

**January 21, 2008  
CSMC meeting  
from 7:30-8:30pm at  
1473 Brule Ave.**

**Present: Leslie Ashton, Katie Nolan, Paula Selehi, Genevieve (student midwife with MGO), Suzanne, Julia Driedger, Betty-Anne Daviss, Mary Beatty, Rachael (midwifery student OVM), Donna Todd, Kathleen Walker**

Agenda:

1) Practice updates:

a) "I am putting the new practice proposal together and would like the consumer letter of support now. The deadline has been moved to Feb15th but I'd like to submit a first draft to the Transfer Payment Agency director, David Hole, for his comments--prior to the deadline...in order to ensure that I don't miss anything. So if the group would be willing to forward me a letter of support by the end of January, that would be great. I'll find out who exactly the letter should be addressed to and get back to you" Ann

Ann is hoping to start a new practice and she would like support from CSMC to bring to David Hole. She's going to do much outreach with people who don't have family doctors. **Is there anyone who will write a letter of support?** Ann will be meeting with MGO tomorrow to talk about her proposal. David Hole has some concerns with Community Health Centre space being used. This would be another downtown practice. There is a huge market that hasn't been tapped. There have to be places to have new midwives as the practices are at their capacities with regard to midwives.

Genevieve talked about how the students have been encouraged to do a new registrant year, then open new practices and they have opened more spaces for students (double). So, opening new practices will likely be a good idea for the future.

We are holding ourselves back if we don't have expansion. But we need hospital privileges at QC and OH. The pressure really has to come from the consumers.

Some of the midwives are concerned about the location as they are not at full case loads.

Genevieve spoke about how she has been promoting midwifery in high schools. It's volunteer and there is no recognition in doing it.

**We will put it out to the group for input. The midwives that are here will talk about it and send emails and the CSMC will talk about it amongst themselves and come up with an answer.**

There was a consumer group in Barrhaven trying to get a practice there, but OVM withdrew support, so Kristen stopped. David Hole seems quite excited that Ann is trying to outreach to the Community Health Centres.

2-3 years ago the Consumer group had a rep on the TPA (transfer of payment agency)? **Should we get another rep?** They certainly made place for consumers.

There is the issue of geography, but maybe quenching this now will discourage further growth, so maybe we should support it.

b) hospital privileging issue at the Queensway-Carleton and the help we need from the consumers.

Kristen is going to draft a template letter that we can post on the CSMC website to open up more privileges at the QC hospital. **Kristen will send an email as to why we need to support this initiative and explain it to people so that we can start a letter writing campaign.** Donna Todd asked: Have they approached the Almonte Hospital? Have they talked with people from Lanark etc...the other areas that they service. If they get support from consumers outside Ottawa, maybe that could open up spaces elsewhere? There is a real challenge with small hospitals to have OB's come in for midwives. Their OB's are only on-call, not on full time. Once Kristen forwards info, it will go out to the CSMC.

c) Other Practice Updates-

Midwifery Group of Ottawa-no waiting lists. Nancy Greenwood has just started there again. If you need a midwife, call!

Midwifery Collective of Ottawa-no updates

Madawaska-Leslie Chapley waiting for privileges at Pembroke Hospital, there are waiting lists for the first time in a while. **Is there anything we can do? Mary will ask Leslie.**

Donna-Prescott/Russell-wants to drum up support for getting privileges at Hawksbury...will do breaches, but not midwives.

Christy-St Law Valley-no updates

d) Is this appropriate for our group? To work on a working feedback system for the consumers? I have been hearing more and more negative feedback from consumers, and I think as a consumer group we should not only be driven to help promote midwifery in our area and go to bat for the midwives when we can, but to also represent our consumers and give them a voice. I feel without a good system of feedback more and more negative word of mouth will take place. This is a direct quote from a consumer, "If this had been my first pregnancy with midwives I would have definitely switched to hospital care long before now".

The pressure some women are feeling from their midwives to subject themselves to more testing is also putting women off. We all know there are good reasons for much of these things, but nonetheless we have unhappy consumers... and that is not good for anyone!

#### **Donna, Kathleen, Genevieve and Betty-Anne to form a group about this item?**

People don't feel comfortable talking about negative experiences with midwives to give feedback. Expectations are higher with midwifery. Relationships with midwives are different than with OBGYN. There is pressure from midwives to do more intervention. Midwives need to hear from consumers. As a consumer of health care we have the right to choose. Ultimately you can choose. You have a responsibility, you need to communicate it with your midwife-she cannot read your mind. You need to work together.

Can the intake be different to give the woman more choice?

Sending jaundiced babies to hospital, glucose testing at hospital, ultrasounds for size variations, no home VBACS...need to do more informed choice sessions to get the information to clients. What defines prolonged labour? Not bound by these protocols, but pressured. As long as they document everything, women can make their choices. There is also increased pressure to suck up to the doctors to keep them happy as opposed to the woman. When things are not normal, then transfer of care can happen. But when things are normal, midwives are experts in this. Scope of practice hasn't changed.

Water births in hospitals are not allowed in Ontario right now. You can't force a woman who is pushing out of the tub, but it is technically not allowed.

**If people want to anonymously want to talk to Leslie to pass the information, they can. Right now Betty-Anne is getting a number of calls of complaints and she doesn't know how to handle it. She will forward the person to Leslie.**

2) WEDDING SHOW end March-Committee/team?

Illeana has been out of the country. So nothing has happened so far.

3) LLL garage sale-team/committee set up for April garage sale?

**We will check and send out an email for volunteers.** If not, then we will let it go.

4) LHINS update-Betty Anne-Anne:

Betty-Anne spoke about the LHIN and struggles with having consumer involvement.

5) Tee-shirts/onesies updates?

Extraordinary Baby Shop and OVM will get some of them. This is how we are fundraising. Sheila has been taking care of all of this.

**Frisbees-"midwifery is catching on" for the picnic?**

6) Financial updates: Bank account fully functional.

Account balance of \$410. That money has only been raised since Nov meeting. We can have table places, keep website going etc.

Petty cash balance: \$48.40

7) Feb 7th midwifery info night

Mary has tried to do 2 info sessions, but cancelled on short notice. February 7 is the next one. Setting up another in March

8) Midwifery Collective has a new website. **Julia is looking for a few Collective consumers to send testimonials for the website. Please email with a testimonial that is 5-10 lines. Please make it generic without names in it, but include your name as author. Send them to collectiveweb@gmail.com**

**9) Next meeting: Monday, February 18th, 2008, 7:30pm-8:30pm**

East end 2327 Harding Road (Walkely/St-Laurent)

Meetings vary among three places on a regular basis.

Genevieve will try getting posters out to Prescott/Russell to Hawksbury.

Mary will contact Algonquin to see if they want people to come to talk about midwifery.

Betty-Anne is a professor and lectures at Carleton and talks about midwifery. If Betty-Anne sends a blurb, CSMC can be email it out to everyone.

A movie that has been released in France-Newborn's First Cries- <http://www.disney.fr/FilmsDisney/lepremiercri/>