



Amended Bylaws Create New Multidisciplinary Standards Committee and Enable the College to Move Forward on Specialized Practice Certification

On April 15, 2011, the Bylaws for the College of Midwives were amended by ministerial order to create a new multidisciplinary Standards of Practice Committee (Section 18.1) made up of four general registrants, four public members, a pharmacist, a physician in obstetrical practice and a representative of the Ministry of Health. The committee's mandate is to:

- review and recommend to the board the drugs and substances that midwives may prescribe, order and administer consistent with the midwife's scope of practice and Schedules A and B of the *Regulation*,
- develop and recommend to the board the standards of practice for prescribing, ordering and administering drugs,
- review and recommend to the board the screening and diagnostic tests that midwives may order and interpret, and
- develop and recommend to the board the standards of practice for ordering and interpreting screening and diagnostic tests.

The College agreed to put this multidisciplinary committee in place as a part of the 2009 amendments to the *Midwives Regulation* which moved our prescribing schedules from specific named drugs to drug categories with midwifery purposes. However, we were unable to move forward without this bylaw amendment. We have had this particular bylaw, plus amendments to bylaw 18 on the Quality Assurance Committee, before government and posted for consultation since 2005. Now that the bylaws have been approved by ministerial order, we can move forward on implementation. This should make keeping prescribing and testing standards up-to-date with current evidence-based practice a more

straightforward task. All other standards of practice policy issues remain under the six-member Quality Assurance Committee made up of professional midwife and public members.

Bylaw 18, setting out the mandate of the Quality Assurance Committee, has been amended to give the committee the added authority to create the policy framework for certification in specialized practice under Section 6(2) of the *Regulation* and to review certification programs and make recommendations to the board for approval. The amendments also clarify the committee's authority around administering the College's Quality Assurance Program, bringing the bylaws up to date with the *Health Professions Act*, which sets out the requirements for Colleges related to QA Programs, and enables the creation of the practice audit component.

A number of other minor updates were also included in this bylaw amendment package. They bring the sections on the board, committees, and college administration up-to-date with the Ministry of Health's current model bylaws in areas such as consistent public member representation and quorum. The

continued on page 2

Published by the College of Midwives of British Columbia as a means to share information with its members and subscribers. The Newsletter is mailed to all members, purchasers of the CMBC Registrant's Handbook and other interested parties. Questions, responses and suggestions regarding the content of the Newsletter are welcome, and should be directed to:
#207, 1682 West 7th Avenue
VANCOUVER, BC V6J 4S6
Tel: (604) 742-2230
Fax: (604) 730-8908
Email: information@cmbc.bc.ca

authority of the deputy registrar and the role of a mediator in an alternative dispute resolution have also been clarified, as have the sections on public notification of discipline decisions and the requirements of a registrant under suspension. Because our bylaws were among the first to be put in place under the *Health Professions Act*, the standard legal language for some sections was not even developed when our bylaws first came into force in April 1997. A numbers of references to the *Midwives Regulation* and its schedules have also been updated to make them consistent with the 2009 amendments.

new categories of temporary registration, including "temporary - limited scope", a category intended to provide increased flexibility for midwives returning to practice or moving toward retirement. These registration bylaw amendments have also been in process since early in 2005. They were separated out from the committee and administration package of amendments described above because, under the *Agreement on Internal Trade, Chapter 7 - Labour Mobility*, all changes to registration bylaws must be sent for consultation by all Canadian jurisdictions to ensure that they do not contain barriers to inter-provincial labour mobility.

The College still has outstanding proposed amendments to *Part V: Registration* of the bylaws that have been submitted to government and posted for consultation. These include the three proposed

We will keep members posted as these amendments move forward through that process.

Jane Kilthei
Registrar and Executive Director

The complete set of amended bylaws can be found at:
<http://www.cmbc.bc.ca/pdf.shtml?Registrants-Handbook-04-02-Bylaws-of-the-CMBC-Complete>

Introducing the College's New Quality Assurance and Clinical Practice Policy Director

The College of Midwives is very pleased to welcome Joanne Daviau as our new Quality Assurance and Clinical Practice Policy Director (QA Policy Director for short). Joanne has been practicing as a midwife for over 20 years and working as a registered midwife in the Courtney-Comox area since midwifery was first regulated in BC in 1998. She has a Masters

Degree in Midwifery from Thames Valley University in the UK. Joanne was a member of the College Board from 2002 to 2004 and has served on both the Registration and Quality Assurance Committees. She has done policy work in her role as chair of the Division of Midwifery at St. Joseph's General Hospital in Comox, and for the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Consortium, where she worked on the policy framework for the National Assessment Strategy, as well for the College as a part of her work as a board and committee member.

Joanne will be working with the QA Committee in keeping College standards, policies and guidelines related to the clinical practice of midwifery up-to-date, including establishing a system for the regular review of policies to support evidence-informed practice, drafting new policies and reviewing and updating existing policies. She is beginning with work on updates to the *Standards, Limits and Conditions for*

Midwifery by the Numbers
(as of May 3, 2011)

General Registrants:	168
Conditional Registrants	1
Non-practising Registrants	33
Applications in Process	10

continued on page 3

Prescribing, Ordering and Administering Drugs and the Standards, Limits and Conditions for Ordering and Interpreting Screening and Diagnostic Tests.

Joanne will also have responsibility for managing the College's Quality Assurance Program, including researching and reviewing policies in that area and keeping them up-to-date. She will also be working with the QA committee and the College's QA consultants on the continued development of the QA Random Peer Practice Audit process, including the member consultation process that is a part of this project, which focuses on creating a timely, fair, supportive, and transparent audit process that meets the requirements for quality assurance set out in the

Health Professions Act.

Another component of her job will be to work with the QA Committee to complete the development of the Process for Certification in Specialized Practice so that we can begin approving certification courses.

Joanne will also be available to respond to member inquiries regarding quality assurance, scope of practice and clinical practice concerns and support members with midwifery integration issues with hospitals and health regions.

We are very pleased to have Joanne working with us.

Seeking Input for Updating Prescribing and Testing Standards

The CMBC is currently in the process of updating the *Standards, Limits and Conditions for Prescribing, Ordering and Administering Drugs*, as well as updating the *Standards, Limits and Conditions for Ordering and Interpreting Screening and Diagnostic Tests*.

We are asking members to review the current CMBC standards and send us any items that you may have come across in your practice that are in need of updating. Any prescribing items that fit within the categories in Schedule A to the *Midwives Regulation* may be considered. These updates must be based on current evidence-based research, best practice or are new provincial standards, so if you would like to see a change or addition, please send us the relevant references or web links.

As these updates take some time we would like to encourage you to send in anything you have as soon as possible. We would like to keep BC midwives prescribing and diagnostic testing practice as safe and up-to-date as possible.

Joanne Daviau RM,
QA Policy Director

CMBC Directory

Jane Kiltnei, Registrar and Executive Director
Direct line: (604) 742-2234
email: registr@cmbc.bc.ca

Doris Chan, Deputy Registrar/Director of Finance
Direct line: (604) 742-2235
email: dep.registrar@cmbc.bc.ca

Joanne Daviau RM, QA Policy Director
Direct line: (604) 742-2238
email: qa.director@cmbc.bc.ca

Mary Burgoyne, Director of Operations
Direct line: (604) 742-2233
email: om_admin@cmbc.bc.ca

Lisa Robinson, Executive Assistant
Direct line: (604) 742-2237
email: administration@cmbc.bc.ca

Michelle Cheng, Administrative Assistant
Direct line: (604) 742-2230
email: information@cmbc.bc.ca