

DECEMBER MINUTES 2008

Monday December 15th, 7:30 - 8:30 pm, CENTRAL/WEST, 55 Sherbrooke Ave., Hintonburg - thanks to Kathleen for hosting this meeting!

Present: Diane Parkin, Karen, Stacey, Gina, Mary B., Kathleen, Leslie, Nuyanne, Julia D.

1) Midwifery Updates:

a) billing at the Montfort

Due to the recent, unfortunate, surprise billing trickling in for clients that gave birth weeks ago, midwifery practices with privileges at the Montfort are now informing all clients that without insurance coverage for a private room, they have an initial **2 hours** in the new LDRP (Labour Delivery Recovery Postpartum) room. All LDRP rooms are private rooms.

The concept of these rooms is that the birthing mother and her newborn don't move to another room shortly after birth, but remain in one room for the duration of their hospital stay ie: labour-delivery-recovery-postpartum (LDRP).

After 2 hours, clients without private room coverage must request a room transfer (to a semi-private, or ward room) for the remaining hospital stay (which for midwifery clients is typically only another hour or two) **to avoid being billed**. If another room is unavailable (which is often the case), the client will remain in the private LDRP room without being billed.

Karen, a consumer group member, is a Health Economist, and has volunteered to draft a letter of response to the Montfort, to highlight, from a financial perspective, how impractical and costly their policy is, given that they will have to needlessly clean 2 rooms, etc. Many thanks to Karen!!!

b) practice updates:

Donna has heard back from a couple of the practices - no reports, but there may perhaps be news in the new year...

Waiting list numbers (numbers are very high once again), are posted on our website.

Leeds-Grenville is currently the only practice without a waiting list.

c) The Ottawa Hospital (TOH) - privileges, response to Mr. & Mrs. X (Diane P.)

Diane Parkin, Head Midwife at The Ottawa Hospital, shared that there are 3 midwives with active privileges (Diane, Celine, Betty-Anne) and 4 midwives with consulting privileges (Teresa, Miriam, and 2 other midwives) at TOH. These midwives are from several different midwifery practices, thereby making it logistically impossible to continue to do births there, hence the move to the Montfort.

TOH is the only tertiary hospital in Ontario without midwifery births.

It is possible that our midwives may return to TOH at some point in the future, which is why the 7 midwives with active or consulting privileges are choosing to maintain their privileges, even though birthing with a midwife at TOH is not currently an option (due to the TOH's suspected politically motivated position to focus on 'high risk' deliveries only, even though 'high risk' accounts for a small percentage of deliveries).

d) LHIN - no updates

2) Finances (Leslie)

1 cheque this month (later this week) for domain name renewal (2 years @ \$70 USD = \$ 86.07 Cdn)

bank account balance: \$825.28

petty cash balance: \$38.02

3) Info Sessions:

a) Request for subcommittees to take on the following:

- i) Info sessions in the high schools - Jennifer Young
- ii) Info sessions in the Universities - Jennifer Young
- iii) Info sessions in the Colleges - Jennifer Young

Thank you Jennifer! Leslie to forward proposed networking suggestions discussed at the meeting to Jennifer.

- iv) Info sessions in medical schools
- v) Info sessions in nursing programs

Any volunteers?

b) Upcoming Midwifery Care Information Sessions

Many thanks to Auramarina and Aaron Sawyer, to those hosting the sessions and/or organizing venues to hold the sessions, to the midwives in our community, and to the volunteers sharing their birth stories - these info sessions continue to be very successful!

Mark your calendars - the next 2 sessions will be as follows (more info to follow):

i) 20th Midwifery Information Session: Saturday January 10th in BROCKVILLE (to represent Leeds-Grenville office) **weather permitting**

ii) 21st Midwifery Information Session: Wednesday February 11th in Orleans (to represent Prescott-Russell)

Please contact Auramarina or Aaron Sawyer for more information, or if you have any questions: (613) 824-3598, acanas@magma.ca

c) board - Leslie to take care of getting professional board to Auramarina over the holidays

4) Fundraising

- BACN monthly e-mail now a go; website listings almost up to date (Extraordinary Baby Shoppe to be added this week)

* Karen suggested requesting reciprocal links with BACN subscribers, as a means to increase your accessibility in search engines.

*** It was noted at the meeting that many people do not understand what the term 'BACN' refers to, and it would be helpful to define the term for consumer group members.**

From: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bacon_\(electronic\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bacon_(electronic))

Bacn (pronounced bacon) is the term given to electronic messages which have been subscribed to and are therefore not unsolicited but are often unread by the recipient for a long period of time, if at all. Bacn has been described as "email you want but not right now."^{[1][2]}

Bacn differs from spam in that the emails are not unsolicited: the recipient has somehow signed up to receive it. Bacn is also not necessarily sent in bulk. Bacn derives its name from the idea that it is "better than spam, but not as good as a personal email".^[3]

The term Bacn was originally coined in August 2007 at PodCamp Pittsburgh 2, and since then has become popular amongst the blogging community.

Common examples of Bacn messages include news alerts, messages from social networking sites and wiki watch lists.

The word has also attracted attention in the professional email marketing community. Commentators have welcomed the distinction from spam and used the term to focus businesses on the need to improve the quality and value (to the recipient) of these kinds of transactional messages.^[4]

*** We need fundraising ideas and SOMEONE to spearhead this committee - any volunteers?**

- We need to get Sheila's onesies out to as many local baby/kid stores as possible, to reimburse Sheila (Donna to drop off \$ from the sale of the onesies at the EBS and Orgasmic Birth screening to Kathleen W.)

* Is it possible to seel our onesies via etsy.com - does anyone have any ideas? (Leslie to ask Sheila for more info)

- follow-up on other suggestions (calendar, etc.): no discussion

5) * We need updated birth stories for our website. Please send to Mary, website coordinator (mary.beatty@ocdsb.ca).

6) * Facebook - Gina to request being added as co-admin with Melanie. Gina will assist with using our FB group to promote CSMC activities - thank you Gina!

7) Fact Sheet:

Rather than reinvent what already exists, we will use the new AOM pamphlets that can act as "fact sheets" for consumers. Mary to bring to next meeting.

Nuyanne suggested a fact sheet be developed specific to homebirth.

7) Feedback Committee (Kathleen & Donna)

Just a reminder to consumers - if you have any feedback (positive and/or constructive) regarding midwifery care, but would prefer to not contact your midwifery practice with your feedback for whatever reason, you can do so, anonymously at:

CSMCfeedback@gmail.com

Donna and Kathleen, both midwifery consumers, compile the feedback received and then share it with all midwifery practices, anonymously.

8) Next meeting: January 19th

Julia D's home, SOUTH
1473 Brule Ave, Ottawa, near Bank/Riverside