

## MRCNS Board Meeting Minutes Halifax – Online April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

### Call to Order: 1pm

### Welcome and Regrets

Present: T. Pickart, T. Crawford, A. Houstoun, P. Anderson, K. Wallace, L. White, Regrets: K. Jackson, Staff J. Wright

Note: this meeting was chaired by the Vice Chair, T. Crawford at the request of the Chair, T. Pickart

### Approval of the Agenda (A. Houstoun, L. White)

Request to add the NSCN's response to the Council's request to explore amalgamation on Agenda under Other.

### Approval of the Minutes (A. Houstoun, K. Wallace)

### Committee Updates

**HR Committee:** No update

### Clinical policy review:

J. Wright updated the Council that the clinical policy review has begun. Tracy Murphy (ED of the CMRC) has completed an audit and review of the following policies. Out of Hospital Policy, Policy on Requests outside of Midwifery Standards, and Indications for Discussion, Consultation and Transfer of Care (IDCTC). Tracy Murphy will streamline policy and update language as well as suggest and incorporate best practice research where necessary. Kelly Chisholm RM will then review the policies for clinical indications. Timeline: these three policies will be presented at the next board meeting for Council Review and approval.

### Old Business

1. Proposed Common Foundation Legislation update  
J. Wright updated the board on the continued consultations between the DHW and the health regulations of the province regarding the proposed Common Ground legislation. This legislation was outlined in a discussion paper presented to Council at their last Council Meeting for review. To date there has not been any substantive updates from the DHW regarding the content of the new legislation. J. Wright continues to attend and engage with the process. The DHW has yet to offer a timeline.
2. Update on Correspondence from DHW regarding transition.  
March 9, 2022 – Correspondence received – indicating DHW “will not be able to continue the current arrangement of hosting the MRCNS Registrar / Executive Director in a position within the Provincial Civil Service past September 1, 2022”.

March 14, 2022 (Letter dated March 11, 2022) – Correspondence received from NSCN indicating “The Board believes that it is prudent to wait and see what the details of the proposed common foundation legislative framework are and how they could address MRCNS’s concerns before engaging in further amalgamation discussions.

March 21, 2022 – Correspondence sent to DHW requesting “a pause be taken [in transitioning away from DHW] until the outcome of the legislative consultations are complete and a plan from DWH is made clear”.

The DHW, at the time of this meeting had not responded to the Council’s request for a pause.

J. Wright brought forward email correspondence from the DHW that stated, “We are currently working on next steps for a proposed new funding arrangement but still have some details to work out.” (Email April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Eric Blake)

Given this new information presented in the email, the Board directed ED J. Wright to begin to develop a plan for the MRCNS transitioning into a standalone Council. Priorities set by the board were, the completion of the website and the creation of a proposed budget including startup costs. The completed budget including startup will serve the Council in negotiations with the DHW around funding arrangements and allow the Council to proactively prepare for the transition while ensuring day to day operations continue.

## New Business

### 1. FRPA Policies:

J. Wright presented two FRPA mandated policies to Council for review and approval: (1) Internal Review Policy on Responding to Unsuccessful Applications for Registrations and (2) Policy on Accepting Alternative Information to Required Documentation. These policies once approved will complete the Council requirements to the FRPA action plan.

Motion: The Policy on Responding to Accepting Alternation Information to be approved as written. (K Wallace, A. Houstoun) Unanimous.

Motion: The Internal Review Policy on Responding to Unsuccessful Applicants for Registration to be approved as written. (P Anderson, K Wallace) Unanimous.

### 2. Alternative Practice Model Policy

J. Wright presented the draft version of the Alternative Practice Arrangements Policy based on the Manitoba and British Columbia policy.

J. Wright discussed the highlights on her consultation with the BC and Manitoba Colleges regarding their experience with this policy. Each college created their own policy based on requests from their membership and as a means to retain registered midwives in their province.

Action: Jenny will continue drafting an APA policy to be submitted to the Council at the next meeting.

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**Midwifery  
Regulatory Council  
of Nova Scotia**

**Other:** The Council acknowledges the correspondence dated March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from the NSCN.

**Executive Director Update: 5 minutes**

J. Wright updated the Council on committee work with CMRC  
Updates from the recent registration/renewal process  
Office and admin updates

**Site Update(s):** No update provided.

**Adjourn** 3:16pm

Next Meeting: June 16<sup>th</sup> 2022