

# 2015-2016

## ANNUAL REPORT



## Toronto Birth Centre

**Mandate:** To achieve optimal health and wellness for the whole community through culturally centred care, education and research that supports the practice of Aboriginal midwifery in its fullest scope, both culturally and professionally.

The **Vision** of the Toronto Birth Centre is: To create a space where families and communities can access culturally safe birthing care.

Our **Core Values** are:

**Self Determination** – All persons involved with the birth centre are recognized as doing so of their own free will. We acknowledge and remember we are all responsible to ourselves, to our families and to our community.

**Equity** – The birth centre is committed to establishing policy, procedure and guidelines that promote equity among all people.

**Dignity** – We aim to conduct all our relationships and interactions with the utmost dignity. This includes acting in a manner that builds trust, creating an environment free of judgment, being honest and direct in all our dealings, acknowledging power differentials, and being open to discussion.

**Justice** – We work to create an environment and practice that resists false narratives of history, society and health while actively addressing health disparities both in voice and in action.

## **Indigenous Framework**

The Toronto Birth Centre is founded within an INDIGENOUS FRAMEWORK, which informs all aspects of the program. These include nurturing healthy and reciprocal partnerships, integrating opportunities for leadership and capacity building into general operations, establishing clear roles and responsibilities for all peoples involved, and building this on a foundation of strong policies and protocols.

The integration of realistic ITAPISINOWIN, or Indigenous worldviews, into midwifery and reproductive care services ensures they are grounded in the diverse socio-cultural contexts and beliefs, values, skills, and knowledge of First Nations, Indian, Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis individuals and communities. The birth centre and the coalition supporting it are committed to ensuring the cultural integrity of this centre by supporting a majority Indigenous representation and administration within the governing structure.

# MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am very grateful to have the opportunity to serve as the President of the board of the Toronto Birth Centre in the second full year of operations. On behalf of the board I

want to recognize the dynamic efforts of the staff, midwives, clients and community that have shaped a truly unique Indigenous and Midwife-led space for reproductive health, pregnancy and birth.

A special thanks must go to Roberta Pike and Sara Booth, the executive director and clinical director, respectively, who have guided the TBC through an incredible year of growth. Roberta, Sara and the dedicated admin and outreach team and birth centre aides work tirelessly to support a culturally secure and accessible space for midwives, clients and community.

One of the most inspiring things for me in my time developing, building and governing the TBC has been the steadfast engagement of Midwives. I will never forget in the days leading up to opening the TBC, midwives from around the city would come into the space asking to help and enthusiastically mop the floors or stay well past 2 am to help organize instruction manuals! It is a testament to the midwives in Toronto that the TBC clinical practice parameters were initially developed with the participation of over 75 midwives. This incredible commitment to the TBC continues to be demonstrated with over 40 committee volunteers, 167 committee volunteer hours, and 205 volunteer board hours in this year alone.

A particular point of pride for TBC this year has been the diversification of opportunities for client and community participation. This year the TBC has marked the changing of the seasons with traditional feasts, and has ensured traditional Indigenous medicines such as Tobacco, Sweetgrass, Cedar and Sage have been available to midwives and clients in a good way.

**Cheryllee Bourgeois, RM**



In our second full year of operations, the Toronto Birth Centre (TBC) has done some incredible work. Indigenous cultures, practices and ceremony is being reclaimed and embraced by the community. We look forward to facilitating more opportunities for the TBC community to access learning about Indigenous cultural safety and participating in events and ceremony.

TBC has met its service plan targets for this fiscal year and has been successful in achieving clinical outcomes that are comparable to that of home births across the province. At the opening of TBC, the Board had also set a target of TBC reaching 50% of its clients from priority populations. Setting this target has highlighted how important it is for dedicated resources to support the activities that contribute to reaching the goal. TBC staff will continue to work hard to reach further into the communities being served by the TBC and develop relationships and partnerships which will support us in achieving or exceeding this target.

TBC is a wonderful environment in which to learn about normal birth and Indigenous cultural safety. TBC as focused centre of education is proud to report that in addition to the Midwifery Education Program placements supported by TBC and affiliated Midwifery Practice Groups, TBC was also able to support a community-based health care admin student and a high school student thinking about exploring a career in obstetrics and gynecology. What an incredible opportunity to shape thinking about normal birth, the health care experiences and needs of priority populations in Ontario, and how health care facilities/professionals can make an impact in the experiences of clients. We look forward to another amazing year.

**Roberta Pike, MSW**

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

April 1, 2015

OCTOBER 2015  
Fall Equinox Ceremony

JULY 2015  
Indigenous and Community  
Engagement Coordinator (ICEC)  
Position Posted

DECEMBER 2015  
Receives TBC's 18-month  
licensing assessment by the  
College of Midwives of Ontario.  
TBC meets the standards for  
birth centres in Ontario, with  
no outstanding  
recommendations.

JANUARY 2016  
Launch of TBC's new Client  
Experience Survey

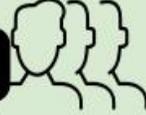
MARCH 2016  
Receives ISO 9001 :2008  
Certification  
TBC's Quality Management  
System

MARCH 31, 2016  
BORN Birth Centre Evaluation  
Complete

March 31, 2016

# Facts and Figures

TBC  
  
**1222**  
# Tours

**40**   
Committee  
Volunteers

**205**   
# of Board  
Volunteer Hours

**167**   
Volunteer Hours  
by Committee  
Members

**41**  
# Tours for Community  
Agencies

 **14**  
# of Board  
Members

  
**41**  
# of Agency Contacts

 **3**  
# Informal Request  
for Care Protocols

# Clinical Program



ADMISSIONS

2015-2016

## PARITY



FIRST BIRTH  
267 (60%)



HAVING EXPERIENCED ONE OR MORE BIRTHS  
178 (40%)



BIRTHS AT TBC

## TRANSPORTS\*

30.8% of all admissions



AMBULANCE

7.8%

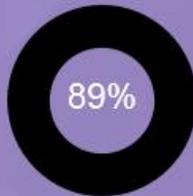


PRIVATE VEHICLE

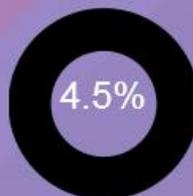
23%

\*From January 31, 2014-March 31, 2016

## MODE OF DELIVERY\*\*



Spontaneous Vaginal Birth



Forceps/Vacuum



C-Section

\*\*For all clients admitted to TBC from January 31, 2014-March 31, 2016

## OTHER\*\*\*



Waterbirths



Repeat Births at TBC

\*\*\*Of all TBC births from January 31, 2014-March 31, 2016

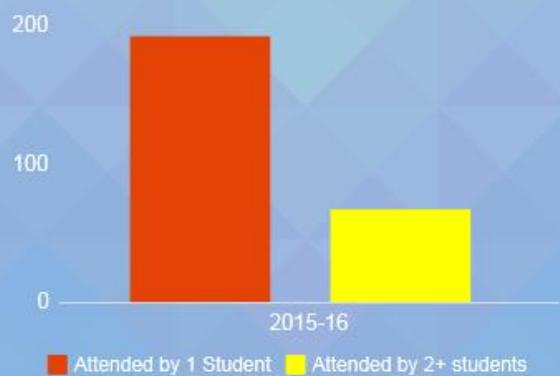
# EDUCATION AT TBC

## 259 of 444 Admissions Attended by Students

Admissions x Type of Student Placement\*



Admissions x Number of Students Attending



\* Midwifery Education Program Students are in placement from September to March each year.

TBC has contracts with 3 Midwifery Education Programs (MEPs)-Laurentian, McMaster and Ryerson Universities. TBC takes both TBC and Midwifery Practice Group MEP placements in addition to other inter-professional and community placements.

## Indigenous Students

**30 admissions were attended by Indigenous Students**

## Institutions with Placements at TBC

**Laurentian University**

**McMaster University**

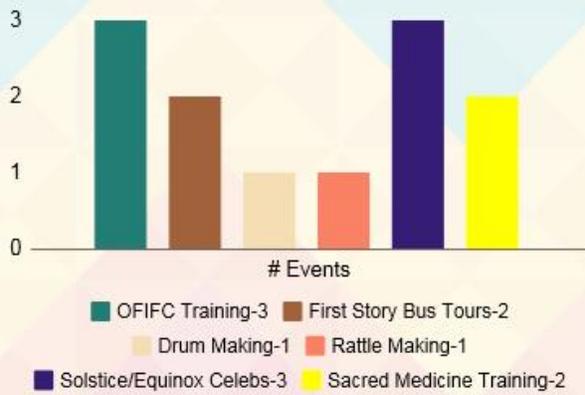
**Ryerson University**

**St. Mildred's Lightbourne School**

**Trios College**

# Cultural Safety

TBC Cultural Events



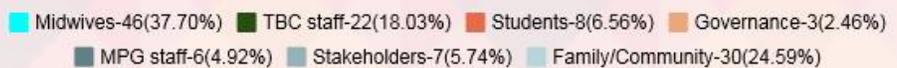
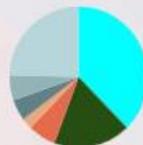
Participants at Events



Number of Participants



## TRAINING IN INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SAFETY



# Cultural Safety

## PRIORITY POPULATIONS

Total Bookings at TBC



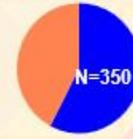
■ Non-Priority Population-610(60.22%)  
 ■ Priority Population-403(39.78%)

Admissions



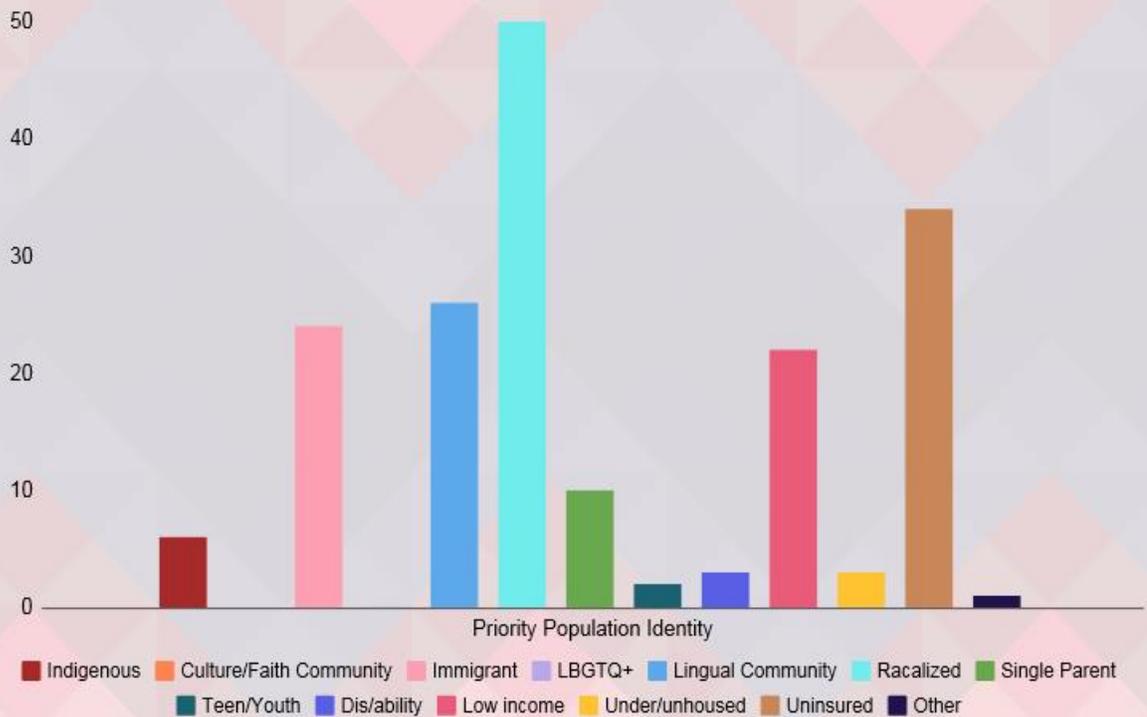
■ Priority Population-191(42.92%)  
 ■ Non-Priority Population-254(57.08%)

Total Births



■ Non-Priority Populations-202(57.71%)  
 ■ Priority Populations -148(42.29%)

### Priority Population Identification at Booking\*



\* Total is >100% as clients were able to select multiple identifiers.

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION\*

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
MOHLTC funding	\$ 1,421,980	\$ 1,453,081
University Student Program	5,000	5,750
Rental Income-SGMT	57,615	58,518
Rental Income-other	18,180	11,518
	<u>1,502,775</u>	<u>1,528,868</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Direct Costs	151,819	121,548
Salaries and employee benefits	679,932	583,857
General and administrative expenses	601,558	722,146
Non-recurring expenses	64,466	95,567
University student program expenses	-	193
Non-recurring repair and maintenance	5,000	-
	<u>1,502,775</u>	<u>1,523,311</u>
Excess of revenues over expense from operations before the following	-	5,557
Depreciation	(570,680)	(564,740)
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	570,680	564,740
Amortization of lease inducement	5,000	5,000
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	<u>5,000</u>	<u>10,557</u>
Net assets-at beginning of year	16,818	6,261
Net assets- at end of year	\$ 21,818	\$ 16,818

\*Financial Statements for the 2015-16 fiscal year have been audited by Clarke Henning LLP. The above noted financial summary is an excerpt from the audited financial statements. If you would like to request a copy of the complete and approved TBC audit, please contact Cheryl Creighton at [admin@torontobirthcentre.ca](mailto:admin@torontobirthcentre.ca).

# Governance, Operations and Advisory Bodies

## Board of Directors

Cherylee Bourgeois, RM (President); Aimee Carbonneau, RM (Secretary/Treasurer); Ellen Blais, Kristen Dennis, RM; Jennifer Dockery; Amy Desjarlais (Knowledge Keeper); Rajvinder Kaur, RM; Samuel Kloetstra (Youth Representative), Andrea Luciuk, RM; Monica McKay; and Kimberly Orton, RM.

\*Jennifer Goldberg, RM; Alyssa Luttenburger (Youth Representative), Nicole Waithe, RM.

## TBC Staff

Roberta Pike, Executive Director; Sara Booth RM, Clinical Director & Quality Advisor; Cheryl Creighton, Office Manager; Denise Booth, Indigenous and Community Engagement Coordinator; Monica -Mitchell-Taylor, Clinical Administrative Assistant; Tamara Sanchez, Head Birth Centre Aide; Birth Centre Aides: Marixa Alva Roncal, Sara Aguirre, Ashley Kagige, Salam Jeghbir, Victoria Manitowabi, Sarah Martineau; and Pei (Cindy) Yang, Bookkeeper.

\*Jessica Sauv , Clinical Administrative Assistant

## Community Council

The Community Council endeavors to create, support and foster a culturally secure environment for the Indigenous families, midwives and staff of Toronto Birth Centre (TBC). The Council works to uphold the cultural integrity of TBC's core values: Self Determination, Equity, Dignity, and Justice.

### Members:

Claire Dion Fletcher, RM and Krysta Williams (Co-Chairs), Amy Desjarlais (Knowledge Keeper), Emma Stromberg, Rochelle Allan, Shannon Simpson, Nicole Penak, Faith Wraith, Samuel Kloetstra, Nadya Burton, Natalie Lucas, Rebecca Beaulne-Stuebing and Melissa Stevenson.

\*Alyssa Luttenberger.

## Midwives' Council

The Midwives' Council supports the integrity and excellence of the clinical program of the Toronto Birth Centre. Along with its committees and working groups, it is the primary means for midwives to have input into the culture and day-to-day aspects of the TBC including an opportunity to participate in shaping clinical policies and protocols.

### Members:

Riverdale Community Midwives: Sabina Fella, RM and Tia Sarkar, RM.

Kensington Midwives: Sara Chambers, RM and Annabel Cope, RM.

The Midwives' Clinic of East York Don Mills: Sarah Davies, RM (Co-Chair) and Sarilyn Zimmerman, RM.

Community Midwives of Toronto: Dione Amsterdam, RM and Barbara Santen, RM

Midwives' Collective of Toronto: Erin Beckett, RM and Zuzana Betkova, RM – (Co-chair)

Diversity Midwives: Tama Cross, R.M, Alexandra Nikitakis, RM.

Seventh Generation Midwives: Kathleen Babe, RM, Leah Crawford, RM.

\*Carmen Felix, RM, Kristen Dennis, RM

## Quality Advisory Committee

The Quality Advisory Committee oversees the activities of the Quality Management Program and reports on them to the Board. As a committee of the Board, it focuses on safety monitoring and evaluation of services at the Birth Centre.

**Members:**

Sara Booth, RM; Quality Advisor (Chair); \*\*Aimee Carbonneau, RM; \*\*Dione Amsterdam, RM; \*\*Claire Dion Fletcher, RM; Jennifer Gilbert, BA, MA; S. Victoria Herrera, BA; Leah Klein, RM; Jill Parsons, RM; Elizabeth Redmond, RPM (non-Ontario jurisdiction); Dr. Elin Raymond, MD (OB/GYN); Sara Wolfe, RM.

**Joint Liaison Committee**

The Joint Liaison Committee is the structure that enables oversight of the relationship between St. Michael's Hospital (SMH) and the Toronto Birth Centre (TBC). As SMH is the closest hospital with maternal-newborn and emergency services both organizations entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to govern and support their relationship particularly related to client safety and transfers to SMH, collaborative educational opportunities and creation of culturally safe health care models.

**Members:**

TBC: Cheryllee Bourgeois, RM; Roberta Pike, MSW; Sara Booth, RM.

SMH: Dr. Douglas Campbell; Dr. Andrea Lausman; Mary Murphy, RN.

\*Left position in fiscal year 2015-16.

\*\* The QAC membership is in transition. Members appointed via the old method have agreed to stay on the QAC for a period of a year to transition the committee's knowledge and work smoothly.

**MIIGWETCH, NIA: WEH, WACHI-YEH, MARCI, THANK YOU!**



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