

**MRCNS Board Meeting Minutes  
Halifax – Online, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Call to Order: 1:04pm**

**Welcome and Regrets**

The Chair welcomed new Council Member Molly Lumby R.M.

Regrets: P. Anderson, A. Houstoun

Present: Chair T. Pickart, Vice Chair T. Crawford, K. Jackson, M. Lumby, K. Wallace, L. White,

Staff: J. Wright

**Approval of the Agenda** (K. Wallace and L. White)

**Approval of the Minutes** (T. Crawford and K. Wallace)

**HR Committee:** No update

**Clinical policy review:** J. Wright updated the Council that as directed nine clinical policies have been audited, reviewed and edited by T. Murphy (ED CMRC). The initial three policies were then sent to K. Chisholm R.M. for her review of clinical indications. J. Wright noted that those policies needed further edits by the K. Jackson and T. Pickart who are overseeing the policy review process prior to coming to Council for approval. Based on this, J. Wright requested that item 3 on the agenda be tabled until the September Council meeting. Approved.

**Old Business**

1. Update on DHW transition (J. Wright, 5 min)

The June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, correspondence from the DWH was presented to the Council for review and discussion. This correspondence included a funding agreement between DHW and MRCNS for 124,000 per annum. The DHW requested that MRCNS respond to their correspondence by July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Council members had several concerns regarding the proposed funding agreement:

- The timeline to respond to correspondence was too short
- The timeline for the funding agreement to come into effect (September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, did not permit the Council to action all items needed. For example,

finding an office space, organize financials, HR, accounting, legal consult and communicate to members, the public and key stakeholders.

- There was no contingency for a reserve fund or indemnity agreement included should a large investigation and hearing occur.
- Broadly, the Council remains unclear about the push to have this agreement in place prior to the fiscal year end, the implementation of the common ground legislation and the possibility of amalgamation with the Nursing College.
- The Council has concerns that the rush to sever the relationship between DHW and MRCNS could have possible destabilizing effects on the Council's ability to operate as a regulatory and work in the public interest.

Action Items:

Motion: The registrar will respond to the June 14<sup>th</sup> correspondence on behalf of the Council to inform the DHW that the timeline given for response (July 4, 2022) is too short. (Karin/Kerry) – unanimous

Motion: The Registrar will prepare a letter of response to the DHW and work with legal counsel to address items in proposed agreement from the DHW. (Kerry/Karin) - unanimous

2. Action Plan

J. Wright presented the Council an audit of the experience of the College of Saskatchewan and New Brunswick Midwives severing their relationship to their perspective governments. This audit formed a broad action plan that MRCNS to navigate leaving their current relationship with

J. Wright presented a draft annual operational budget and a proposed start up budget

The Council reviewed the documents with no major concerns. The Council will respond by email to J. Wright with any edits or omissions or questions in the coming week.

3. Common Foundation Legislation update

T. Crawford attended two consultation meetings organized by the Nova Scotia Regulated Health Professions Network (Network). The purpose was to hear Marjorie Hickey's legal opinion on the areas of potential intersection between the Nova Scotia Regulated Health Professions Network Act and the Common Foundation Legislation (CFL).

- Marjorie had reviewed the Network Act and outlined points that the Network needs to be aware of when reviewing and having discussions with DHW regarding

the CFL. This included areas of potential overlap and areas of potential growth (i.e., training and capacity building with regulators; collaboration between regulators; sharing of information between regulators).

## **New Business**

- 4. Alternative Practice Arrangement Policies:** Review, discussion and approve for circulation and consultation.

J. Wright presented the Draft Alternative Practice Arrangement, Draft Application for Alternative Practice Arrangement, and the Letter of Agreement to the Council for their review, discussion and approval in draft form for circulation and consultation.

The Council agreed that these documents are now in ready to circulate in draft form to the membership for their input.
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- 5. Tabled until September Board Meeting** - Clinical Policies – Review, discussion and approve for circulation and consultation.
  - Out of Hospital Birth Policy
  - Request outside of Standards Policy
  - Indications for Discussion, Consultation and Transfer of Care

- 6. Website – Phase 3 quote**

The quote for 14,000 was presented to the Council for review and approval. This phase of the website upgrade will allow midwives to register and renew their license directly on the website.

Quote Approved **Teri/ Laura**

## **Executive Director Update: 5 minutes**

Office Move Update

AGM/CMRC

## **Site Update(s):**

T. Pickart shared a general overview of the IWK site.

Meeting was adjourned: