

The Association of Nova Scotia Midwives Celebrates International Day of the Midwife and Calls on the Nova Scotia Government to Invest in Midwives

April 24, 2021



(Halifax, NS) May 5th is recognized as International Day of the Midwife. The evidence is in: investing in midwives saves lives, improves health, and strengthens health systems. Registered Midwives provide essential primary reproductive care for pregnant people and newborns from early pregnancy until six weeks postpartum.

Nova Scotia currently has 17 Registered Midwives who work within the Nova Scotia Health in Antigonish and on the South Shore, and with the IWK in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Midwives in Nova Scotia attend 2-3% of the births in our province.

Midwifery outcome data highlights the excellent clinical care provided by midwives in Nova Scotia: midwifery care results in improved health outcomes for parents and newborns at a significant cost savings. **The Association of Nova Scotia Midwives calls on the Nova Scotia Government to invest in midwifery** by increasing the number of midwifery positions, increasing the number of midwifery practice sites, particularly in rural and underserved areas, and ensuring midwifery leadership is present in health care decision-making.

Investments in midwives is a direct route – and one of the most cost-effective strategies – to achieving full sexual and reproductive health coverage and reproductive freedom for all who give birth.

About The Association of Nova Scotia Midwives

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.

For more information:

www.novascotiamidwives.ca

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