REPRODUCTIVE SERVICES. WE CANNOT BE AN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY IF 27% OF THE YOUNGEST ARE GETTING PREGNANT!"**

**- UMMY MWALIMU (MP)**



In Tanzania, midwives are at the frontline of reproductive and maternity care delivery to women and adolescent girls. Their scope of practice includes family planning and reproductive health services alongside antenatal care, postnatal care and labour and delivery. CAM and Cuso International are working with TAMA, the Ministry of Health, and midwifery training institutions to support midwives in this work.

The Midwives Save Lives project is currently recruiting for a number of volunteer and consultant roles for English and French speaking CAM members. For more information please visit <http://cam-global.org/opportunities-for-midwives/> or email [msl@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:msl@canadianmidwives.org).

# CAM'S ICM FUND CHALLENGE: "THE RESPONSE WAS WONDERFUL!"

The Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) challenged Canadian midwives to raise money in order to bring midwives from under-resourced countries to the 2017 ICM International Triennial Congress being held in Toronto June 18-22.

CAM pledged to make this Congress the most accessible Congress yet. CAM director Tonia Occhionero explains that "we knew that it is unaffordable for many midwives in under-resourced countries to attend, and we also knew what a life-changing experience it can be, so we asked all midwifery practices in Canada to commit to raising money to bring a midwife."



Event sponsor HIROC CEO Catherine Gaulton and CAM president Katrina Kilroy pose proudly with boarding passes for the 15 midwives who will be flying to Toronto for the 2017 ICM International Triennial Congress taking place June 18-22.

The response was wonderful! Working together, midwives and supporters from 18 different midwifery practices or groups across Canada, and event sponsor HIROC, worked tirelessly to raise a total of 60,000\$. Money raised will cover Congress registration, travel, accommodations and visa fees. Thank-you for your time and generosity!

Using the funds raised, CAM is hoping to help a total of 15 midwives come to the 2017 conference in Toronto.

One of these candidates is 26 year old Estefani Troisi Benitez from Uruguay. Estefani is the first in her family to pursue an education at the university level. "I was a teenage mother because



Toronto midwives and donors raised funds by organizing a concert event & raffle!



Estefani Troisi Benitez from Uruguay is one of the proud recipients of the ICM fund bursaries.

of an unplanned pregnancy, my son was and is my main motivation to strive and look for a better future. My personal situation conditioned me in the choice of my profession, my choice of life. The discipline that harmoniously combines science with humanism. Midwifery has transformed me; it is my profession, my tool of contribution to change and to improving the society in which we live."

As a single mother and only source of income for her family, Estefani would not have had the means to attend the ICM congress without the help of CAM's ICM fund. The event represents a great experience of growth and acquisition of new skills. "During my training, and my work as a Midwife Obstetrician, I have seen how participation in international events of this magnitude positively impacts the fortunate ones able to attend." The thought of being part of this experience is stimulating. "I would love to be able to meet colleagues from other parts of the world, exchange knowledge and input."

The Canadian Association of Midwives wishes to thank all those who pledged to raise funds.

## ICM FUND RECIPIENTS

The countries that recipient midwives will be travelling from: Uruguay, Paraguay, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Peru, Burundi, Botswana, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Uganda, USA.

# HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE ICM CONGRESS

## Many Canadian midwives will be attending their first ICM Congress, what advice can you give?

If it is your first ICM, get ready for an inspiring experience. You will be exposed to your global professional community – and it is a lively and engaged community. The hallways of the conference centre will be filled with over 4000 midwives from across the planet ready to talk about their work. Don't be shy – start a conversation!

I am still friends with many midwives I met at my first ICM in 1987, when midwifery was not yet legal in Canada. Some of the midwives we met through ICM became important allies for the regulation of midwifery in Ontario. I hope you will make friends, offer support, and find support for the work that you do, whether it be at the practice, policy, or research level.

The CAM exhibit booth can be a great place to talk to midwives interested in our model and our education system. Spend some time during breaks to help CAM staff represent the profession.

You will find the taste for dancing is also international. My main advice: meet new people, have fun and learn a lot!

## The conference program can be overwhelming. How do you navigate it to make sure you see the sessions you want to see?

The first two hours of each day are plenary sessions with a global focus. We are very excited that Mohawk midwife and elder Tekatsitsikwa Katsi Cook has been invited to be one of the keynotes – you will not want to miss it. The rest of each day is focused on the Scientific Program and that is where you have to make some choices.

Make this a project. I print out the program in advance and highlight my first, second and third choices. Use the website to go into the abstracts <http://www.midwives2017.org/scientific-programme> and find out more about these sessions. What are the subtopics? Who are the presenters? I think about the researchers and authors whose work I admire and search to see if they are presenting. I search under key words such as place of birth; or continuity; or abortion; or breech, etc. This is the first ICM congress to have organized the program to highlight Indigenous midwifery <http://www.midwives2017.org/indigenous-midwifery>. There will also be very strong French and Spanish language sessions.

Once you register, you will get a print copy of the program coded for Education, Regulation, Research or Sharing Practice. This can help you to follow a path not based on topic

but on these aspects of our work as midwives. I bring highlighters so I can mark up the program yet again.

Don't forget the posters. The ICM has scheduled times where you can go and chat with the poster presenters about their work.

You have to accept you will miss a lot of fantastic stuff – but even what you miss can be useful. I use the things I missed but wanted to attend to inform my research and reading list for the future.

## How do you balance going to sessions with networking and other activities?

Hanging out in the hallways can be a very productive way to spend your time! Going to the sessions is also a way to meet the people you want to network with. Bring your business cards and be ready to collect a pile of them. The Congress is the breeding ground for future research collaboration, educational exchange, policy advising and powerful alliances in both local and global political struggles.

## What things would you bring, as a Canadian midwife?

Bring an open and generous mind. Be patient if not every session is relevant to you or fits with your idea of midwifery. Let the diversity challenge you. Let the understanding of the depth and breadth of midwifery deepen your understanding. This is a global conference and the resources and infrastructure, status of midwifery, the educational backgrounds, scopes of practice between countries will be varied. It is all part of learning about our profession and the challenges we face. Bring your enthusiasm for what we do well and your curiosity about what we might learn from others.

## Anything else you would like to share?

The march on June 17 will be an important way to show Canada the midwives of the world, I would not miss it. The opening ceremony, with participation from midwives from over 80 countries, is very special. Most midwives wear national costumes which is always a challenge for us 'identity fluid' Canadian midwives – we will come dressed in our diversity.



Vicki Van Wagner  
RM, PhD, member  
of the ICM  
2017 Scientific  
Committee

# WHY SOCIAL MEDIA IS CRITICAL TO CAM

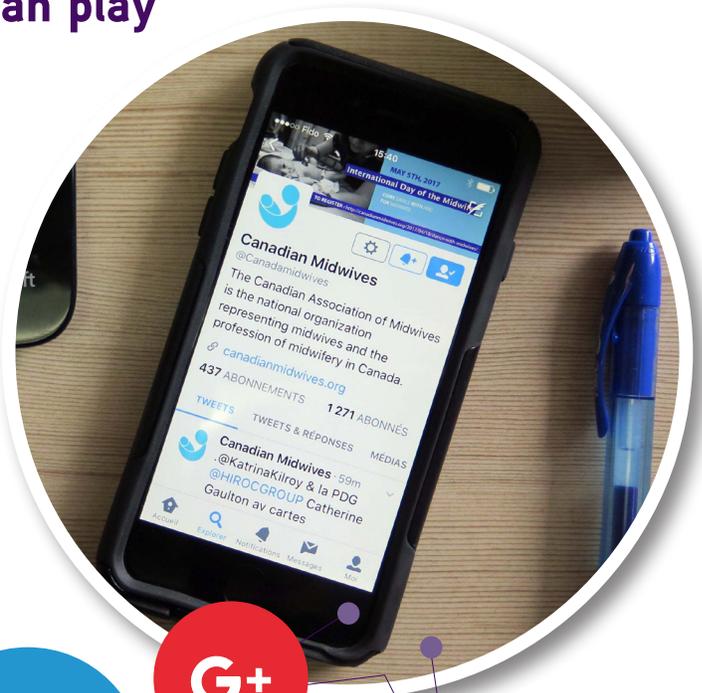
## ...and the important role you can play

The communications team spends a lot of time promoting CAM on social media, and we need your help to reach more people. Every share, like, comment and retweet makes an impact, even if it may not appear to do so.

People across Canada want to connect on a personal level, and these days the platform for this connection is online. By increasing the number of subscribers to CAM's various social media channels, we increase exponentially the grassroots following of the association. By offering captivating content, we attract new followers, some of whom may well become supporters and online midwifery advocates. Our goals are to educate Canadians on midwifery and our association, increase CAM's credibility, and influence public opinion and policy makers. In a nutshell, social media is a cheap and effective way for CAM to advocate for increased access to midwifery care across Canada and globally.

CAM mainly uses Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Google+. We are also exploring a few other channels, including YouTube and Instagram. Each channel has its own attributes. Facebook has the widest range and depth of content and is also our top source of referral traffic to our websites. Twitter lets us connect with leaders in our industry, reach policy makers, engage in conversations, and establish ourselves as experts in our field. LinkedIn is a channel where professionals gather to network, like a "digital business card". Lesser known, Google+ is the second largest social media network with 318.4 million users. As it is part of the Google family, CAM's presence on this channel affects its performance on Google's search engine.

We invite you to click on the following links to become followers of our various social media channels. Help us spread the word!



[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CANADIANMIDWIVES/](https://www.facebook.com/canadianmidwives/)

[HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/CANADAMIDWIVES](https://twitter.com/canadamidwives)

[HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/CANADIAN-ASSOCIATION-OF-MIDWIVES](https://www.linkedin.com/company/canadian-association-of-midwives)

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## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE MIDWIFE

# MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>, COME DANCE WITH AND FOR MIDWIVES!

May 5<sup>th</sup> marks the International Day of the Midwife. It is a day to celebrate and thank midwives, a day to demonstrate the impact of midwifery in Canada and around the world, and to promote access to midwifery for all.

This year's theme is 'Dance with and for Midwives'. CAM is organizing a virtual dance for midwives to be held **May 5<sup>th</sup>**. On this day, midwives, midwifery clients and families, friends, partner organizations and associations from across Canada will unite to dance in solidarity to the same song... at the same time! You are invited to sign up to dance on the new CAM website. (<http://canadianmidwives.org/2017/04/18/dance-with-midwives/>)

Check your area for the exact time:

- 11:30 AM (Pacific Daylight) - Vancouver
- 12:30 PM (Mountain Daylight) - Calgary
- 12:30 PM (Central Standard) - Regina
- 1:30 PM (Central Daylight) - Winnipeg
- 2:30 PM (Easter Daylight)- Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa
- 3:30 PM (Atlantic Daylight) Halifax
- 4:00 PM (Newfoundland Daylight) St. John's



To spread the news and attract more participants, we are encouraging Canadian midwives to pull out their iPhones/Androids and film themselves dancing (at home, in your car, at work). Post them on Facebook, or send them to us via email ([admin@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:admin@canadianmidwives.org)). We will in turn share these videos online to highlight the work of midwives across Canada, and around the world! Celebrate midwifery with us!

On **May 5<sup>th</sup>**, we want people from across Canada to unite in order to **DANCE WITH AND FOR MIDWIVES!** From St-John's to Vancouver Island, we will join together (physically and virtually – via live streaming) to show our support for midwives across the country.

FOR DETAILS, OR TO SIGN UP TO DANCE: <http://canadianmidwives.org/2017/04/18/dance-with-midwives/>



## MAY 5TH, 2017

### International Day of the Midwife

## COME DANCE WITH AND FOR MIDWIVES

**TO REGISTER :** <http://canadianmidwives.org/2017/04/18/dance-with-midwives/>

# NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL COUNCIL OF MIDWIVES (NACM)

## INDSPIRE AWARD FOR KATSI COOK

[Tekatsitsikwa Katsi Cook](#), one of the founders of NACM, was honoured with an Indspire Award on March 24, 2017. She was a founding Aboriginal Midwife of the Tsi Non:we lonnakeratsha Ona:granhsta on Six Nations and operationalized the exemption for Aboriginal Midwives under the Ontario Midwifery Act. View this [inspiring video](#) of her talking about her work.



NACM midwives Carol Couchie, Katsi Cook, and Ellen Blais at the Indspire awards in Ottawa.

## ABORIGINAL MIDWIFERY IN ONTARIO

### 6 ABORIGINAL MIDWIFERY PROGRAMS RECEIVE FUNDING

The Ontario government recently established six [Aboriginal midwifery](#) programs, with the goal of offering culturally appropriate child and maternity care to a number of Indigenous communities. Several NACM members are now able to start or expand their practices serving Indigenous communities in Ontario. The announcement, which includes Aboriginal Midwives working under the exception clause, was achieved thanks to the hard work of several people, including Ellen Kanika Tsi Tsa Blais, former NACM Co-Chair and Aboriginal Midwifery policy analyst for the Association of Ontario Midwives.



## SHARING CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE WITH INDIGENOUS FAMILIES

NACM has produced three beautiful booklets for families sharing Indigenous practices and perspectives for birth, pregnancy and infant care. To download or order for your practice, click here:

<http://canadianmidwives.org/nacm/>



## CORE LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEETS IN WINNIPEG

Core Leaders met at The Birth Centre, in Winnipeg, during the Core Leadership Circle Feb 10-12. There were many inspiring moments as members realized how far NACM has come as a national council of Indigenous midwives, one of the few in the world. "The most powerful medicine we have as Indigenous Midwives is to help restore and strengthen that sacred bond between babies and families." - Carol Couchie, Winnipeg meeting



## IEWIROKWAS CAPE AWARD FOR MIDWIVES

NACM members, [Christine Roy and Claire Dion Fletcher](#), are the recipients of the 2017 Iewirokwas Cape Award for Midwives. This [new award](#) honours midwifery heroes who work quietly within our many and diverse urban, rural, and remote communities who do so with 'honour, equity, dignity, justice and inclusion'. Inspired by Mohawk midwife Christine Smith, the award is given annually to two Ontario midwives honoured for their unique contributions to midwifery and to their communities.



Christine Roy and Claire Dion Fletcher wearing their award capes

## ACROSS CANADA

# NEWS FROM PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL ASSOCIATIONS

## NEW BRUNSWICK HIRES ITS FIRST MIDWIFE!



2017 will be remembered as the year New Brunswick started hiring midwives! The province recently announced that Melissa Langlais will be the Lead Midwife at New Brunswick's first midwifery practice which is opening its doors in Fredericton. Melissa will start work in May and will be joined by 3 other midwives, at which point midwifery services will officially begin. Melissa Langlais is the CAM Board Member representing NB. We caught up with her for a little interview.

### **CAM: Congratulations Melissa on your new position! Tell us a little bit about yourself!**

Thank you! I am very excited! I am from Grand Falls, New Brunswick. I completed a Sciences degree in Biology in Fredericton in 2003, and a Health Sciences degree in Midwifery in Sudbury in 2007. My partner and I have two lovely and fun kids: Rémi who is 6 years old and Alizée who is 3 years old. Our family is very excited to be closer to my family in New Brunswick.

### **CAM: Where were you working before being hired in New Brunswick?**

I have worked in both Thompson and Brandon, Manitoba and have now been in Halifax, Nova Scotia for the past four and a half years. All these wonderful places have really helped me grow as a midwife.

### **CAM: What does it mean to you to be able to go back to New Brunswick to work as a midwife?**

Relief! Relief that the families in New Brunswick will finally have access to midwifery services and relief that I do not need to wait anymore! Also some feeling of disbelief, as it took so long. When I graduated in 2007, the Minister of Health had announced that midwives would be working there in a year. It took a long time but it is finally happening!

### **CAM: What do you think will be the biggest challenge in setting up a new practice, the first in NB?**

Even though there is already a great consumer group that is doing amazing work on midwifery education (Familles Pour Les Sages-Femmes au NB Families for Midwives), I feel that education will be the biggest challenge, education of both staff and the public. Change and the unknown can bring fear and resistance. But I feel it will also be incredibly rewarding.

### **CAM: What is your vision for midwifery in NB?**

This first practice will bring knowledge about midwifery, not just in Fredericton but across the province. I believe that amazing relationships and collaborative models will be formed. And I hope that soon, midwifery services will become available to families in the other areas of New Brunswick as well.

I want to say a BIG thank you to CAM! CAM helped the Midwives Association of New Brunswick organize a meeting with the Health Minister a couple of years ago, and helped with our by-laws by connecting us with midwives from other provinces, with media training, and many other things. Thank you so much for your support and for being available to us!

## YUKON: REGULATION AND FUNDING A PRIORITY



Community Midwifery Association Yukon (CMAY) is growing and seeing excellent progress! Yukon had a Territorial Election in November 2016. Regulation and funding of midwifery was promised on all party platforms. The new government is a Liberal majority and mandate letters from the Premier to both Health and Social Services and Community services stated that it be made a priority to "regulate and fund midwifery to provide a safe and more affordable childbirth option in communities."

CMAY recently hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> AGM and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Maternity/Baby Fair where Health and Social Services Minister, Pauline Frost, announced the government's intention to integrate midwifery within the next two years. CMAY is looking forward to working with the Yukon government and other stakeholders so that families can finally have access to regulated and funded midwifery care!

**SHARE YOUR SKILLS.  
HELP SAVE LIVES.**

**PARTAGEZ VOS  
COMPÉTENCES.  
AIDEZ À SAUVER  
DES VIES.**

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The Canadian Association of Midwives is recruiting midwives for placements ranging from two to six weeks for many of our projects. Become a skilled volunteer or work as a consultant in partnership with midwives in Benin, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, South Sudan or Tanzania. We are especially interested in French speakers.

Let's work together to help strengthen midwifery and save the lives of mothers and babies.

To learn more, write us, or visit our website:  
[admin@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:admin@canadianmidwives.org)  
[cam-global.org/opportunities-for-midwives](http://cam-global.org/opportunities-for-midwives)

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L'Association canadienne des sages-femmes cherche à recruter des sages-femmes pour des postes de deux à six semaines dans le cadre de plusieurs projets. Devenez bénévole ou consultante et travaillez en collaboration avec des sages-femmes au Bénin, en Éthiopie, en République Démocratique du Congo, au Soudan du Sud ou en Tanzanie. Nous nous intéressons tout particulièrement aux francophones et aux francophiles.

Travaillons ensemble pour renforcer la profession et réduire la mortalité maternelle et infantile.

Pour en savoir plus, contactez-nous ou visitez notre site web :  
[admin@canadianmidwives.org](mailto:admin@canadianmidwives.org)  
[cam-global.org/fr/opportunitites-pour-sages-femmes/](http://cam-global.org/fr/opportunitites-pour-sages-femmes/)

