

March 24, 2020

Joint COVID19 Response from the Midwifery Regulatory Council of Nova Scotia and the Association of Nova Scotia Midwives

(Halifax, NS) Registered Midwives continue to provide essential obstetric care during the unprecedented response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Nova Scotia currently has 13 Registered Midwives who provide primary health care and who work within Regional Health Authorities and the IWK, including Antigonish and the South Shore.

“Midwives are currently working with their clients to ensure they receive safe, competent and ethical care,” said Jenny Wright, MRCNS Registrar.

Both the ANSM and the MRCNS are acutely aware this is a particularly difficult time for expectant parents and families. There has been an increase in requests for home births as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Registered Midwives will continue to be responsive to their clients and community needs, however, as with all health care providers, in some cases this may warrant changes to care plans such as community visit structures and home births. We encourage parents to be flexible and to speak with their Registered Midwives to discuss any potential changes to their care plan.

“As midwives, we are working 24/7 through the COVID-19 response providing essential prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum care which can reduce the burden on hospital systems,” said CJ Blennerhassett, ANSM President. “We will continue to provide primary health care in particular to marginalized populations within our teams and in collaboration with other healthcare professionals.”

We ask that you ensure you follow advice and guidelines from public health authorities. The latest information from the provincial government is available at <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>.

About The Midwifery Regulatory Council of Nova Scotia (MRCNS)

The Midwifery Regulatory Council of Nova Scotia was established in 2009 to govern the profession of midwifery in the province. The Council regulates the profession of midwifery in the province of Nova Scotia, Canada, in accordance with the Midwifery Act and Regulations and the Council Bylaws. The mission of the Council is to ensure that women and their families in Nova Scotia receive a high standard of midwifery care.

About The Association of Nova Scotia Midwives (ANSM)

The Association of Nova Scotia Midwives (ANSM) is the provincial organization representing registered midwives and the profession of midwifery in Nova Scotia. Our purpose and mission is to provide leadership, support and advocacy for midwifery as a vital part of the primary health care system.

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