

**Midwifery Regulatory Council of Nova Scotia (MRCNS) Meeting Minutes  
Halifax – Online, November 17<sup>th</sup> – 1pm – 3pm**

**Call to order 1:06**

Welcome/Regrets

Present: T. Pickart RM Chair, T. Crawford, Vice Chair (nursing representative) K. Jackson RM, P. Anderson (public representative) L. White (public representative) K. Wallace (public representative) Staff J. Wright, Registrar/Executive Director  
Regrets: Dr. Anne Houstoun (physician representative)

Approval of the Agenda (L. White, P. Anderson)  
Approval of the Minutes (L. White, P. Anderson)

**Committee Updates**

1. HR Committee

T. Crawford, Chair of the committee updated the Council.

- The HR committee met and established the process for the annual performance review of the Registrar/Executive Director.
- The Performance Review was sent to the Registrar for completion.
- The committee is currently completing the employer section of the review.
- When completed the Chair and or Vice Chair with contact the registrar to set up a time to present the completed performance review.
- The committee has been revising the job description and contract for the new registrar/executive director position.
- The council offered their appreciation to the chair of the HR committee for the work completed.

2. Policy Review

The Council reviewed the following amended clinical policies: Out of Hospital Birth, Informed Choice, IDCTC, Policy on care outside standards.

Prior to presentation the policies were sent to the membership as well as the Reproductive Care Program (RCP) and received positive feedback on the amendments.

K. Jackson and T. Pickart presented their rationale for amendments to the board.

The Council Approved the amendments to the clinical policy (T. Crawford, P. Anderson)

<b>Action Items</b>
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J. Wright to update the polices on the website and inform the membership.
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**Old Business**

1. Update from DHW regarding funding agreements and timeline – discussion (J. Wright & Council 50 minutes) negotiations with the DHW regarding a funding agreement for the Council is still ongoing. The Council's legal counsel continues to represent the Council on

key bargaining issues. The Registrar has met with the DHW to clarify item in our submitted operational budget and request for start up funds. IN general, the process is taking longer than hoped without a clear indication that the Council will receive funds needed and requested. Some of the concerns raised by legal counsel include:

- timelines for the grant to be released,
- the lack of an indemnity clause, should the Council undertake a large investigation/hearing.
- The agreement is a one-year contract.
- There is not a built-in increase in annual funding.
- Clarity on pension/benefits for the Registrar position.

The correspondence by counsel communicating our concerns was sent to the Council by email for review. The Council currently is waiting for a response from the DHW.

**Action Items:**

The registrar with the Chairs and legal counsel as needed will continue to negotiate the terms of our funding agreement until we reach a mutually agreed upon resolve. The registrar to continue to make arrangement for the transition including retaining an accountant, creating policy manuals, negotiating office lease and procuring insurance.

1. Update from the Nova Scotia College of Nurses regarding office space.  
J. Wright presented the specs for a potential new office to the Council including pricing. The new office will be (contingent on funding and approval of the Council) in the Nova Scotia College of Nursing offices in Bedford. The new office would come furnished, with security and parking, boardroom and video conferencing.  
The monthly proposed cost of the new office would be 1080.66.

**Action Items**

J. Wright to forward the lease to the council as a whole by email. J. Wright to have the leased reviewed by legal counsel.

**Break: 5 minutes**

**New Business:**

1. Update Common Foundation Legislation  
The legislation is moving forward. The DHW continues to send updates through correspondence and requests feedback from regulatory bodies on the process. At this time the DHW has not provided a clear timeline as to when the legislation will be completed. The Registrar continues to attend the consultation process and connects with The Network as a common regulatory voice on this work.

J. wright will continue to attend all meetings/consultations related to the Common Foundation Legislation and keep the council abreast of any key changes.

**Standing Items.**

Update from Executive Director J. Wright Tabled due to time constraints.

Site Update:

A position on the South Shore has become open.

**Other:**

**Next meeting:** tentative meetings were set for January 19<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup> to address the funding agreement with DHW as needed.

Adjourn: 3:10pm