

THE PINARD

Newsletter of the Canadian
Association of Midwives

CAM celebrates its successes of 2014!

Midwives played hockey with Members of Parliament and staffers from the NDP to celebrate the unanimous, all-party support for Bill C-608, to make May 5th National Day of the Midwife!

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Canadian Association of Midwives
Association canadienne des sages-femmes

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GOODBYE JOANNA, WELCOME EMMANUELLE!

I have loved being a part of the Board of the Canadian Association of Midwives! After 6 years on the Board, I take with me a conviction that every midwife shapes the future of midwifery in Canada. As each province and territory grows their midwifery programs and looks for ways to address unique challenges, there is increasing scrutiny on midwifery everywhere across Canada – for models and standards, for lessons and leadership. Midwives are asked for flexibility that causes us to re-evaluate ourselves. We are asked to adapt, defend, relinquish or protect the values that make Canadian midwifery unique.

Over the past two years as President, I have seen midwifery capture the attention of Canadian political leaders from all three major parties. Canada's unique model of midwifery care and health system integration is also achieving attention and admiration globally.

Under challenging circumstances, we must strive to be gentle with each other and yet fiercely and proudly face the world. Midwives care deeply and passionately about the women and individuals in our care, let us also care about each other in this way.

We have something special here, something that started with pre-registration midwives and women demanding a different kind of care and with the Elders of Aboriginal midwifery who have shared their teachings. We have a vision, yet the path is uncertain. In this uncertainty, I find comfort in the words of a midwife dear to my heart, *"trust the wisdom of midwives"*. Your collective wisdom will change midwifery in this country. Be thoughtful in your actions. Know the values that you wish to keep and cherish as a midwife. Our future depends on it.

I am proud to be one of you, a Canadian midwife.

Joanna Nemrava, CAM President 2013-2014

HELLO, HELLO!

Here are my first words as President of CAM.

I have been on the Board of Directors of CAM for the past six years, first as the Quebec representative and afterwards as a member of the Executive. Through my work on the Board of Directors, I have learned immensely from the extraordinary women on the CAM Board; passionate, political and articulate, these women are dedicated to their profession and the families they serve. They have often inspired me, and thus it is with great humility that I take up this role as President.

I have discovered in these past years that despite certain differences in our practice, the heart of the profession of midwifery is the same from east to west, from north to south, with our Aboriginal sisters and midwives from diverse origins.

It is this heart of our profession that I hope to touch upon during my term as President. I hope to insure that this heart beats stronger over the coming years. We have an extraordinary model of midwifery that was built for and with the families of Canada and of this we can be proud. I hope that this pride can be a source of solidarity and respect amongst all midwives.

I will work hard to promote our model throughout the country, as well as around the world.

Sincerely yours,

Emmanuelle Hébert, CAM President 2015-2016



Cover:

Rosane Doré Lefebvre with NACM co-chairs Kerry Bebee and Ellen Blais and new CAM President, Emmanuelle Hébert.

Prime Minister Harper stands in favour of Bill C-608 to make May 5th National Day of the Midwife.

Midwives, MPs and staffers played a friendly game of hockey together on November 26th. The teams were mixed, so there were multiple MPs wearing midwife jerseys!



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

ADVOCACY AND INITIATIVES

NATIONAL DAY OF THE MIDWIFE RECEIVES UNANIMOUS SUPPORT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS!

In June 2014, MP Rosane Doré Lefebvre (Alfred-Pellan) introduced Private Member's Bill C-608, National Day of the Midwife Act. This was a strategic reintroduction of MP Peggy Nash's Bill C-548 in order to insure that the bill received its first hour of debate before the 2015 elections. On November 18th, Bill C-608 received its first hour of debate in the House of Commons. MP Rosane Doré Lefebvre spoke eloquently on the need for increased access to midwifery care, and she gave special attention to the importance of midwifery for First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, especially on reserve, quoting midwives Carol Couchie and NACM in her speech. Thank you Rosane for having meticulously done your research and for your inspiring words on behalf of midwifery!

During the hour of debate, both the Liberal Party and the Conservative Party expressed their support for the Bill, a wonderful and unexpected surprise! This all-party support sent the Bill to a vote the following day, and it received 255 votes in favour, a unanimous vote of all MPs present in the House. The Bill is now being examined by the Health Committee and it will then proceed to the Senate. This Bill is important recognition that midwifery care is an essential part of the Canadian health care system.

From the floor of the House:

"A national day of the midwife will certainly help to increase awareness of the value of this important profession in providing



Eve Adams speaks in support of C-608.

maternal care services to women and their families, both domestically and internationally", said Conservative MP Eve Adams, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health. "Our government will support Bill C-608, which seeks to designate May 5 each and every year as the National Day of the Midwife" concluded Adams, MP for Mississauga-Brampton South.

"Midwifery is a way of providing quality, timely, cost-effective, patient-centred care, and I want to stress more than anything else the use of these primary care providers in terms of low-risk deliveries." Hedy Fry (Vancouver Centre, Liberal).

"This national day of the midwife would honour all the dedicated midwives who go beyond the minimum required of them, who work in difficult circumstances and with limited resources to provide maternal and neonatal health care to women and girls across Canada." Djaouida Sellah (Saint-Bruno — Saint-Hubert, NDP)

"I experienced a home birth with my second child. I can tell members that for me and others who have experienced home births, being able to hold that baby

in one's own home and for the siblings to hold that baby minutes after he or she is born is an experience that not only the parents will never forget but also neither the children and the siblings.... I want to thank the member for introducing a very thoughtful bill and one that I think would not only help contain costs but also help give women, children, and families a better birthing experience." James Lunney (Nanaimo—Alberni, CPC):

CAM REPRESENTS MIDWIFERY AT UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CAM was invited to accompany the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, to the United



From left to right: Rosemary McCarney, co-chair of CAN-MNCH and President/CEO of Plan International Canada, Joanna Nemrava, and Jennifer Blake, CEO of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada at the UN General Assembly..



Melissa Langlais, Treasurer for MANB, and Ashley Kaye, VP for MANB meet with New Brunswick Minister of Health, Victor Boudreau.

Nations General Assembly in New York City on September 25, 2014. Joanna Nemrava, CAM President attended and had the opportunity to participate in a high level Every Woman Every Child event, Partnering for Results: Delivering for Every Woman & Every Child within a Generation as well as to hear the Prime Minister's keynote address to the UN Assembly. As Canada makes steps to strengthen maternal, newborn and child health around the world, CAM is pleased to be at the table to insure that midwives are included as integral components of MNCH.

SUPPORT FOR ATLANTIC PROVINCES

In the past year, CAM offered increased support to the Atlantic Provinces where capacity to advocate for midwifery as a regulated and publicly funded profession is limited. Midwifery still remains unregulated in New-Brunswick, Prince-Edward-Island and Newfoundland and Labrador and the Yukon and is seeing no growth in Nova Scotia. In October, CAM had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Health of New Brunswick with midwives from the Midwives Association of New Brunswick. CAM also met with the Minister of Health and Deputy Premier of Nova Scotia with representatives from the Association of Nova Scotia Midwives.



Left to right: Deputy Premier Minister and Minister of Finance, Diana C. Whalen; Minister of Health and Wellness, Leo Glavine; Joanna Nemrava; NS midwife Leslie Niblett; and Associate Deputy Minister, Frances Martin.



Left to right: Toronto midwife Sara Wolfe, MP Andrew Cash, and CAM ED Tonia Occhionero.

CAM PLAYS HOCKEY WITH MPS!

CAM played a friendly game of hockey with NDP MPs and staffers on Wednesday November 26th in Ottawa. The game was organized by Andrew Cash, MP for Davenport. Other hockey-playing MPs in attendance were Hoang Mai (Brossard-La Prairie), Robert Chisholm (Dartmouth-Cole Harbour), Pierre-Luc Dusseault (Sherbrooke), Jean Rousseau (Compton-Stanstead), and Ryan Cleary (St. John's South-Mount Pearl). Midwives Sara Wolfe, Chantal Bourbonnais, and Liz Fraser played, as did numerous midwifery supporters. A big thanks to all the midwives who played; we can't wait to play again next year!

CAM/TAMA EMERGENCY SKILLS IN TANZANIA



Participants in the first MEST training in Musoma district.

CAM AND TAMA TEAM UP TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SKILLS (ES) TRAINING IN TANZANIA!

The harmonized Midwives Emergency Skills Training (MEST) program was finalized by our amazing team of Tanzanian and Canadian midwife ES instructors, (Deborah Bonser, Emmanuelle Hebert, Elizabeth Mwakalinga, and Ecstasy Danford Mlay) and rolled out with the first set of workshops in August-September, 2014:

Three,4-day MEST workshops were delivered to 51 practicing midwives, representing 26 dispensary level health facilities and 1 regional hospital in Musoma Rural District between August 18th and September 4th.

The workshops were officially opened by the District Commissioner who thanked TAMA and CAM for organizing the initiative, and expressed her wish that the collaboration would continue long into the future. The event received a great deal of media coverage via television and newspaper.

The workshops were co-facilitated by Canadian, Deborah Bonser, and Tanzanian, Ecstasy Danford Mlay. Each of the three workshops included 17 participants. The District Reproductive & Sexual Health Coordinator, hospital Matrons, and District Nursing Officers (those who will supervise the skills in use once trainings are over) were also in attendance.

The participants were very excited about the 'hands on' approach to training. The majority of participants had two years of professional training, through which they learned to manage normal deliveries. Abnormal deliveries including pre-eclampsia, eclampsia, breech delivery, shoulder dystocia were only discussed in theory, with no practice. This made the TAMA training particularly relevant to this group and to the communities they serve.



MEST participant practicing neonatal resuscitation (Helping Babies Breathe) technique.



Participants using MamaNathalie birth simulator to learn breech delivery skills.



Certificates distributed to first group of MEST participants (far right, Deborah Bonser, Ecstasy Danford Mlay).

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER MEST WORKSHOPS

Three, 4-day MEST workshops are currently being delivered to 50 practicing midwives in Korogwe District, (about 300km from Dar es Salaam). Tanzanian midwife ES instructors, Elizabeth Mwakalinga and Martha Rimoy are working with BC midwife, Angela Spencer to deliver the workshops.

HOW THIS WORK FITS WITH TANZANIA'S NATIONAL ROADMAP

The Minister of Health has called for a review of the *Strategic Plan to Accelerate the Reduction of Maternal, Newborn, and Child Deaths* to accelerate results over the next 18 months. The review calls for high impact interventions, one of which has been identified as 'increasing the capacity of midwives to deliver emergency care. The provision of essential commodities – oxytocin, magnesium sulphate, family planning information, and services, and newborn resuscitation equipment was also highlighted. The discussion emphasized shorter trainings, such as provided by MEST, as more realistic and sustainable as a means of ensuring that health care providers have the skills they need.

Furthermore, it was concluded when assessing progress overall, that most NGOs are not going to peripheral regions, i.e. southern, western part of Tanzania – which makes the work of the CAM/TAMA collaboration so necessary because it touches these peripheral, hard to reach areas.

Having worked closely with national and local governments in Tanzania to develop and refine our objectives, we are proud to see that the *Improved Service Delivery for Safe Motherhood Project* (ISDSM) continues to align well with locally identified needs and priorities.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS – RE-ENGAGED RETIRED MIDWIVES

A key project activity is to re-hire retired midwives, who, once they can no longer get contracts from the Minister of Health, often return to their home communities (often in rural or remote areas) and take on other kinds of work. These are the midwives with the most experience and yet they are an untapped resource - in exactly the areas where more skilled MNCH care is needed most. This project identifies and employs these midwives, and links them with Community Health Workers to strengthen the continuum of care between home and health facility within our target areas.

SECOND ROUND OF FUNDING APPROVED

After submitting our first set of narrative and financial project reports in October, CAM and TAMA are pleased to announce that the Sanofi Espoir Foundation has agreed to continue funding ISDSM activities in year 2. We are extremely grateful to the Sanofi Espoir Foundation for its very generous support.

EMERGENCY SKILLS TRAINING IN USE

TAMA has received lots of very positive feedback from the midwife participants of the ES training in Musoma Rural, with countless examples of how their new skills are being put to good use.

One midwife in particular (from the Kiembe Dispensary) received a full-term, labouring client, who had had very little prenatal care. Upon examination, the midwife discovered that the baby was in a breech position. She began to apply her emergency skills training for breech delivery, and successfully delivered the baby's legs. She soon realized however, that there was a second baby, and that in fact the two were conjoined. The midwife managed to deliver the twins, and apply neonatal resuscitation, but unfortunately they only survived for two hours.

The mother had severe bleeding due to a retained placenta, which the midwife was able to remove manually because of her new learning on the management of PPH. While the bleeding continued, the midwife was able to stabilize the mother for long enough to refer her, and have her transported to the Regional hospital, where she is now recovering (at least physically) from her ordeal.



Deborah Bonser and Ecstasy Danford Mlay.

INTERVIEW WITH MEST INSTRUCTORS

Deborah Bonser and Ecstasy Danford Mlay led the first of a series of workshops as part of the Midwives Emergency Skills Training Program (MEST) in Musoma Rural District in Northeast Tanzania. In between two sets of workshops, Deborah and Ecstasy took the time to be interviewed on their experiences.

Can you tell us a bit about yourselves?

D: I am a midwife practicing in Toronto with the Midwives Clinic of East York-Don Mills. I became interested in maternal and newborn health after the birth of my daughter, which coincided with regulated midwifery in Ontario. I completed my Bachelors of Midwifery at Ryerson with the second cohort.

E: I was born in the Dodoma region in central Tanzania, and was interested in health from a young age, even being a 'first aider' in primary school. I completed my nursing degree at the Kilimanjaro

Christian Medical Centre and then went on to do my Bachelors of Science in Midwifery. I now teach in the Muhimbili School of Midwifery.

Tell us about MEST and its development?

E & D: We began working together in October 2013, along with Emmanuelle Hébert and Elizabeth Mwakalinga, to put together the curriculum for these intensive trainings. Importantly, these trainings are shorter and involve a lot of hands-on learning, which is quite different from the standard ES trainings offered in Tanzania. The curriculum itself is a blend of Canadian and Tanzanian emergency skills information and adapted to a Tanzanian context.

D: Tanzanian midwives have a broader scope of practice than Canadian midwives, because in certain rural areas there is no referral centre, so it is up to midwives to deal with eclampsia, other emergencies. What is exciting about this course is that it brings rural midwives, who are often working solo, together to network, refresh their skills, and learn from each other.

How have the workshops been going?

D: Sometimes not being able to speak Kiswahili has been challenging, but it has also inspired some innovations, and made the training more interactive! Participants say they will never forget how I demonstrated shoulder dystocia manoeuvres, even accidentally landing on the floor at one point, luckily without injury. We have tried to have a lot of laughter to re-enforce our learning.

E: I realized that the majority of the midwives were not using the partograph

as a tool to identify obstructed labour. Although this is supposed to be a basic competency for all midwives, there was a lot of confusion about how to use the partograph. Participants have really thanked us for going through it in a way they understood.

E & D: One of the most rewarding experiences has been watching how the participants really get into helping each other learn. They demonstrate the techniques and share tips from their own experiences. At the end of the training the participants exchanged contact information and agreed that when any one of them had a shoulder dystocia or breech delivery back in their workplaces they would contact the others to report how it went.

What are your hopes for the project and beyond?

E & D: We have been talking about additional projects, such as expanding the training in Mara region to all 5 districts. By running the workshop three times, we have had the opportunity to learn from our experience and this has been very helpful in fine tuning the materials. We are just getting ready for the third group and we feel that the previous groups have helped us to improve the training, so this time it will be even better. We hope that the training will continue to evolve as other instructors have input based on their experiences. We hope to continue to be involved as the training evolves, to continue adding and editing. One characteristic which we share that we are both always looking to make improvements!

CAM CONFERENCE IN SASKATOON

CAM CONFERENCE IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING SKIES!

The 14th Annual CAM Conference and Exhibit was held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from November 5-7th, 2014. Over 150 participants and exhibitors enjoyed two and half days of presentations and workshops on research, clinical practice and reflections on the profession. In addition, CAM held its first ever Film Festival, in collaboration with the IMPP at Ryerson University. Seven different films on birth were shown, open to all conference participants as well as the general public.

Member of Parliament Rosane Doré Lefebvre spoke at the Opening Ceremonies of the CAM conference and attended the NACM Student Guidebook Launch the next day. Doré Lefebvre was interested in speaking with midwives in preparation for the hour of debate of her Private Member's Bill C-608. In addition to Doré Lefebvre, Saskatoon MLA Danielle Chartier gave a moving speech about her personal experience with midwifery care, and Greg Ottenbreit, Minister for Rural and Remote Health in Saskatchewan, also spoke in support of midwives and midwifery care during the Opening Ceremonies.

This year, for the first time, CAM was on Twitter during the conference, and we heard lots of interesting comments on the conference under the hashtag [#CAM2014](#). Here are a few tweets we would like to share!



Minister Ottenbreit, centre, with SK midwives Debbie Mpofu, Debbie Vey, Maud Addai, Megan Lalonde and new CAM President, Emmanuelle Hébert.



Kelly Stadelbauer · [@KellyStadelbauer](#) · Nov 5

RM Lesley Paulette showing how a small group of dedicated people can change the world --profound impact in this community [#cam2014](#) [#midwives](#)

Karen Lawford · [@KarenLawford](#) · Nov 5

Lesley describes her job as challenging and fulfilling. No women are risked out of midwifery care [#CAM2014](#) [#allwomen](#) [#mch](#)



WMM?Sask · [@WMMsask](#) · Nov 6

Thank you so much [@Canadamidwives](#) for the much needed energy and inspiration! I'm GUTTED that I can't stay another day. [#CAM2014](#)

Joanna Nemrava · [@LoopsMidwife](#) · Nov 6

NACM student guidebook launch tonight! Here with [@RosaneDL](#) [@Canadamidwives](#) [#CAM2014](#)





Juana Berinstein · @JuanaBerinstein · Nov 6
 Good morning #CAM2014 Debbie Mpofu, RM reflects on first five years of #midwifery in #Saskatchewan in first plenary



Elizabeth Brandeis · @ebmidwife · Nov 6
 Inspired to dream about an innovative midwifery future with client and community need at the centre #CAM2014 @Canadamidwives



Midwife Heather · @midwife_heather · Nov 7
 @Canadamidwives #CAM2014 is so great!
 Today: 2-step delivery, cord intact resus, @MSF_canada, working in Nunavik, emergency breech. Thank you!



Kathi Wilson · @midwifek · Nov 7
 Powerful & heartbreaking talk by Metis Elder Maria Campbell on the culture-breaking colonization of #indigenous people in #Canada. #CAM2014

Kathi Wilson · @midwifek · Nov 6
 Holliday Tyson speaks on “practicing naked”, being transparent w/ our #data to enhance women’s choices #CAM2014



HIROC · @HIROCGROUP · Nov 6
 “Break the mould because it lets the light in” - great quote from Jay MacGillivray during the CAMtalks @Canadamidwives #CAM2014



HiD · @Gratitudeasana · Nov 7
 Mary Sharpe gives #CAMtalk in her bathing suit!!! #CAM2014 @Canadamidwives #midwives #brave



Conference participants visit exhibitor booths during the opening reception.



Rosane Doré Lefebvre speaks with CAM student representative Heidi Demers.



Midwives and CAM Board members Jane Erdman and Joyce England smile together at the CAM conference in Saskatoon.

CAM CONFERENCE 2015: MONTREAL!
Save the Date!
 Next year’s CAM Conference and Exhibit will be held in Montreal, Quebec at the Marriott Chateau Champlain Hotel from November 4th to 6th, 2015. We look forward to having a diversity of presentations in English and French, and there will be simultaneous translation between the two languages. Bienvenue à tous!

MIDWIFERY IN SASKATCHEWAN



Joanna Nemrava and Megan Lalonde speak with morning show host on CTV.

CAM AND MAS PROMOTE MIDWIFERY IN SASKATCHEWAN

As always, part of the mission of the CAM Conference is to bring attention to the issues facing midwifery in the province where the conference is being held. CAM works with the provincial association, in this case the Midwives Association of Saskatchewan (MAS), to use the conference as a starting point for media attention and government advocacy. In Saskatoon, CAM and MAS had amazing success at reaching local media and politicians! Saskatchewan midwives Megan Lalonde and Maud Addai, along with Joanna Nemrava, CAM President, were interviewed on Global and CTV morning shows, two different talk radio stations, and by CBC Saskatoon for TV and online. In addition, CTV aired an in-depth piece on their evening show that featured interviews with midwives, consumers, and the Minister of Health, Dustin Duncan.



Regina midwife Megan Lalonde speaking at the conference with CBC reporter. To read the article, see <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/sask-needs-more-midwives-association-says-1.2825321>

MIDWIFERY IN SASKATCHEWAN

Currently, midwifery is available in three of the province's thirteen health regions and at one First Nations Hospital, in Fort Qu'Appelle. The demand for midwifery services continues to exceed availability.

There are currently 15 registered midwives, all working in urban areas. Homebirth rates are variable across the province. Saskatoon has an approximately 50% rate and Regina is at 17%.

MAS' HOPES FOR MIDWIFERY IN SASKATCHEWAN

MAS has three principal 'asks' of the Saskatchewan government. Achieving these three goals would significantly advance the profession in the province and increase access to midwifery care for SK families.

- 1) Increase the number of funded positions for midwives, in the Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) where midwifery already is practiced as well as in the RHAs that currently do not have midwives.
- 2) Take initiative and reach out to all 13 RHAs with a plan for implementation of midwifery that is in line with the expert report on midwifery that was produced in 2013. Implementing a 'Road Map' for midwifery in the province would help increase equity in access to care.
- 3) Support the long-term vision of a midwifery education program in Saskatchewan. The University of Regina has already announced its support for such a program. A midwifery program in Saskatchewan would help make long-term growth of the profession sustainable.



WELCOME EVELYN HARNEY – NACM'S NEW CO-CHAIR!

During this year's annual Gathering, NACM members supported Evelyn Harney as she took up the position of co-chair alongside Ellen. Together, Evelyn and Ellen will lead and support NACM and its members in the year ahead.

Evelyn is an Anishinaabe registered midwife from Ontario, now living and providing care in the BC interior. She comes from a lineage of midwives on both sides of her family who used to work in the old ways. Today she is one of four working midwives in her extended family. She trained at Ryerson University following a degree in Health Studies at McMaster University. Evelyn is on the Board of Directors for the Midwives Association of BC where she chairs the Association's Aboriginal Midwifery Committee. Grateful to her Elders and teachers, Evelyn enjoys mentoring aspiring Aboriginal midwives to live the gift of being midwives to their communities.

Ellen Kanika Tsi Tsa Blais is from the Oneida Nation of the Thames and her clan is Turtle. She has 3 adult children. In 2006, she graduated as a midwife from Ryerson University. While attending Ryerson, she co-founded Seventh Generation Midwives of Toronto, a midwifery practice that prioritizes Aboriginal women and families for care. After graduation she worked for 8 years as a high risk prenatal and infant midwife in a child welfare agency working closely with women to reduce the number of unnecessary apprehensions of infants in the community. She currently works as a Policy Analyst for Aboriginal Midwifery at the Association of Ontario Midwives and as the Aboriginal Health Lead for Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network. When asked about her vision for NACM, Ellen shared the following:

I believe NACM is a dynamic and amazing group of Indigenous Midwives representative of many ways of practicing midwifery. We all hold that common bond of the importance of threading together our self identity and knowledge from our ancestors right through to our present work with Aboriginal women and their families to create community that is culturally strong and will be strong for generations to come.



NACM co-chairs Evelyn Harney and Ellen Blais.

2014 GATHERING

NACM's annual Gathering is a time for members to re-connect, plan, learn and heal. This year, members from across the country met at the Wanuskewin Heritage Park in Saskatoon on November 8-9th, 2014.

Following the business meeting, NACM members were joined by Native Youth Sexual Health Network for a workshop on Indigenous Feminist Reproductive Justice. On Sunday, NACM members welcomed teachings from Elders Maria Campbell, Rose Richardson and Joseph Naytowhow.



Nathalie Pambrun, on behalf of NACM, presents Kerry Bebee with a blanket in honour of her service to NACM.

THANK YOU KERRY BEBEE!

At the 2014 Gathering in Saskatoon, NACM members honored Kerry Bebee for her many contributions as past co-chair. Kerry has been a dedicated co-chair, working hard to support and advance NACM's vision and core values. She has represented NACM at multiple meetings and events helping to advance our visibility and relations, including at the Federal level. Throughout this time, Kerry also maintained a strong focus on members - acknowledging and supporting members' achievements and providing support in areas of emotional and spiritual wellness, practice issues and advocacy.

Kerry will continue to support NACM's government relations in the year ahead and will also be part of the core leadership circle throughout 2015.

NEW RESOURCE! CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER, ABORIGINAL MIDWIFERY STUDENT GUIDEBOOK

On November 6th 2014 in Saskatoon, NACM launched its latest resource: *Caring for the Caregiver, Aboriginal Midwifery Student Guidebook*. This Guidebook was designed as a resource for current Aboriginal students and aspiring midwives with the goal of supporting students towards success – graduation

I think that as more Aboriginal women enter the field of midwifery and are able to grow in their practice and experience, they are going to awaken and become alive to this incredible dimension of knowledge and power and intelligence that will heal our generations.
Katsi Cook, Aboriginal Midwife, Akwesasne

and serving their communities. The book is already being widely distributed and is available for purchase by contacting nacm@canadianmidwives.org

A special thank you goes to Association of Ontario Midwives for generously sponsoring this event!

NACM was joined by members of the CAM Board and Executive, CAMED and faculty members, and NACM supporters, including special guest Rosane Doré Lefebvre, MP from Alfred-Pellan Quebec. Thank you for joining us! NACM also thanks the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) for funding this project through the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative (AHHRI).

A very warm thank you to NACM members who volunteered many hours to develop this book: Rachel Olsen, Kerry Bebee, Karen Lawford, Evelyn Harney and Claire Dion Fletcher.



Sharon Smoke, midwife at Six Nations, speaks at the NACM Student Guidebook launch.

THE HEARTBEAT



Online Learning Opportunities from OHA

The Ontario Hospital Association's suite of online courses and training modules provide the opportunity to learn at your own pace and in the comfort of your own home or workplace. The online training modules cover a wide range of health based topics. To learn more visit, www.oha.com/onlinelearning.

Midwives in The Izzak

The IWK Health Centre in Nova Scotia has a biannual publication called The Izzak. The publication features excellence in healthcare within the facility and for the Fall/Winter edition, there is a large piece on midwifery and home birth! Below is the link to the online version, go to page 23 to see the midwifery article: <http://digitallibrary.iwkfoundation.org/i/411642/0>

New babies on the Board!

The Board of Directors of the Regroupement les sages-femmes du Québec welcomes two new babies this fall! Congratulations to Michèle and Josyane, welcome to Agathe and Youna!

Congrats Emmanuelle!

Québec is proud to contribute CAM's new president, Ms. Emmanuelle Hébert. Congratulations and we wish you a great mandate!

CAM and NACM welcome Alisha!

We are pleased to welcome the new NACM Coordinator, Alisha Nicole Apale. Alisha comes to NACM from the SOGC, where she worked with the Aboriginal Health Initiative Committee for over 5 years.

During this time, Alisha enjoyed many opportunities to witness, learn from and be inspired by midwifery's empowering approach to Aboriginal women's sexual and reproductive health.



Prior to this, Alisha completed an MSc in International Health with a focus on partnerships for health systems strengthening in low-resource settings. She has lived, worked and studied in East Africa, South-East Asia, Europe and Scandinavia and is very happy to now be back in Montreal along with her partner, four year old daughter Leila Seyian and one year old son Sequoia.



SURGICAL ASSIST IN OBSTETRICS: SAVE THE DATE!

Following a successful inaugural course in June, McMaster University and University of British Columbia Midwifery Education Programs will be offering two opportunities in 2015 to complete the Surgical Assist in Obstetrics Course.

A course will be offered in April (Vancouver) and in June (Quebec City). Dates, location and registration will be available in early 2015.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!!!

The Midwifery Education Program at McMaster University is pleased to announce the launch of two new midwifery textbooks: Pharmacology Revealed, and Physical Assessment of the Well Woman and Newborn. Now available for purchase (free samples available for viewing) at www.gumroad.com/bcw



UPCOMING EVENTS



More info on events at:
facebook.com/CanadianMidwives

MARCH

The Birth and Beyond Conference Presents the "On the Road" Education Series Ina May Gaskin

MARCH 30-31 & APRIL 2, 2015
 Vancouver, BC

www.birthandbeyondconference.ca/

Education Program for Immunization Competencies

MARCH 28, 2015
 InterContinental Toronto Centre
 Toronto, Ontario

www.cps.ca/en/epic-pfci

MAY

1st Congress of the Society of Endometriosis and Uterine Disorders

MAY 7-9, 2015
 Paris, France

www.seud-congress.com

JUNE

Annual Clinical and Scientific Conference SOGC

JUNE 5-13, 2015
 Québec, QC

AWHONN

JUNE 13-17, 2015
 Long Beach Convention Center
 Long Beach, CA

www.awhonn.org

American College of Nurse-Midwives 60th Annual Meeting & Exhibition

JUNE 27-JULY 1, 2015
 National Harbor, MD

www.midwife.org

JULY

ICM Regional Conference of the Americas

JULY 15 TO 17, 2015
 Paramaribo, SURINAME

www.regconference2015.org

OCTOBER

MANA Annual Conference

OCTOBER 15-18, 2015
 Albuquerque, NM

NOVEMBER

2015 CAM/ACSF Annual Conference

NOVEMBER 4-6, 2015
 Montreal Marriott Chateau Champlain
 Montreal, QC

CAPWHN 5th National Conference

NOVEMBER 5-7 2015
 Hilton Quebec
 Québec, QC

www.capwhn.ca

The 2015 AOM conference call for abstracts has now been extended to Monday **January 5, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**

Use the **new survey format** to submit your abstract – the survey will prompt members to select an abstract category that best suits their topic: research-based content OR practice-based content. ALL research-based content will undergo blinded peer review by the AOM's new Midwifery Research Work Group, formerly known as the Scientific Work Group. This name change acknowledges important contributions made by both clinical and social sciences and reflects the broad range of approaches and perspectives undertaken by midwifery researchers in Ontario.

Visit the **AOM website to see the full criteria** of what constitutes research-based content, which largely concerns content involving qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods research and any presentation based on work that involves a structured approach to the collection and analysis of data.

Wondering if your abstract requires peer review, or curious about the peer review process? Interested in learning more about the criteria used to review abstracts? Please contact Anna Meuser, CPG Manager: anna.meuser@aom.on.ca

Don't forget: this year's conference will also feature a new 10-minute "Spotlight Session" format for those wishing to share great info and experience but not needing a full presentation session.

