



MEMBER COMMUNIQUÉ

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July 2007

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to continue my role as President for the Council. Over the past few years our primary focus has been on internal matters, however we have not lost sight of the many external influences on the horizon for maternity care and for midwives.

As we look toward the implementation of Bill 171 - The Health System Improvements Act* and the legislative and regulatory impacts for Colleges, we are conscious of our historical role and the future possibilities for midwives in providing excellent maternity care services to Ontario families. Sitting on Council has afforded me a provincial and national perspective and the many options available to us in terms of addressing community diversity and meeting the vast differences in practitioner needs.

Many of us, including myself, wish to see movement and closure around our regulations and scope of practice issues. We have had to be very patient with the processes influencing changes in practice for midwives. Your Council has taken every opportunity to bring our issues forward and our staff continue to work tirelessly toward positive change, recognition and respect for the midwifery profession.

Thank you to the many stakeholders who have devoted time to future visions of maternity care in Ontario. Many women who hold midwifery dear to their hearts have committed a vast amount of time bringing the principles of midwifery care to the front and centre in healthcare. Initiatives such as MCP², OMCEP, Babies Can't Wait*, the rural/remote maternity care projects, and the Interprofessional Care Project have contributed greatly to creating some of the framework to guide us into the next several years of practice.

We cannot yet predict what midwifery will look like in years to come but our commitment to advance us in the system as respected, competent primary care providers remains strong. Our founding principles are catching on as an expectation of health care delivery from all providers as we continue to influence women's perceptions about childbearing and rearing.

In closing I would like to thank the public and professional members who make up the College's Council. Their commitment and the support of their practices and families are crucial to enabling our vision. I am looking forward to our continued work and am proud to represent our profession in this way. I hope you enjoy this communiqué and take the time to provide us your thoughts about midwifery and maternity care in Ontario and abroad.

*Links to these projects can be found on our website



Mylene Shields, President

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*Please note that the 2007
QAP kits will be mailed
out by
August 31, 2007.*

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK

I am very excited to be sending greetings through our new Member Communiqué. It is our intent to communicate with members more frequently, and – we hope – more effectively through a quarterly electronic newsletter. See the Communicating with Members section on Page 4 to see how you could be the one to name our new newsletter.

Since my arrival at the beginning of April, I have been working with Robin Kilpatrick (Deputy Registrar) and Katharine McEachern (Director of Operations) to build a strong team here at the College. I'm happy to report that we are well on our way to completing this important task. The College's website has a full listing of staff, along with a brief description of their roles and contact information in the "How the College Functions" section.

Over the course of the next few months, College staff will be working together to make sure that all of our new team members are oriented, to prepare for the strategic planning renewal that will take place in the fall, to assess the impact of Bill 171, and to move the College forward on all fronts. I am enthusiastic about working with the College's staff to achieve the goals set by Council, and about working with members to address the challenges faced by midwives in Ontario.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at registrar@cmo.on.ca.



Deborah Adams, Registrar

COUNCIL UPDATE**Notice of Election of Members to Council**

Congratulations to Carron Canning and Mylene Shields on their acclamation to professional member positions on Council, and thank you to all members who participated in the process of nomination.

As of the nomination deadline of April 12, 2007 the College received 3 nominations for 2 vacant positions; subsequently one of the candidates withdrew her nomination. Therefore, the 2 candidates standing for re-election, Carron Canning and Mylene Shields were acclaimed.

The Council looks forward to the continued contribution of these two veteran Council members.

Notice of Appointment of Public Members to Council

The College is pleased to announce the appointment by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council of 2 new public members to the Council for a period of three years beginning April 2007. Welcome to Joan Pajunen from Collingwood and Sakina Khanam of Toronto.

QAP UPDATE

The College would like to thank everyone involved in the first group practice audit, which took place in late October, 2006. The committee is pleased to be able to report that the process went extremely well for auditors and the practice alike. A formal report will be released shortly.

LEGISLATION UPDATE

Bill 171 - The Health System Improvements Act

On December 12, 2006, the Minister of Health and Long Term Care introduced Bill 171, the *Health System Improvements Act, 2006*. The Bill was introduced to make the healthcare system more responsive. The Bill proposes fairly major changes to the *Regulated Health Professions Act*, and will improve the College's ability to regulate midwives and fulfill its mandate to protect the public. **Most of the Act is scheduled to come into force in June 2009 in order to allow for necessary adjustments to all of the regulated health professions' College's regulations and processes.**

The areas that may be of particular interest to our members include the following:

- the College will be authorized to propose regulations with regards to drug categories;
- there is a provision for confirming publicly whether or not the College is investigating a member where there is "compelling public interest" to do so;
- the time frame for investigating complaints has been increased;
- a member's non-cooperation is explicitly defined as professional misconduct;
- fines for breaches have been increased in order to make them more of a deterrent;
- "harm" has been defined as "serious bodily harm" with the intent to include and address psychological harm.

The Bill received Royal Assent on June 4th. Minister Smitherman has since referred the Bill to the Health Professions Advisory Council (HPRAC) to deal with a number of implementation issues related to the Bill. Of particular note is his request that they review the framework and process for granting authority for non-physicians to prescribe or use drugs in the course of their practice.

College staff is now developing a work plan to address all of the requirements set out for regulatory colleges by the legislation. Look for updates about the Health Systems Improvement Act and the work that the College is doing in response to it in future communiqués and on our website.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE UPDATE

Safe Practice Plan Protocol Requirement

The College would like to remind members that the revised Policy on Practice Protocols was made effective as of May 1st this year. This means that practices should have a safe practice protocol developed and in place. For details on the requirements, please see the policy guidelines and the supporting discussion paper in the "For CMO Members" section of the College website.

Laryngeal Mask Airway (LMA)

As you may be aware, changes to the NRP guidelines (2006) recommend that the use of the LMA be considered when positive pressure ventilation by bag and mask or mask and T-piece resuscitator is ineffective and attempts at intubation are not feasible or are unsuccessful.

The College recently received confirmation from the Canadian Paediatric Society that provincial and regional outreach program training for instructors and providers under the new guidelines is anticipated to be complete by the latter half of 2007.

The use of the LMA is within the scope of midwifery as it does not require putting a hand or instrument beyond the larynx. Therefore Registered Midwives in Ontario are authorized to use LMA's.

The College strongly encourages all midwives to ensure that adequate training and certification in the use of LMA's is provided to them through their NRP instructors.

Please review the College's Policy on Continuing Competency in Neonatal Resuscitation on our website in the Communications Section, Registrant Binder Area, Section H.

The Health Systems Improvement Act (Bill 171) was referred to a standing committee for public consultations on April 23rd and 24th of this year. The CMO chose to make a written submission,.

You can view the full text of in the "Communications" section of the College website.

Future editions of the newsletter will include profiles of the members of the College's Executive and Council so that you can get to know the people who are working on your behalf.

We'll also be including practice profiles, so if you and your colleagues have something of interest to share, please let us know by emailing ea@cmo.on.ca

COLLEGE OF
MIDWIVES
OF ONTARIO



ORDRE DES
SAGES-FEMMES
DE L'ONTARIO

Name the Newsletter Contest

*The CMO is asking for
you to help name our new
newsletter.*

*The chosen entry will
receive a \$50 Chapters™
gift certificate.*

*A draw will be held from
all the entries received for
an additional \$50 gift
certificate .*

*Please submit your entries
to ea@cmo.on.ca by
August 10, 2007*

COMMUNICATING WITH MEMBERS

We want to keep you informed about what the College is working on, recent developments in maternity care and the rest of the health care system, and upcoming events or initiatives that might be of interest to members. We want this communiqué to be useful and well read by members. For this reason, we will be looking for feedback on what information you would like to see and in what format you'd like to see it. If you have any comments about the newsletter, please send them to ea@cmo.on.ca.

The first contribution we will be looking for from members is a name for the newsletter. If you have any ideas, please send them to ea@cmo.on.ca and you will be entered into a draw for a \$50 Chapters gift certificate.

We would also like to make these communiqués as effective and cost efficient as possible. So, while you will be receiving this edition through a fax to your practices, future editions will be sent out by e-mail and posted on our website. While certain information, such as registration renewals, will continue to be sent to members in hard copy, we are eager to move to electronic communication wherever possible and as soon as possible.

REGULATIONS UPDATE

This space will be used to let members know what regulation amendments are before the Regulatory Programs Unit (RPU), where each regulation is within the "queue", and the expected timeline for the amendment to be approved.

Regulation: Registration

- Adds inactive status, reference to the IMPP, and provides greater clarity of requirements

Submitted: 2000; resubmitted (by RPU request) May 2007

Approval: Expected approval in October/November 2007

Regulation: Professional Misconduct

- Provide for more specific descriptions of misconduct

Submitted: 2001; supplemental information provided May 2007;
waiting for legal review and draft

Approval: Pending, with no indication currently

Regulation: Drug list

- Adds independent authorization for antibiotics and increases the list to support primary care

Submitted: 2003; supplemental information requested, CMO in the process of providing

Approval: Bill 171 allows classes; will be resubmitting when process is in place at RPU

Regulation: Lab Tests

- Enhances consults and supports primary care

Submitted: July 2005; The CMO is to provide supplemental information

Approval: Pending, with no indication currently