



Midwifery Council of New Brunswick

**Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes
du Nouveau-Brunswick**

2023-2024 Annual Report

June 24th, 2024

Vision:

The people of New Brunswick have access to comprehensive, high quality midwifery care provided by regulated midwives.

Mission:

To serve the public interest by regulating and advancing safe, professional midwifery care throughout the province of New Brunswick

Mandate:

As per the *Midwifery Act* includes;

- a) to regulate the practice of midwifery,
- b) to establish, maintain and promote standards of the practice of midwifery,
- c) to establish, maintain, develop and promote standards of professional ethics in the practice of midwifery.

Executive Summary

This is the eighth annual report for the Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick (MCNB) and captures the work and activities of the Council between **April 1st, 2023 – March 31st, 2024.**

The primary activities of the MCNB were;

- Appearing before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- Continued involvement with the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Council (CMRC) and committees.
- Continued collaboration and engagement with the New Brunswick Health Professions Regulatory Network (NBPRN).
- Registration and renewal of registration of midwives.

Council Meetings & Membership

The Midwifery Council met 6 times this year. The Council meetings ran an average length of 85 minutes and included the Annual General Meeting in May 2023 and engagement in an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion workshop in June 2023.

Council Members

Bruce Robinson, Public representative, and Chair

Brittany Stairs, Registered Midwife

Ursula Rinne, Registered Midwife

Dr. Shannon Laity, College of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick

Dr. Tina Emond, Nurses Association of New Brunswick – outgoing member as of November 2023.

Paul Bowman, New Brunswick College of Pharmacists – outgoing member as of November 2023.

Donald Campbell, Department of Health – outgoing member as of December 2023.

Taylor White, New Brunswick College of Pharmacists – incoming member as of November 2023.

Emma Cline, Nurses Association of New Brunswick – incoming member as of November 2023.

Kelly Ebbett – Registrar/Executive Director

Activities of the Council

Local/Provincial:

- Appearance before the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Public Accounts on September 6th, 2023.
- Engagement with Indigenous communities regarding Midwifery.
- Engagement in the Atlantic Canada Midwifery Education Program Feasibility Study.
- Addressing the need for public education regarding regulated midwifery in the context of alternative care providers.
- Governance activities:
 - Installation of two new government appointed Council members.
- Member of the New Brunswick Health Profession Regulators Network (NBHPRN).

National:

- CMRC membership.
- MCNB Registrar as Director on the CMRC Board.
- Registrar as member of CMRC Committees.
- Registrar attended the 2023 Canadian Network for Agencies of Regulation (CNAR) in-person conference.
- Ongoing discussions and work related to Indigenous Midwifery with the CMRC.

Number of Registered Midwives in New Brunswick as of March 31st, 2024

Total of 5 registered midwives with MCNB

Active practice = 3

Non-Active practice = 2

Midwifery Beyond a Pilot Project

The *Midwifery Act* was proclaimed and came into force on August 12th, 2010. The implementation of midwifery began with one practice in Fredericton in 2017 and has since remained a pilot project for 7 years.

In 2021, the Department of Health announced the evaluation of the Fredericton Midwifery Program via a third party. A report was expected in mid-2022.

In the summer of 2023, a summary of the evaluation report was received by MCNB noting positive results, however, the full report has not been provided.

On September 6th, 2023, MCNB appeared before the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Public Accounts with Kelly Ebbett Executive Director/Registrar, Bruce Robinson, Chair and Ursula Rinne, midwife member representing the Council.

On March 19th, 2024, Government included in their announcement of the upcoming 2024-25 budget, funding of \$562,000 to expand midwifery services.

MCNB is encouraged by the announcement, however, we have not had any discussions with the Department of Health or know what the intention is for where the pilot project stands. We do not know of the status of the evaluation report.

We remain ready and willing to assist the Department in any way it sees fit in bringing conclusion to the pilot and establishing Midwifery practice fully in New Brunswick.

Committees of the Midwifery Council

Therapeutics Committee:

Mandate: The therapeutics committee makes recommendations on the following subjects:

- (a) the classification of drugs a midwife may prescribe and administer; and
- (b) the screening and diagnostic tests a midwife may order and interpret.

Members: Paul Bowman (Pharmacist) – Chair – outgoing February 2024

Ashley Kaye RM

Jem Deguire RM (non-active)

Dr. Shannon Laity (OB/GYN)

Dr. Louise Plant (Family Practice)

Taylor White (Pharmacist) – incoming February 2024

Kelly Ebbett (Registrar) as secretary

The committee met once on November 22nd, 2023 as per by-laws.

Registration Appeal Committee:

Mandate: To receive appeals from applicants denied registration and to make the final decision.

Members: Brittany Stairs RM

Dr. Tina Emond – outgoing member November 2023

Bruce Robinson

Taylor White – incoming member February 2024

No requests were received. The committee did not need to convene this year.

Complaints Committee:

A roster of persons willing to serve on this committee and approved by Council, is kept by the Registrar to ensure procedural fairness.

Mandate: A person may make a complaint in writing to the Registrar of a registered midwife. The Registrar shall refer the complaint to the Complaints Committee, if the conduct or actions complained of may constitute professional misconduct, incompetence, or incapacity. *Section 39(3) Midwifery Act.*

Members: Wendy Murko, RM

Barbara Borland, RM

Jacob Sweezey, public member

1 complaint was received and investigated. No additional action was required by the Discipline Committee for hearing or determination.

Discipline Committee:

A roster of persons willing to serve on this committee and approved by Council, is kept by the Registrar to ensure procedural fairness.

The Discipline Committee may receive allegations from the Complaints committee. A hearing may be held. Direction would then be provided to the Registrar regarding the registered midwife's registration.

- The Discipline Committee did not need to convene this year.

Policies and Guidelines

- ✓ Guidelines: Equipment and Supplies for Home Birth. **Revised** February 26th, 2024.

**Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de
l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick**

Informations financières

compilées

31 mars 2024

Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick

Compiled Financial Information

As at March 31, 2024

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NICHOLSON & BEAUMONT
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

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COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To Board of directors of Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick as at March 31, 2024, the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and Note 2, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information ("financial information").

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, *Compilation Engagements*, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Fredericton, NB
May 15, 2024

Chartered Professional Accountants

Independent member of Porter Hétu International, Professional Services Group.

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Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the Year Ended March 31, 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Revenue		
Grants	\$ 90,550	\$ 90,550
Registration and application fees	2,300	2,456
Interest income	<u>1,220</u>	<u>758</u>
	<u>94,070</u>	<u>93,764</u>
Expenses		
Amortization	397	569
Conferences	1,880	2,189
Dues and fees	1,770	1,770
Honoraria	5,028	4,675
Insurance	4,199	4,023
Interest and bank charges	427	196
Office expenses	4,321	4,570
Professional fees	15,092	33,324
Salaries and wages	55,299	55,296
Travel	<u>3,995</u>	<u>2,801</u>
	<u>92,408</u>	<u>109,413</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	1,662	(15,649)
Surplus - Beginning of year	<u>9,665</u>	<u>25,314</u>
Surplus - End of year	<u>\$ 11,327</u>	<u>\$ 9,665</u>

Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick

Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 15,500	\$ 26,786
Investments	3,000	3,000
Accounts receivable	162	-
Prepays	<u>3,460</u>	<u>3,220</u>
	22,122	33,006
Property and equipment - Note 3	<u>929</u>	<u>1,326</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 23,051</u>	<u>\$ 34,332</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals	\$ 9,924	\$ 22,367
Deferred revenue	<u>1,800</u>	<u>2,300</u>
Total liabilities	<u>11,724</u>	<u>24,667</u>
Net Assets		
Surplus	<u>11,327</u>	<u>9,665</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 23,051</u>	<u>\$ 34,332</u>

Director

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick

Notes to Compiled Financial Information

For the Year Ended March 31, 2024

1. Purpose of the organization

The Midwifery Council was established as per the Midwifery Act. Its purpose is to regulate the practice of Registered Midwives in the province of New Brunswick. The organization is registered as a not-for-profit organization under the Income Tax Act, and as such, is exempt from income taxes.

2. Basis of accounting

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the statement of financial position of the Midwifery Council of New Brunswick/Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes du Nouveau-Brunswick as at March 31, 2024 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended is the historical cost basis and reflects cash transactions with the addition of:

- Accounts receivable less an allowance for doubtful accounts;
- Property, plant and equipment recorded at historical cost and amortized on a declining balance basis;
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities;
- Investments recorded at cost
- Prepaid expenses

3. Property, plant and equipment

	Original cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	
			2024	2023
Computer hardware	\$ <u>3,214</u>	\$ <u>2,285</u>	\$ <u>929</u>	\$ <u>1,326</u>