



## CSMC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 12th, 2014, from 7:30 to 9:00 pm  
1131 Wellington W., Ottawa, ON K1Y 2Y6

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**Chair:** Donna Todd

**Minutes:** –

**Attendees:** Donna Todd, Jenya Levin, Sandra Gervais, Paula Salehi, Ola Levitin, Charlotte Dewan, Christine Crook

### 1. Welcome and introductions

### 2. Ottawa Birth and Wellness Centre (OBWC): birthing tubs, VBAC and BMI restrictions

Update sent to CSMC from the Ottawa Birth and Wellness Centre by Genevieve Gagnon:

#### **VBAC and BMI**

At the moment, the OBWC does not offer VBAC, and also limits eligibility to women with a pre-pregnancy BMI of less than 40 . Our Board of Directors has committed to reviewing the current eligibility policy before the end of our first year of operations (February 2015) and the OBWC's Quality Advisory Committee has undertaken this review on the Board's behalf. Once this review is completed any change in policy will be promptly communicated with midwives so that they can discuss options with their clients.

#### **Tubs**

*Can also be found on our website at this link: <http://ottawabirthcentre.ca/news/message-about-birthing-tubs>*

Recently, the Ottawa Birth and Wellness Centre was required to cease using our birthing tubs for labour and birth. The College of Midwives of Ontario (CMO), our assessor, had some concerns about the use of waterbirth tubs in our facility. Since we opened nearly 10 months ago, we have had excellent clinical outcomes and very high client satisfaction; our first priority is always the safety of our clients.

We have worked tirelessly, in close collaboration with our colleagues at the CMO, to understand and address their concerns. We are very pleased to announce that we are nearing a resolution, and will very soon again be able to offer the option of laboring and birthing in water to our clients. We will update midwives and clients as soon as we have a specific date.

The OBWC strives at all times to provide the highest level of client safety, as well as accountability to our appointed midwives and their clients. We aim to remain transparent and responsive to our community. We welcome inquiries from members of the community, who can reach us by phone at [613-260-1441](tel:613-260-1441) and by email at [info@ottawabirthcentre.ca](mailto:info@ottawabirthcentre.ca).

Post-meeting birth tub use at OBWC update on December 24th:

*Can also be found at this link: <http://ottawabirthcentre.ca/node/160>*

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We have worked tirelessly, in close collaboration with our colleagues at the CMO, to understand and address their concerns. **Today we are extremely pleased to announce that all restrictions on tub use have been lifted, and clients are once again welcome to labour and birth in the tubs, following an informed choice discussion with their midwife.**

We welcome inquiries from members of the community, who can reach us by phone at 613-260-1441 and by email at [info@ottawabirthcentre.ca](mailto:info@ottawabirthcentre.ca).

### **3. VBAC at the Civic**

No notes available.