

McMaster Midwifery Research Centre

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Midwifery
Research Centre





Midwifery
Research Centre

McMaster University Midwifery Research Centre (MMRC)

2023 Annual Report

Submitted by

Dr. Beth Murray-Davis, Scientific Director
McMaster University Midwifery Research Centre



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Welcome from the Scientific Director

I am pleased to reflect on the achievements of the MMRC from over the past year. The MMRC has had significant growth in membership, capacity-building and productivity, underscoring our commitment to advancing midwifery research.

A key driver of our success has been our strong and fruitful collaborations, both within and outside the university. These partnerships foster innovation and expand our reach as a national and internationally recognized centre for midwifery research. This is particularly evident in our annual symposium's widespread attendance by over 300 participants from 51 cities across Canada and 11 different countries.

As a community, we have focused on growing our own skills this year through completion of the First Nations Information Governance Centre Fundamentals of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) course. This reflects our desire to nurture an equitable and inclusive work environment and to include equity considerations in our research work.

The launch of the Masters in Midwifery program signifies a pivotal moment for our community, providing a new avenue for learning and research. We envision our centre as a hub offering mentorship and peer support to ensure success for our learners.

We were pleased to launch the first offering of the MMRC Research Awards Program in 2023. This initiative is a vital component of fostering capacity building within the organization and our profession by offering financial support for research conducted by students and early career researchers. You will find further details about the award winners in the report.

In 2023, our path as a centre was shaped by continued growth, resilience, and impact. By nurturing collaborations and strengthening our community, we have defined our position as leaders in midwifery research. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue to demonstrate productivity, fueled by our dedication to excellence in research and our focus on research capacity building in the profession.



Dr. Beth Murray-Davis, Scientific Director,
McMaster Midwifery Research Centre

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Beth Murray-Davis'.

Beth Murray-Davis RM, PhD

MMRC at a Glance

2023

Research Activity

19 Centre Scientist publications 2 New grants with MMRC faculty
12 Active research grants \$790,000 New research funding

Capacity Building

11 Oral and poster presentations 8 Research Speakers and workshops
1 Research symposium 17 Collaborative grants

MMRC Engagement

8 Research staff members 22 Trainees
35 Adjunct & Fellow members 13 Scientific advisory committee members

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About the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre

The McMaster University Senate formerly approved the creation of the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre (MMRC) in July 2018. The MMRC is of critical importance for the growth of the midwifery profession in Canada and internationally. In the years leading up to the formation of the centre, midwifery research at McMaster was burgeoning, but lacked a home. We are really pleased to have this centre to house the work being done. We are proud of the increasing research capacity within the profession and the growing number of trainees and researchers who are making contributions to the knowledge and evidence of midwifery. The MMRC offers a hub where these efforts can be formalized, coordinated, and supported, thereby facilitating greater collaboration, productivity and broader impact and dissemination of research.

The functions of MMRC are to:

- 1 Facilitate research and research collaborations.
- 2 Act as the point of contact for provincial midwifery, well woman and newborn research.
- 3 Disseminate research results through scholarly papers, conferences, meetings, and other activities. This may include knowledge translation activities such as continuing education opportunities for midwifery clinicians.
- 4 Support and strengthen midwifery undergraduate education and interdisciplinary graduate students by providing research mentorship, training opportunities, and access to facilities.
- 5 Seek external research funds to ensure the sustainability of the Centre.
- 6 Oversee MMRC discretionary funds in consultation with the Scientific Advisory Committee.

Research Areas

Our research focuses on clinical and educational topics in the field of midwifery and maternal/child health.

Our research includes a variety of approaches, methods, and disciplines, including: clinical epidemiology, randomised controlled trials, cohort studies, large database studies (Better Outcomes Registry Network (BORN) Ontario, Institute of Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES)), knowledge translation, quality improvement, qualitative and quantitative methods, mixed methods, health policy, and health economics.

Our research is organized into three broad areas, or pillars, with examples of studies under each pillar, as illustrated below:

Health Services & Access to Care

- Evaluation of alternative care models such as: collaborative models of care, hospital based
Alongside Midwifery Unit, expanded midwifery scope
- Access to care among low SES midwifery clients
- Cost analysis of midwifery services

Health Outcomes

- Safety of homebirth
- Non-communicable diseases
- Hyperbilirubinemia
- Maternal and neonatal consultations and transfers of care
- Twin births
- Induction of labour
- Neonatal gut microbiome

Midwifery Education

- Interprofessional education
- Interactive e-textbooks
- Graduate transition to practice
- Expanded midwifery skills including surgical assisting, point of care ultrasound

Strategic Plan



In December 2019, members and friends of the MMRC met for a day-long workshop to develop a strategic plan for the Centre. The strategic plan is intended to drive actions and decision-making for the next 3 to 5 years, with initiatives focusing on four objectives, including:

1. Engagement - to develop a value based organizational design that formalizes roles, processes, responsibilities and resources; and to develop points of entry and pathways for engagement for students, midwives, researchers, policymakers, public organizations, etc.
2. Collaboration - To initiate and foster our network within McMaster and externally; and to identify and implement strategies to ensure public involvement in development and execution of research
3. Excellence - To expand brand recognition; and to identify and implement metrics of the Centre's impact in order to inform future direction
4. Funding - To develop stable short term and long term funding base

Despite the effect of the ensuing Covid-19 pandemic, the MMRC is working well towards these objectives that will shape the direction and future of the Centre.

MISSION

We are dedicated to excellence in midwifery research that informs policy, practice and education and improves outcomes for pregnant and birthing families and their infants.

To be an internationally recognized centre that promotes excellence in maternal child health and healthcare through the generation of evidence to optimize midwifery care.

VISION



There are five levels of membership within the centre: Scientist, Adjunct, Fellow, General, and Organizational members. The following section describes our members, their research areas and affiliations, our Scientific Advisory Committee members, and our research staff.

The benefits of membership for all categories includes:

- Access to collaboration with Centre Scientists in related areas of inquiry
- Access to the shared resources of the Centre, and support including administrative assistance with grant preparation and submission
- Access to media and communication support
- Regular information regarding funding and dissemination opportunities, and on-campus activities and seminars

Membership

Centre Scientists



Dr. Beth Murray-Davis

BA, BHSc, MA, PhD, RM

Dr. Beth Murray-Davis is an Associate Professor in the Midwifery Education Program and Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She has a BA in Sociology, a BHSc in Midwifery, a MA in Health Profession Education, PhD in Primary Health Care, and a Postdoc in Interprofessional Education. She balances roles as a clinician, educator in the undergraduate and graduate midwifery programs at McMaster, and an active researcher. She holds a Limited Term Chair in Midwifery Research at London Health Sciences Centre and is the Scientific Director of the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre. Her program of research asks unique questions, often centred on the voices of service users. She has expertise in qualitative methods. Much of her work is underpinned by a deeply held belief in the importance of person-centred care, including how to foster this approach to care among learners, how collaboration and teamwork can support this, and how midwifery models of care work to support and centre people from equity deserving populations who experience discrimination and neglect during their health care. Her areas of expertise include collaboration, models of care, service-user perspectives, qualitative methods, and her research interests include continuity of care, client experiences of complicated pregnancies, decision making regarding place of birth, interprofessional working and learning, transition to practice.



Dr. Elizabeth K. Darling

BArtsSc, BHSc, MSc, PhD

Dr. Liz Darling is a Registered Midwife, Assistant Dean and Director of the Midwifery Education Program, and Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at McMaster University. She is a three-time McMaster alumni (with degrees in Arts & Science, Midwifery, and Health Research Methodology), and has a PhD in Population Health from the University of Ottawa. Liz began her career as a midwife in North York, and then practiced midwifery in Ottawa and was a part-time faculty member with the Midwifery Education Program at Laurentian University prior to joining McMaster full-time in 2017. She is also an Adjunct Scientist at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, and holds an Associate appointment in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact at McMaster University.

She is the principal investigator on a CIHR Early Career Operating Grant in Maternal, Reproductive, Child, and Youth Health. Her current research interests include: the organization of midwifery services, health disparities, access to care, health policy, and perinatal health surveillance. She conducts mixed methods research and has particular expertise in the midwifery data collected in Ontario's perinatal registry (BORN-Ontario).



Prof. Eileen K. Hutton

BScN, MSN, PhD, FCAHS, RM

Prof. Eileen K. Hutton is Professor Emeritus, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, McMaster University, Associate Dean Emeritus, Faculty of Health Sciences, and Director Emeritus, Midwifery Education Program, Department of Education. She served as the Assistant Dean for the McMaster Midwifery Education Program from 2007 to 2018, and established the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre in July 2018.

Prof. Hutton held a part time endowed chair position from 2010-15 as Professor of Midwifery Science at Vrije University in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Her undergraduate degree is from Queen's University, School of Nursing (BNSc) and she holds graduate degrees from the University of Toronto, School of Nursing (MScN) and the Institute of Medical Science - Clinical Epidemiology (PhD). In 2006, Prof. Hutton was recognised by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) with a National Award of Excellence for leadership by fostering interprofessional collaboration in support of women's health, and dedication to the advancement of midwifery practice and maternal health in Canada and abroad. She received the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award by the Association of Ontario Midwives (AOM) in recognition of her role in education, research and contributions to the profession. In 2016, Prof. Hutton received an Honorary Doctorate from Queen's University recognising her contribution to the development of Canadian Midwifery. In 2017, Prof. Hutton became the first Canadian midwife to be inducted as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

She has published many [peer-reviewed papers](#) on a variety of topics relevant to midwifery and obstetrics including twin birth, external cephalic version, late and early clamping of the umbilical cord in term neonates, vaginal birth after caesarean section, sterile water injections for labour pain relief and home birth. Her current work focuses on the intersection of birth and early life exposures and the development of infant gut microbiome.

Adjunct Scientists



Laura Banfield

BSc, MHSc, MLIS

Laura Banfield is an Assistant Clinical Professor in Nursing, Librarian in the Health Sciences Library at McMaster University, and doctoral candidate in the Department of Geography. She works closely with the Midwifery Education Program through teaching library orientation to incoming students and course specific database and research sessions., developing library tools and resources to support learning, and providing one-on-one support. She is an active collaborator and advisor in both student and faculty led research.



Dr. Kirsty Bourret

PhD, RM

Dr. Kirsty Bourret (elle/she/her) is a trained midwife, Fellow at the Karolinska Institute, and was a Francophone faculty member with the Midwifery Education Program at Laurentian University. Kirsty was awarded the prestigious FORTE international postdoctoral fellowship funded through the Swedish Research Council to continue her research on midwife-led person-centered comprehensive abortion care in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). She also received a Mitacs Accelerate fellowship to co-conduct a multi-country, multiple case study to further study midwifery association strengthening.



Elizabeth Brandeis

RM, MScCH

Elizabeth Brandeis is a Registered Midwife and the Senior Project Leader & Labour Relations Specialist with the Association of Ontario Midwives. She has worked as a sessional instructor in the Midwifery Education Program at McMaster University and a lecturer with the Midwifery Education Program at the Toronto Metropolitan University. Her interests include midwifery leadership, health equity, health policy, pay equity, clinical education, interprofessional education, and models of care.

Adjunct Scientists



Dr. Ginny Brunton

RN, RGN, RM, PhD

Dr. Ginny Brunton is an Associate Professor in Nursing at OntarioTech University. Her research focuses on mixed method evidence syntheses and knowledge translation examining policy issues in maternal health. She has particular interests in community engagement, and public health, with particular interests in low risk birth, and in how best to involve communities and other stakeholders in knowledge translation of birth research, evidence-informed maternal health care, mixed methods research synthesis, health policy, health promotion, wellbeing and salutogenesis, the epidemiology of spontaneous birth, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary working, knowledge translation, and methods of community engagement in health research.



Dr. Elizabeth C. Cates

BScH, BHSc, PhD, RM

Dr. Liz Cates is an Assistant Clinical Professor (Adjunct) in the Department of Pathology & Molecular Medicine, and an Instructor in the Bachelor of Health Sciences Program and the Midwifery Education Program at McMaster University. Her research interests include pedagogy, attrition and retention in the midwifery profession, and infectious diseases.



Lauren Columbus

BScH, MHPEd, RM

Lauren Columbus is the Academic Practice Lead with the Department of Midwifery, and a Registered Midwife with the T.I.M.E. Program Expanded Midwifery Care Model at London Health Sciences Centre. She is also an Adjunct Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, as well as McMaster University. She holds a Masters in Health Professions Education from Maastricht University. Her areas of research and academic interest include quality assurance and quality improvement, simulation, collaborative models of perinatal care delivery, team dynamics in birthing units, and psychological safety in interprofessional teams.

Adjunct Scientists



Abigail Corbin

BSc, BHSc, MHM, RM

Abigail Corbin is the Patient Care Manager for the Alongside Midwifery Unit, Early Discharge Program, Family and Baby Clinic at Oak Valley Health, with research interests in evaluation of midwifery models of care, midwifery leadership and risk management.



Remi Ejiwunmi

MA, RM

Remi Ejiwunmi is a practicing midwife in Mississauga, Ontario, and Head of the Division of Midwifery at Trillium Health Partners. Remi's research interests include quality improvement, patient-centred care, and system thinking. She worked to create Quality and Practice Councils and participates on the Provincial Obstetrical Quality Improvement and Patient Safety committee and with the Provincial Council for Maternal Child Health's Low Risk Obstetrical Expert Panel. Remi has served as Past President at the Association of Ontario Midwives (AOM) and currently sits on the AOM's Quality Insurance and Risk Management Committee. She is a member of the Board of Directors at the Health Insurance Reciprocal of Canada (HIROC).



Meagan Furnivall

BA, BHSc, RM

Meagan Furnivall is a Registered Midwife working in London, and graduated with Master's in Health Science Education at McMaster University. She has active ongoing research studies at London Health Sciences Centre collegially with other obstetricians and anesthesiologists. Some of her research interests include skin-to-skin contact in caesarean section, interprofessional collaboration, and exploring how to teach obstetrical residents and midwifery students how best to engage in decision-making with clients.

Adjunct Scientists



Prof. Amiram Gafni

DSc

Prof. Amiram Gafni is a Professor in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (HEI) and a member of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis (CHEPA). In 2011, the World Bank ranked Prof. Gafni as 35th health economics researcher in the world (1st in Canada) based on the volume and impact of his publications. His research interests are in the area of economic evaluation of health care programs (both methods development and empirical applications), modeling of consumers' healthcare behaviour, models of patient-physician decision-making, e.g. shared decision-making, policy analysis and risk and decision analysis in health. He has co-authored several papers with other members of the MMRC.



Dr. Karen Lawford

BScH, BHSc, MA, PhD, RM

Dr. Lawford is an Aboriginal midwife (Namegosibiing, Lac Seul First Nation, Treaty 3), a Registered midwife (Ontario), and Assistant Professor, Department of Gender Studies, Queen's University. Her research focuses on comprehensive, gender-inclusive sexual and reproductive healthcare for Indigenous Peoples with a particular focus on the provision of maternity care for those who live on reserve. Dr. Lawford seeks to identify the barriers to achieving equitable health services for Indigenous Peoples. She was the 2020 Inspire Laureate in Health for her research and policy work on mandatory evacuation for birth. Her research interests also include Maternity care on reserves, Medical evacuation, Midwifery, Indigenous feminist theories and methodologies, Indigenous women and Two Spirit Leadership, Indigenous health and wellness, and Health care. She is affiliated with the Queen's Cultural Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Program, and holds an Adjunct Research Professor position with the School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies at Carleton University.



Dr. Derek Lobb

PhD

Dr. Derek Lobb is an Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at McMaster University. His research interests include the retention and success of midwifery students and working midwives, and the physiology of cervical ripening in women and the hormones that are involved.

Adjunct Scientists



Tonya MacDonald

RM, MPH, PhD(c)

Tonya MacDonald is a PhD candidate in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact at McMaster University, former Master Lecturer in the School of Midwifery at Laurentian University, and current midwifery tutor with the Midwifery Education Program (MEP) at McMaster University. She is also a Registered Midwife since 2004, working mostly in Hamilton and area. Her research interests are in research methods that get at the root of improved maternal/perinatal health specifically in low-and-middle income countries. Tonya is particularly interested in community-based participatory research with youth regarding their lived experiences of maternal/perinatal health in their communities.



Dr. Anne Malott

BScN, MSN, PhD, RM

Dr. Anne Malott is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine with the Midwifery Education Program at McMaster University and a Registered Midwife. Her research interests include models of maternity care, midwifery and interprofessional education, and wellbeing and weight gain in pregnancy.



Helen McDonald

MHSc, RM

Helen McDonald is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine with the Midwifery Education Program (MEP) at McMaster University since 1993 before midwifery was regulated in Canada. She has practiced as a registered midwife in Hamilton, and has participated in numerous research studies with the MEP and MMRC. Her research interests include knowledge translation, midwifery and interprofessional education, gestational weight gain, place of birth, intrapartum antibiotics during the intrapartum period, the infant microbiome and models of midwifery care.

Adjunct Scientists



Dr. Patricia McNiven

MSc, PhD, RM

Dr. Patricia McNiven is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine with the Midwifery Education Program (MEP) at McMaster University since 1993, and is a Registered Midwife in Hamilton. Her research interests include midwifery curriculum design and content analysis, faculty development, assessment of clinical competence and distance problem-based learning, early labour, optimality measurement scale validation in a Canadian context, care provider attitudes, midwifery and interprofessional education, fear of childbirth prior to pregnancy, and place of birth. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Midwifery Research and Practice (CJMRRP), Canada's national, peer-reviewed midwifery journal and the official journal of the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM).



Dr. Katherine Morrison

MD, FRCPC

Dr. Katherine Morrison is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, co-director of MAC-Obesity (Metabolism and Childhood Obesity Research Program), and the co-Director of Centre for Metabolism, Obesity and Diabetes Research at McMaster University. Her research program has three main areas of focus: epidemiological research to examine the population, family and individual level determinants that influence adiposity and cardiovascular risk factors across the childhood lifespan, clinical studies to improve the care of children with health consequences related to obesity, and knowledge translation work through the development and dissemination of clinical practice guidelines for the prevention and management of obesity in youth.



Claire Ramlogan-Salanga

B.Comm, BHSc, MSc, RM, PhD(c)

Claire Ramlogan-Salanga is a registered midwife and lecturer with the McMaster Midwifery Education Program. Her leadership positions include Chair of Council at the College of Midwives of Ontario and Chair of the Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the Canadian Midwifery Regulator Council. As part of her commitment to support the midwifery community, she co-developed the Canadian IBPOC Peer Review program. Claire is a PhD candidate in the Global Health Program at McMaster. Her research interests include health professions education, social justice education reform, intersectional approaches to research design and methodology and health equity.

Adjunct Scientists



Angela Reitsma

BSc, BHSc, MSc, RM

Angela Reitsma is an Assistant Clinical Professor with the Department of Family Medicine in the Midwifery Education Program at McMaster University, Head of Midwifery Service at St. Joseph's Healthcare, and a Registered Midwife practicing in Hamilton. She completed her Master's in Clinical Epidemiology with the Health Research Methodology program at McMaster. Her research interests are in quality improvement, place of birth, midwifery models of care, and research methods.



Christine Sandor

BSc, BHSc, MSc, RM

Christine Sandor is a Registered Midwife in Hamilton and an Assistant Clinical Professor with the Department of Family Medicine in the Midwifery Education Program. Christine holds three degrees from McMaster: a BSc in Biology, BHSc in Midwifery, and a Masters in Health Science Education. Her research interests include transition to clinical practice, mentorship, and midwifery education.



Kathi Wilson

BA, BHSc, MSc, RM

Kathi Wilson is an Assistant Professor with the Midwifery Education Program. Her research interests include: impact of electronic health records on the provision of midwifery care (especially in the intrapartum period), on client experience of midwifery care, and on student learning experiences.



Mona Abdel-Fattah

BHSc, MSc, RM

Mona Abdel-Fattah is a Registered Midwife with the Community Midwives of Hamilton and is working on the expanded scope project at Crown Point. She completed the Master of Science Global Health Program at McMaster University exploring social and cultural barriers to accessing midwifery care in Morocco under the mentorship of Dr. Patricia McNiven and Dr. Anne Niec. Mona's research interests are focused on international midwifery.



Erika Arseneau

HBSc, MSc

Prior to coming into midwifery, Erika Arseneau completed a MSc in Health Research Methodology at McMaster (2014). She is a co-recipient of the AOM Early Career Research grant with Samantha Landry and has worked under the mentorship of Dr. Elizabeth Darling to complete a study on polyamorous individuals' experience with pregnancy and birth. Erika's research interests include population and public health, marginalized populations and health services.



Kate Demers

BSc, BHSc, MMid

Kate Demers is an Assistant Professor at McMaster University in the Midwifery Education Program, and a Registered Midwife practicing in Hamilton since 2009. She is the lead midwife at Crown Point Midwifery, which is providing expanded midwifery care model options in the east end of Hamilton. Current research projects include exploring outcomes related to expanded scope in midwifery practice and spread and scale of a midwifery-led alongside birthing unit in the city of Hamilton.

Fellows



Erica Elderhorst

BSc, BHSc, RM

Erica Elderhorst is a Registered Midwife and a graduate of the Health Research Methodology program at McMaster University. Erica was awarded the AOM Career Midwifery Research Grant for a randomized controlled feasibility trial of sodium bicarbonate for the prevention of labour dystocia. She currently resides and works as a Midwife in New Zealand and continues to be active in research.



Jen Goldberg

RM, MPH, PhD (c)

Jen is a sessional instructor with the Midwifery Education Program, and a postdoctoral Research Fellow with the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre. Her research interests include 2SLGBTQAI+ reproductive health equity, midwifery, and critical qualitative methodologies. She is a Research Collaborator with Re:searching for 2SLGBTQ Health.



Rebecca Hautala

RM, BA, BHSc, MSc

Rebecca is a Master's Student in the McMaster Midwifery Graduate Program and a Registered Midwife in Thunder Bay, Ontario, practicing in an Expanded Midwifery Care Model. With the support of her thesis committee and EMCM colleagues, Rebecca recently graduated from the first class of the McMaster Midwifery Graduate Program. In addition, Rebecca's research interests include midwifery integration, expanded midwifery care models, and Reproductive Justice.



Vanessa Hébert

RM, BHSc, MA

Vanessa Hébert is a registered midwife currently pursuing a PhD in the clinical epidemiology stream of the Health Research Methodology (HRM) program at McMaster University. Her doctoral research will explore the effectiveness of oxytocin prophylaxis in reducing the risk of postpartum hemorrhage when labour and birth have been physiologic. Her research interests include midwifery services, health systems and physiologic birth.



Bronte Johnston

BHSc, MSc

Bronte Johnston is a PhD candidate at the University of British Columbia, and was a lecturer in the Bachelor of Health Sciences program at McMaster University and a member of the McMaster Education Research, Innovation & Theory (MERIT) Program, with research interests in point of care ultrasound and midwifery training. She is pursuing her PhD at the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia.



Samantha Krueger

BSc, BHSc, RM, MSc

Samantha Krueger graduated from the Midwifery Education Program at McMaster University in 2018, is a sessional instructor with the Midwifery Education Program, and is a Registered Midwife with Midwifery Services of Durham, with privileges at Markham Stouffville Hospital and the Alongside Midwifery Unit (MSH-AMU). Her research interests include maternal and perinatal outcomes.

Fellows



Susana Ku

BHSc, RM, MSc

Susana Ku is a Registered Midwife in Ontario, Canada and a PhD candidate in the Global Health Program at McMaster University. Before starting her career in Canada, she obtained her bachelor's degree in Midwifery and obtained a Master's degree in Sexual and Reproductive Health in Peru. She has also performed as a clinical preceptor and Midwifery instructor in the Midwifery education program in Peru and Canada. She is a Committee Member in the Virtual International Day of the Midwife Conference and a member at the Critical Midwifery Studies Collective. Her other main areas of interest include, international midwifery, childbearing and human rights, promotion of equity in health, use of technology for continuing education, provision of quality midwifery care during crisis and choice of birthplace.



Lisa Nussey

RM, BA, BHSc, MSc

Lisa Nussey is a registered midwife in Hamilton. She recently completed a Masters in the Health Research Methods program at McMaster University. She is the founder and co-coordinator of the Hamilton Midwifery Outreach Team (HMOT), a group of volunteer midwives providing low barrier prenatal care to people in the shelter system in Hamilton. She works with the Hamilton Social Medicine Response Team (HAMSMaRT), a grass roots, interdisciplinary health organization providing low barrier health care to people in Hamilton. Lisa's primary areas of interest are community centred care and the social determination of health and social medicine.



Joanne Rack

RM, BHSc., MSc. PhD (c)

Joanne is a practicing midwife, research assistant at the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre, and PhD candidate at Bournemouth University. Her current research interests include understanding strengths and gaps in Canadian midwifery research, risk communication in pregnant people of advanced age, gender inclusive language in sexual and reproductive health, prevention, management and prevention of PPH, as well as client decision making, stillbirth, maternal and perinatal health epidemiology.



Emma Seager

BASc, BHSc, MSc, RM

Emma Seager has been a practicing midwife at Access Midwives in Stoney Creek since October 2016, and completed her Master's in Health Science Education at McMaster University. Her research interests include midwifery services, quality improvement, and health science education. Emma's current research project is funded by an AOM Mentored Midwifery research grant that is examining the relationship between cervical dilation on hospital admission and subsequent outcomes, and evaluating the effects of an early labour home assessment.



Paloma Terra

BA (Hons), MSc in Global Health Student

Paloma is a Master's student in the McMaster Global Health Program. Paloma's research interests include global midwifery, decolonial epistemologies, knowledge/epistemic dialogue, critical theory, participatory action research, and midwifery education



Association of Ontario Midwives

(AOM)

The Association of Ontario Midwives is dedicated to advancing the clinical and professional practice of Indigenous/Aboriginal and Registered Midwives in Ontario.



Canadian Association of Midwives

(CAM)

Since 2001, the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) and the National Council of Indigenous Midwives (NCIM) have promoted the vital role of midwives in sexual, reproductive, and newborn health. We work across all levels, driving change in legislation and funding, strengthening regional associations, and supporting midwives directly with tools and learning opportunities.



Scientific Advisory Committee

The Scientific Advisory Committee acts as a “critical friend” of the Centre in providing expert opinion, advice, and direction on scientific and scholarly priorities.



Prof. Mary Renfrew

BSc, PhD

Professor of Mother and Infant Health School of Nursing and Health Sciences
University of Dundee, Dundee, Scotland



Prof. Karyn Kaufman

BSN, MS (Midwifery), DrPH

Professor Emeritus, Department of Family Medicine
Director Emeritus, Midwifery Education Program
McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

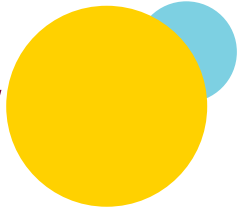


Prof. Eileen K. Hutton

BNSc, MScN, RM, PhD, DSc (Honorary)

Professor Emeritus, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,
Emeritus Assistant Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences
Director Emeritus, Midwifery Education Program
Emeritus Scientific Director, McMaster Midwifery Research Centre
McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

Scientific Advisory Committee



Dr. Lawrence Grierson

PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Assistant Dean, Health Sciences Education Graduate Program
Scientist, McMaster FHS Program for Education Research,
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Prof. Deborah M. Sloboda

PhD

Professor, Associate Chair Research
Canada Research Chair in Perinatal Programming Farncombe
Family Digestive Health Research Institute Department of
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McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada



Tonia Occhionero

BHSc, RM

Executive Director, Canadian Association of Midwives



Scientific Advisory Committee



Katie Mackenzie

BSc, MSc, MPH

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McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada



Patricia Raso

BA, MA

Early Development Instrument (EDI) Coordinator, Offord Centre for Child Studies,
McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

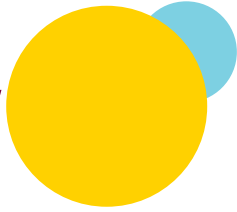


Emily M. Gillard

BA, BHSc, MA, RM

Registered Midwife with Community Midwives of Hamilton (partner) and Crown
Point Midwives (associate).

Scientific Advisory Committee



Dr. Derelie Mangin

MBChB, DPH

David Braley Chair in Family Medicine, Associate Chair (Research), Professor,
Department of Family Medicine
McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada



Dr. Elizabeth Alvarez

BS, MD, MPH, PhD, CMCBT

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Dr. Beth Murray-Davis

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Lindsay Grenier

BScH, MA

Research Coordinator

Nashita Junaid

BSc, MSc

Research Coordinator

Steven K Barrow

PhD

Research Coordinator

Emma Ruby

BHSc

Research Assistant

Oliver Thorne

BA, MA

Research Coordinator

Katie MacKenzie

BSc, MSc, MPH

Research Assistant

Spotlight

London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) Limited Term Chair in Midwifery Research

Dr. Beth Murray-Davis RM, PhD has launched a new collaboration with London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) through her recent award as a Limited Term Chair in Midwifery Research.

Through the Limited Term Chair, Beth, as an established career researcher and Scientific Director of the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre, will lead and mentor a team of scholars in the Department of Midwifery at LHSC. The program of research will explore the contribution of midwives to optimizing health outcomes during “the first one-thousand days” (from conception to two years of life) for newborns and their families.

Research projects will include an exploration of health outcomes, patient experiences, system efficiencies and collaborative models of care. Given the current climate of a healthcare system in crisis, and the growing demand for integrated models of care, this research aims to assess and understand current gaps and opportunities where midwives, an underused resource in health care, could be further integrated into the healthcare system. More information can be found here:

- [LHSC Limited Term Research Chair in Midwifery](#)

Governance & Operations

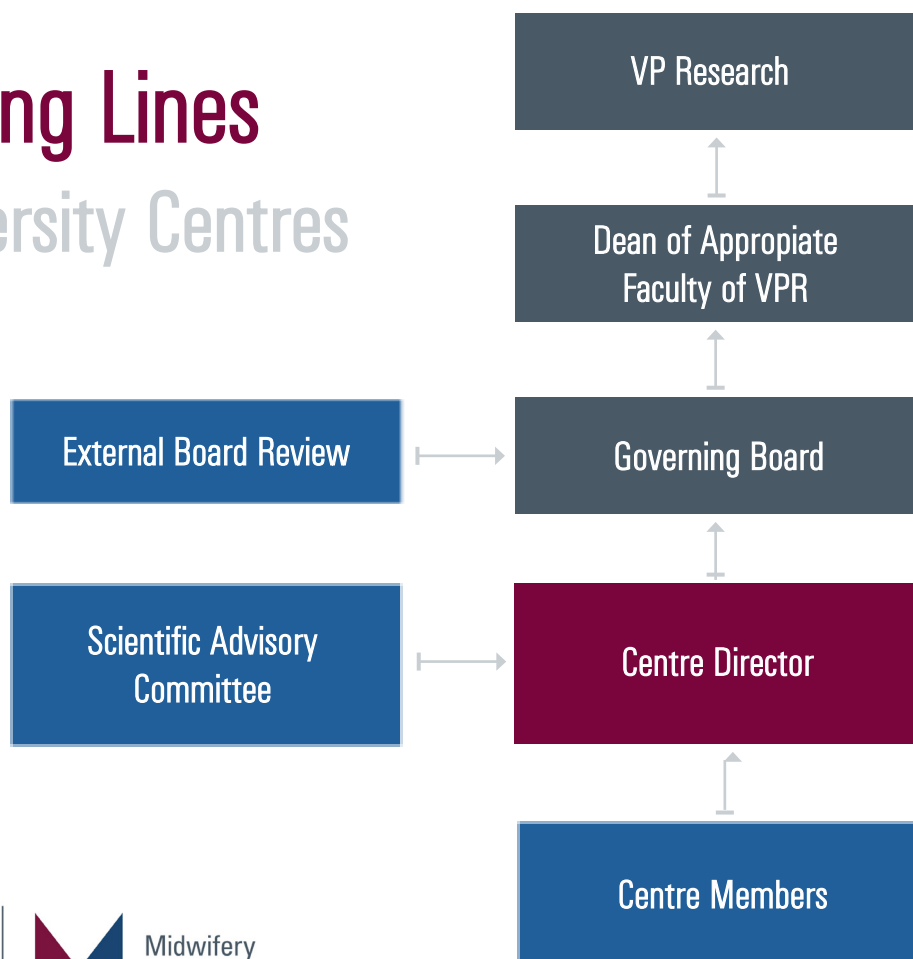
MMRC Scientific Director Dr. Beth Murray-Davis and Research Manager Rashid Ahmed are responsible for the day-to-day operations of and planning for the MMRC, including research and educational activities, centre outreach, and budgeting.

The MMRC Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) consists of internationally recognized experts in fields related to the centre's three pillars, as well as community and organizational representatives, who advise the Scientific Director on scientific, scholarly, and community priorities.

The MMRC SAC convenes at least once per year. The MMRC Scientists meet on a quarterly basis to discuss research progress, priorities, and operations. MMRC Scientists and research staff meet monthly to discuss current research projects and plans.

The MMRC reports annually to the Vice-President (Research) and Governing Board of Research Institutes, Centres and Groups at McMaster University according to university policy.

Reporting Lines for University Centres



Education & Training



Training of highly qualified personnel is essential for increasing research capacity in midwifery. The MMRC is poised to be a central training environment for midwives and other trainees with an interest in maternity care research.

As a training environment, the MMRC offers summer research internships, volunteer opportunities, undergraduate and graduate thesis supervision, guidance and support of MMRC Fellows, research skills workshops, research rounds, writing and research technical support, research symposia, research drop in learning sessions, and the MMRC Midwifery Research Grant program. The MMRC also supports the new Master of Science in Midwifery program at McMaster, the first in Canada. We also connect trainees with other research resources across McMaster University, including collaborations with other departments, access to research support units, and connections with other Midwifery researchers across Canada.

Trainees

MMRC faculty supervise students at the post-doctoral, doctoral, masters, and undergraduate level in a variety of different programs at McMaster.

The MMRC has been instrumental in supporting the launch of Canada’s only MSc in Midwifery graduate degree program. The first cohort began their degree in fall 2022. The program provides many more opportunities to train midwives in research methods, conduct research projects, and foster the growth of research in the midwifery profession. The MMRC offers research rounds and workshops to support research skill development for these students. Our annual symposium is also an excellent venue for graduate students to present their work.

Name	Program	Supervisor	Project	Status
<i>PhD Students</i>				
Claire Ramlogan-Salanga	Global Health	EK Darling	Expanding midwifery to improve sexual and reproductive healthcare access	In progress
Bakhtawar Shalwani	Global Health	EK Darling	Comparison of midwifery education in Canada and Pakistan	In progress
Vanessa Hébert	Health Research Methods	EK Darling	Investigating routine oxytocin prophylaxis following physiologic labour and birth for postpartum hemorrhage prevention	In progress
Susanna Ku	Global Health	EK Darling	Understanding the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on midwifery services in Ontario, Canada and Lima, Peru: A comparative case study	In progress
Erika Campbell	Global Health	EK Darling (co-supervisor)	Decolonizing maternity care in Ontario: mapping evacuation birth policy and examining the provision of anti-oppressive care for First Nations Peoples birthing outside of their communities	In progress

Education & Training

Name	Program	Supervisor	Project	Status
<i>Master's Students</i>				
Massoma Jaffari	Global Health	EK Darling	Scholarly paper	Completed
Tegwende Seedu	Public Health (thesis committee)	B Murray-Davis	Understanding maternal morbidity from the perspectives of women & people with pregnancy experience: a concept analysis	In progress
Noelle Antonsen	Midwifery	EK Darling	Scholarly paper	In progress
Rebecca Hautala	Midwifery	EK Darling	Scholarly paper - Exploring The Experiences Of Midwifery-Led Medication Abortion Care In Ontario: An Interpretive Descriptive Study	In progress
Harriet Debrah	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Scholarly paper	In progress
Dominique Guerin	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Lynn-Marie Culliton	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Claire Portugal	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Danielle Laxdal	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Manhaz Donyadideh-Torei	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Diana Doe	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Soheyla Owliaei	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
Christie Lockhart	Midwifery	B Murray-Davis	Capstone project	In progress
<i>Undergraduate Students</i>				
Adda Epstein-Shapiro	Bachelor of Health Sciences	EK Darling	BHSc students' attitudes and perceptions of the Midwifery profession	Completed
Nashita Junaid	Bachelor of Health Sciences	EK Darling	Improving healthcare access through midwifery care	Completed
Nyla Syed	Bachelor of Health Sciences	B Murray-Davis	Perinatal mental health needs assessment	In progress



Spotlight

The Baby & Microbiota of the Intestine Project (Baby & Mi): Prof. Eileen Hutton and Prof. Katherine Morrison, Co-Principal Investigators



The purpose of the Baby & Mi study was to determine if intrapartum antibiotics and other early-life exposures affect the development of the gut microbiome in infancy and up to 3 years of age. A longitudinal, prospective cohort of 256 low-risk, full-term mother-infant pairs was formed after recruiting pregnant people from midwifery practices in Hamilton and area between 2012 and 2018. Participants provided infant stool samples and follow-up data from birth to 3 years of age.

As with prior studies, we found altered gut colonisation following Caesarean section, compared to vaginal birth, that included a notable lack of Bacteroidetes. We also found that among vaginal births, exposure to intrapartum antibiotics affected aspects of gut microbial ecology that, although dramatic at early time points, disappeared by 12 weeks of age in most infants.

In order to determine if intrapartum antibiotic exposure is associated with health outcomes in the infant, we compared outcomes related to growth, atopic disease, gastrointestinal symptoms, and sleep at 1 year between vaginally born infants exposed and not exposed to intrapartum antibiotics. We found that there was an increase in fat mass index at 5 months of age associated with antibiotic administration ≥ 4 hours in labour. Atopy was reported less frequently among those not exposed to intrapartum antibiotics. In addition, our findings support earlier research that showed an increased likelihood of fungal infection following exposure to intrapartum or early-life antibiotics. These analyses add to the growing evidence that antibiotics used intrapartum and in the early neonatal period influence longer-term outcomes for infants. In addition, 15 infants were enrolled in a sub-study to intensively sample and study the microbiome during the time of introduction of solid foods and again at the time of weaning from breastmilk, with daily stool samples and dietary diaries for two weeks during these periods. Dietary diversity appeared to have the greatest impact on the gut microbiome, causing stabilization as solids were introduced, furthering our understanding of the impact of solid food introduction on gut microbiome development in early life.

We continue to analyse the rich dataset that was derived from this cohort and disseminate our findings in order to enhance the knowledge around the microbiome in early life and how it impacts long term health. More can be found here:

- [Baby & Mi study protocol](#)
- [Intrapartum antibiotics for GBS prophylaxis alter colonization patterns in early infant gut microbiome of low risk infants](#)
- [Associations of intrapartum antibiotics and growth, atopy, gastrointestinal and sleep outcomes at one year of age](#)
- [Infants First Solid Foods: Impact on Gut Microbiota Development in Two Intercontinental Cohorts](#)

Events

Annual MMRC Midwifery Research Symposium 2023

MMRC Midwifery Research Symposia have been the vanguard of our engagement strategy, with 4 symposia over the past 5 years. This event continues to be offered annually, online, for free, to midwifery undergraduate and graduate students, community midwives, nurses, physicians, policymakers, and perinatal researchers. The national and international reach, attendance, and scope of topics have steadily increased.

This year's symposium was held over 5 days from Monday, May 8 to Friday, May 12, 2023.

By the numbers, we had:

- 2 panel discussions
- 3 keynote speakers
- 3 research showcases
- 3 student research showcases
- 23 presenters
- 120 attendees per day
- 300 unique attendees
- 78 Canadian cities in 8 Canadian provinces and territories
- 35 cities in 15 countries including Austria, Brazil, Germany, Ghana, India, Iran, Jamaica, Norway, Pakistan, Palestinian Territories, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States.

Certificates of Attendance are issued to those midwives requiring continuing midwifery education credentials. One hundred percent of post-symposium survey respondents would recommend our symposium to a colleague, and 100% rated it either very good or excellent on a 5-point scale. We have gained a hard-earned reputation as a premier annual midwifery research knowledge translation and dissemination event among midwives and students across Canada and the world.

This year's symposium schedule and a map of the international reach of the event follow. This is the only Canadian annual midwifery research symposium over a span of several days.

Join us in spring 2024 for our next symposium!

Watch symposium videos at: <https://mmrc.mcmaster.ca/event/mmrc-research-symposia/2023-research-symposium/>.

MMRC Research Symposium 2023
Join us

FROM THERE TO WHERE?

Keynote Speaker
Prof. Karyn Kaufman

Monday, May 8 2023
12:00-12:35h EST

Free & Online

Registration at: <http://bit.ly/3Jo7UPn> or click the link in our bio

McMaster University | Midwifery Research Centre

For more information visit <https://mmrc.mcmaster.ca/event/mmrc-research-symposia/2023-research-symposium/>

McMaster University | Midwifery Research Centre

Certificate of Attendance

is hereby presented to

Jane Doe

in recognition of their attendance at the

McMaster Midwifery Research Centre
Midwifery Research Symposium

held from May 8 to May 12, 2023

Ruth Murray Davis BSc, PhD
Associate Director, McMaster Midwifery Research Centre
McMaster University
www.mcmaster.ca

Education & Training



MMRC Midwifery Research Symposium Programme May 8-12, 2023 1200-1330h EST (1600h GMT) Daily

JOIN US for online forum for primary maternity care providers and researchers, including midwives, physicians, nurses, and students, where current and innovative research topics relevant to clinical practice will be presented and discussed.

FREE! REGISTRATION REQUIRED: <http://bit.ly/3Jo7UPn>

	Monday May 8	Tuesday May 9	Wednesday May 10	Thursday May 11	Friday May 12
1200-1235h	Keynote Speaker From There to Where? Prof. Karyn Kaufman	International Panel Discussion Sustainability of Midwifery Elizabeth Brandeis, Dr. Luba Butska, Dr. Christine Catling, Remi Ejiwunmi, Prof. Billie Hunter, Prof. Ank de Jong	Panel Discussion Hospital-Affiliated Midwifery-Led Postpartum Care Programs Natalie Kirby, Lauren Columbus, Lindsay MacDougall, Chantal Bourbonnais, Stephanie Zaheer	Keynote Speaker The Transition-Into-Practice Experiences Of Newly Qualified Midwives In The Netherlands Dr. Esther Feijen-de Jong, Liesbeth Kool	Keynote Speaker Advancing Equity Through Research: Centering Lived Experience in Midwifery Services Dr. Saraswathi Vedam
1235-1305h	MMRC Research Showcase Midwives' Satisfaction Working In Expanded Midwifery Care Models In Ontario: A Qualitative Descriptive Study Dr. Liz Darling			MMRC Research Showcase Tackling Transition Together: Evaluating A Mentorship Program for New Registrant Midwives Dr. Anne Malott	MMRC Research Showcase Midwives' Experiences Within Canada's First Alongside Midwifery Unit: Impacts And Implications For Midwifery Practice Dr. Beth Murray-Davis
1305-1325h	MMRC Student Showcase "The Road to Hell is Paved with Good Intentions": Examining Evacuation Birth Policy in Ontario And The Influence of Health Systems' Cultures On The Provision of Maternity Care For First Nations Peoples Birthing Outside Of Their Communities Erika Campbell			MMRC Student Showcase Queering Midwifery: A Critical Narrative Inquiry Into The Experiences of Queer And Trans Midwifery Service-Users In Ontario Jen Goldberg	MMRC Student Showcase Developing Canadian Research Priorities and Capacity - Describing The Landscape: A Preliminary Data Analysis From A Scoping Review Joanne Rack, Sofi Al Balkhi, Emma Ruby Symposium Closing Remarks Dr. Beth Murray-Davis

More info: <https://mmrc.mcmaster.ca/event/mmrc-research-symposia/2023-research-symposium/>. Videos online after symposium. Follow us @macmidwifery  



Cities of participants that attended the MMRC 2023 Symposium



Education & Training

Research Rounds and Workshops

The MMIRC hosts a free, online monthly speaker series / research rounds and research workshops for researchers, faculty, staff, midwifery and other undergraduate students to help develop research interest and skills in midwifery. This year's offerings included:

1. Wed., Jan. 11, 2023: **"Are larger babies in midwifery care because of undiagnosed gestational diabetes? GDM screening and perinatal outcomes among midwifery clients in British Columbia"** – Dr. Elizabeth Nethery.
2. Wed., Feb. 1, 2023: **"Collaborative research partnerships to advance midwifery"** – Dr. Cristina Mattison, Dr. Kirsty Bourret.
3. Wed., Mar. 1, 2023: **"Burnout in Midwifery"** – Dr. Andrea Lawlor, Dr. Meagan Furnivall
4. Wed., Apr. 5, 2023: **"Social justice based curriculum for Ontario Midwifery: What does it look like?"** - Claire Ramlogan-Salanga.
5. Wed., May 31, 2023: **"Community engagement and anti-racist approaches to pregnancy health knowledge exchange with racialized newcomers in Canada and Denmark"** – Dr. Luseadra Joy McKerracher.
6. Wed., Oct. 18, 2023: **"Advanced REDCap: Research Electronic Data Capture Research Workshop"** - Kyle McGown, ObGyn Research Coordinator
7. Wed., Oct. 25, 2023: **"The transition to practice of newly qualified midwives in the Netherlands"** – Dr. Esther Feijen-De Jong & Dr. Liesbeth Kool.
8. Wed., Nov. 29, 2023: **"REDEFINE: Redefining reproduction and sexual Health, a scoping review"** - Dr. Abi Kirubarajan & O.G. Thorne

MMRC Research Rounds Schedule 2023

Wednesdays
1230 - 130 pm

One Zoom Link:

<https://mcmaster.zoom.us/j/94786284415>

The McMaster Midwifery Research Centre is hosting a series of Research Rounds in 2022-2023 open to MMRC Fellows, researchers, midwifery undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff, community midwives, medical residents, and anyone interested in midwifery research.

Please join us using the same Zoom link to watch the latest research in progress. The schedule, topics, presenters and their bios are listed below.



Watch speakers series, research rounds, and workshop videos at: <https://mmrc.mcmaster.ca/event/rounds/>

MMRC Midwifery Research Grant Program

The McMaster Midwifery Research Centre (MMRC) is dedicated to excellence in midwifery research that informs policy, practice and education and improves the outcomes for pregnant and birthing families and their infants. Our aim is to promote excellence in maternal and child health and healthcare through the generation of evidence that optimizes the impact of midwifery care.

Established in 2014 by an anonymous donor, the McMaster Midwifery Research Fund (MMRF) supports the annual MMRC Midwifery Research Grant Program, to help build research capacity and translate knowledge in the field.

The MMRC Research Grant Program periodically offers research funding to MMRC members to support research, translate knowledge, and help build and promote midwifery research capacity and growth within McMaster University. The grant program offers a variety of funding for researchers at undergraduate, graduate, and various career stages.

All grant applications undergo a competitive, peer review adjudication process with stated eligibility criteria including contribution to the MMRC's mission and vision, research and knowledge translation priorities, and MMRF requirements.

In 2023, a total of \$70,000 was awarded to four research grant recipients for their projects listed below:

- ❖ Meagan Furnivall – Early Career Researcher Award
(\$30,000 total over 2 years)
"Understanding Continuity of Care: A Mixed Methods Study Exploring Midwifery Client Experiences of Continuity of Care"
- ❖ Rebecca Hautala – Graduate Student Award
(\$25,000 total over 2 years)
"Experiences of Midwifery-Led Medical Abortion Care"
- ❖ Hannah Woods – Undergraduate Student Research Award
(\$7,500 total over 1 year)
"The Impact Of A Midwifery-Led Early Pregnancy Clinic: A Mixed Methods Case Study"
- ❖ Rhiannon Cook – Undergraduate Student Research Award
(\$7,500 total over 1 year)
"Perceptions Of Midwife-Led Perinatal Mental Health Support"



Check out next year's MMRC 2024 Midwifery Research Grant call at: <https://mmrc.mcmaster.ca/research/mmrc-research-grant-program/>

Financial Status



New Research Grants Awarded

January 1 to December 31, 2023

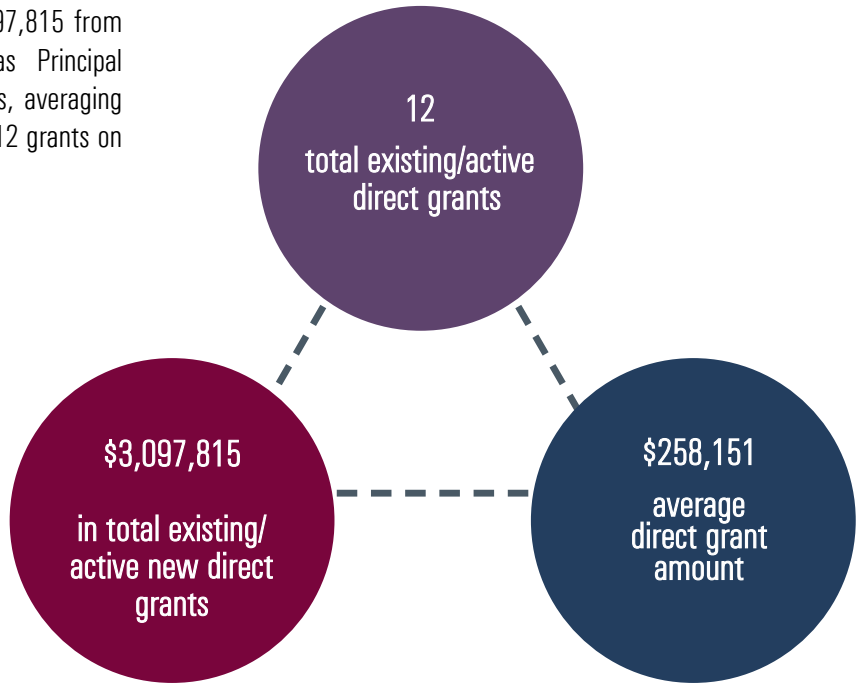
MMRC Scientists obtained two new research grants in 2023 totalling \$790,000:

1. 2023-2028. Murray Davis B. Developing Midwifery Research Capacity at London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC). **Exploring Contributions of Midwives to Optimizing Health Outcomes During the First One-Thousand Days**. Limited Term Chair in Midwifery Research. London Health Sciences Centre. \$750,000.
2. 2023-2024. Darling EK, Murray Davis B, Corbin A. **Eastern York Region North Durham Perinatal Mental Health Services Needs Assessment**. Eastern York Region North Durham Ontario Health Team. \$40,000.



Existing/Active and New Direct Grants

MMRC Scientists currently hold a total of \$3,097,815 from 12 existing/active and new direct grants as Principal Investigators or Mentoring Principal Investigators, averaging \$258,151 per grant. You can find a list of these 12 grants on the following pages.



Financial Status

Existing/Active and New Direct Grants Awarded to MMRC Scientists as Principal Investigators or Mentors of MMRC Fellows in 2023

No.	Principal Investigators	Study	Granting Agency	Period	Total Amount (CAN\$)
1.	Furnivall M, Murray Davis B.	Midwifery Client Experiences Of Continuity Of Care	McMaster Midwifery Research Grants. Early Career Award	2023-2025	\$30,000
2.	Murray Davis B.	Developing Midwifery Research Capacity At LHSC – Exploring Contributions Of Midwives To Optimizing Health Outcomes During The First One-Thousand Days	Limited Term Chair in Midwifery Research, London Health Sciences Centre	2023-2028	\$750,000
3.	Darling EK, Murray Davis B, Corbin A.	Eastern York Region North Durham Perinatal Mental Health Services Needs Assessment	Eastern York Region North Durham Ontario Health Team	2023-2024	\$40,000
4.	Darling EK.	Understanding The Impact Of New Ontario Ministry of Health Funding For Midwifery Services On The Integration Of Midwifery In Inter-Professional Primary Care Settings	Early Researcher Awards (ERA) Round 16 Competition, Ontario Ministry Of Colleges And Universities (MCU)	2022-2027	\$100,000
5.	Darling E, Lawford K, Blais E, Bacon A, Brandeis E, D'Souza R, Norman W.	Expanding Midwifery Services In Canada: Improving Equitable Access To Sexual And Reproductive Healthcare Through Midwifery Contributions	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2022-2026	\$1,422,900
6.	Murray-Davis B, Barrett J, Al Shaibah A, Sloboda D, McKerracher L, Barker L, Brandeis E, Darling EK, Bogler T, Krakowsky Y, Costescu D.	Developing A Canadian Consensus Statement on Gender Inclusive Language In Reproductive Care.	Race, Gender and Diversity Initiative Grant, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada	2022-2025	\$366,023

Financial Status

No.	Principal Investigators	Study	Granting Agency	Period	Total Amount (CAN\$)
7.	Mattison C, Bourret K, Darling E (Mentoring PI), Murray-Davis B, Kaufman K.	Building Sustainable Midwifery Research Associations: Application of an Evidence Informed Framework for Midwifery Professional Association Strengthening	MITACS Accelerate	2021-2023	\$120,000
8.	Haque A, Murray-Davis B (Mentoring PI).	Health Equity Data Collection: An Exploration of Midwives Perceptions And Experiences Of Health Equity And Data Collection	Mentored Midwifery Research Grant, Association Of Ontario Midwives	2021-2023	\$4,000
9.	Murray-Davis B, Darling EK, Demers, K, Reitsma A, Malott A, Cameron C.	Spreading the Alongside Midwifery-Led Unit To Strengthen Midwifery Care In Hamilton, Ontario	Spread And Scale Existing Community-Based Innovations, Health Services And Policy Research, Operating Grant, Canadian Institutes of Health Research	2020-2023	\$65,624
10.	Murray-Davis B, Hutton EK, Darling E, Kaufman K, Brunton G, Mattison C, Banfield L.	Developing A Canadian Strategy To Identify And Prioritize Midwifery Research Capacity And Knowledge Translation	Institute Community Support, Women Deliver, Institute Of Population And Public Health/Gender And Health/Health Services And Policy Research Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2020-2023	\$19,368
11.	Darling E.	Identifying Facilitators And Barriers To Midwives' Mental Health	Association Of Ontario Midwives	2020-2023	\$30,000
12.	Mattison C, Darling E (Mentoring PI)	Building Sustainable Midwifery Research Associations: Application Of An Evidence Informed Framework For Midwifery Professional Association Strengthening	Post Doctoral Award, McMaster Midwifery Research Fund	2019-2023	\$149,900

TOTAL \$3,097,815



Research Productivity



Research Productivity

Collaborations

We have strong collaborations at the local, provincial and national levels and across the university. We have established relationships within the Faculty of Health Sciences with other researchers from Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Nursing, and Health Sciences. Within the local professional landscape, we have strong ties with Hamilton Health Sciences, Oak Valley Health and London Health Sciences Corporation. We have conducted research to support innovative models of care in these settings and with expanded midwifery care sites across Ontario. We work closely with the Association of Ontario Midwives, and have developed a formal relationship with the Canadian Association of Midwives, and were able to embed two postdoctoral researchers within their organization to support association strengthening and evaluation research.

We have also recently begun to formally develop partnerships with international midwifery education programs and research units, specifically the Mother Infant Research Unit in Scotland, the Airlangga University in Indonesia, and the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.

In 2018, we began a collaboration with Markham Stouffville Hospital (now Oak Valley Health) to lead the evaluation of the first Canadian Alongside Midwifery Unit. We have had an on-going, highly productive affiliation since then. We embarked on the large evaluation of their midwifery led unit with Ministry of Health funding, and recently the hospital has commissioned us as their research arm to lead a new project related to perinatal mental health funded by the Ontario Health Teams.

The Midwifery Education Program and the MMRC have been supporting and mentoring the Department of Midwifery at London Health Sciences since 2019. This affiliation was intended to draw the midwives in that community closer to the academic centre of midwifery at McMaster. This relationship has continued to develop and was the impetus that led to the Limited Term Chair in Midwifery Research in London, which is held by Dr. Beth Murray-Davis. This is a formalized way for our two organizations to collaborate and strengthen connections.

The MMRC also has had a long-standing relationship with the Canadian Association of Midwives. This was formalized further when together we received MITACS Accelerate funding to embed two postdoctoral researchers within their not-for-profit organization to conduct research, while members of the MMRC acted as mentors and supervisors.

Dr. Liz Darling has led a patient-engaged research collaboration examining experiences of Lyme Disease in Pregnancy. This has led to several funded projects and an on-going collaboration across Canada and the United States that brings together patient advocates and scientists.

A long-standing collaboration led by Dr. Liz Darling exists with the Contraception and Abortion Research Team (CART) based out of UBC by Dr. Wendy Norman. This collaboration has been fruitful for grants, public health projects and driving policy change to improve sexual and reproductive rights and access to abortion care.

During the time period of 2019-2023, Dr Eileen Hutton has been completing a landmark project for the MMRC on the infant gut microbiome. Together with researchers at McMaster this study included affiliated sites in Germany and the Netherlands. Further collaborations are illustrated on the next few pages on the indirect grants with MMRC Scientists as co-investigators in 2023.

Total Number of Indirect Grants with MMRC Scientists as Co-Investigators In 2023

No.	Investigators	Study	Granting Agency	Period	Total Amount (CAD\$)
1.	Vedam S (NPA), National Council of Indigenous Midwives (PA), Maxwell C (PKU), Co-Applicants: Lowik AJ, Tatum A, Julien Reid A, Bacon A, Métellus A, Reddy B, Bingham B, Darling E , Banner H, Brown H, Malhamé I, Hodge K, Mayra K, Lyons L, Columbus L, Tarasoff L, Sukhai M, Furnivall M, Tunde-Byass M, Syed N, Malhotra N, Janssen P, Olson R, Gagnon R, Tremblay R, Elder Roberta Price, D'Souza R, Lévesque S, Austin T, Phillips-Beck W, Norman W.	The Justice And Equity In Perinatal Services Hub: Community-Led Mobilization Of Evidence On Models Of Healthcare Delivery That Advance Quality, Safety And Respect	National Women's Health Research Hubs Initiative, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2023-2027	\$835,004
2.	Malhamé I (NPI), D'Souza R (PI), Ashraf R, Banner H, Barrett J, Bettache N, Birnie K, Columbus L, Cook J, Cumyn A, Darling E , Edwards W, Fadel S, Fields J, Finch R, Forte M, Janssen P, Juando-Prats C, Lapinsky S, Lawford K, Listener L, Maxwell C, Metcalfe A, Muraca G, Murray-Davis B , Nielssen I, O'Campo P, Ospina M, Parilla-Lopez M, Po L, Roy R, Salami B, Santinele M, Scott H, Seymour R, Shah P, Shahil A, Simon D, Tunde-Byass M, Tatum A, Vedam S, Wali S, Wou K.	Co-Creating Knowledge Mobilization Activities To Address Pregnancy-Related Near-Miss Events And Deaths In Canada	National Women's Health Research Initiative: Pan-Canadian Women's Health Coalition, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2023-2027	\$840,000
3.	Muraca GM (PI), D'Souza R (Co-PI), Barrett J, Darling EK , Dzakpasu S, Fell D, Lisonkova S, Malhamé I, Maxwell C, Mehrabadi A, Park M, Shah P, Shehata N, Tunde-Byass M.	Advancing Equity In Maternal And Perinatal Care In Canada: Population-Based Investigations Of Racial And Ethnic Disparities In Severe Maternal Morbidity And Severe Perinatal Morbidity And Mortality	Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2023-2027	\$336,600

Research Productivity

No.	Investigators	Study	Granting Agency	Period	Total Amount (CAD\$)
4.	Gagliardi A, Nerenberg K, Colella T, Dayan N, Dobbins M, Grace S, Murray-Davis B , Neil-Sztramko S, O'Keefe-Mccarthy S.	Evaluating A Culturally Appropriate Question Prompt Tool About Heart Disease Risk And Prevention After Hypertensive Pregnancy	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2022-2024	\$103,275
5.	D'Souza R, Malhamé I, Barrett J. Cook J, Dzakpasu S, Fell DB, Joseph KS, Lapinsky S, Metcalfe AL, Murray-Davis B , Scott H, Shah P, Skeith L.	Improving Maternity Outcomes By Engaging Stakeholders In A Holistic Assessment Of The Social And Clinical Determinants Of Severe Maternal Morbidity In Canada - A Feasibility Study.	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2022-2024	\$174,083
6.	Vanstone M, (NPI), Greyson D (Co-PI), Bayrampour H, Darling E , Davis A, Howard M, Kandasamy S, Liauw J, McDonald S, Molinaro M, Pahwa M, Patel T.	How Do Perceptions Of Covid-19 Risk Influence Health Decisions In Pregnancy? A Mixed-Methods Study	Institute Of Human Development, Child, And Youth Health, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2022-2024	\$381,645
7.	Costescu D (NPI), Muraca G, D'Souza R, Darling E , Barrett J, Dzakpasu S, Fell D, Mehrabadi A, Shehata N.	Racial/Ethnic Disparities In Postpartum Hemorrhage In Canada	Academic Health Science Centre / Alternate Funding Plan (AHSC AFP) Innovation Fund	2022-2024	\$189,306
8.	Lawford K (NPA), Blais E (PI), Leason J (PI), Pedri-Spade C (PI), Darling L , Couchie C, Bourguignon L, Monib L, Boivin L, Campbell E, Jeyamohan A, King L, McKenzie H, Matthews P, Munroe M, Wemigwans N, Newman A.	Making Visible The Impacts Of The COVID-19 Pandemic On Pregnant Indigenous People In Ontario Who Experience Mandatory Evacuation For Birth: A Qualitative Indigenous Feminist Research Health Analysis	Indigenous COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity, Operating Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2022-2023	\$248,491
9.	Brownell M, Darling EK , Harper S, Henry B, Murray-Davis B , Norman W.	The CART PREG_Epi Study: Pandemic Reproductive Health And Health Equity – Guidance From Epidemiology To Improve Mental Health And Substance Use	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2021-2023	\$100,000

Research Productivity

No.	Investigators	Study	Granting Agency	Period	Total Amount (CAD\$)
10.	Sloboda D, Barker M, Dombrowski S, Rae K, Moffat T, Lukasis Foss T, Hogan S, Murray-Davis B , Dickenson S.	The Art Of Creation	New Frontiers In Research Fund	2021-2023	\$250,000
11.	Barrett J (PI), D'Souza R (PI), Agarwal G, Alton G, Alvarez E, Apatu E, Bisnaire L, Boamah S, Bogler T, Castillo E, Cook J, Darling E , Dube E, Dunn J, El-Chaar D, Ellis S, Fadel S, Fell D, Iorio A, Katherine W, Kuret V, Lavis J, MacDonald S, Malhamé I, Poliquin V, Schwartz L, Scott H, Sprague AE, Sussman D, Thabane L, Walker M, Yudin M, DeFrance B, Downey B, Money D, Schoenfeld E, Vohra-Miller S, Wolfe S.	Supporting Canadian Health Service Users With Decision-Making On COVID-19 Vaccination During Pregnancy And Lactation	Immunization Partnership Fund: Increasing Confidence, Acceptance And Uptake Of COVID-19 Vaccine, Public Health Agency Of Canada	2021-2023	\$500,000
12.	Bhatt M, Chan A, Iorio A, Matino D, Chanchlani R, Darling E , Mukerji A, Costescu D.	Comprehensive Assessment Of Delivery-Associated Adverse Outcomes In Newborns With Inherited Bleeding Disorders And Their Mothers	Canadian Hemophilia Society 'Care Until Cure' Grant	2021-2023	\$98,032
13.	Bourret K, Kaufman K, Murray-Davis B .	Building Sustainable Midwifery Associations: Application Of An Evidence Informed Framework For Midwifery Professional Association Strengthening	Post-Doctoral Award, McMaster Midwifery Research Fund	2021-2023	\$37,000
14.	Leason J (PI), Dion-Fletcher C, John-Baptiste AA, Ryan CR, Lawford K, Couchie C, Darling EK , Ali A, Apale A, Jumah N, Sabourin H, Stote K.	Assessing The Economic Costs Of Obstetric Evacuation And Outcomes/Experiences Of Indigenous Midwifery In Urban, Rural And Remote Indigenous Communities.	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2020-2023	\$1,224,000

Research Productivity

No.	Investigators	Study	Granting Agency	Period	Total Amount (CAD\$)
15.	Peterson W, Salvador A, Cipriano L, Coyle D, Darling E , Dunn S, Gravelle A, Leduc D, McCoubrey D, Nault J, Palerme S.	The Montfort Postnatal Care At Home Program: How Do Health Outcomes, Costs, Patient And Provider Experiences Compare With Usual Hospital-Based Postnatal Care?	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2020-2023	\$451,350
16	Norman WV (NPA), Henry BJF (Co-PI), McGrail KM (Co-PI), Brooks M, Bryant S, Darling E , Davies C, Dunn S, Guilbert E, Guindon E, Kaczorowski J, Law M, Martin-Misener R, Munro S, Renner R, Roussel J, Schummers L, Soon J, Webster G.	The CART Mife-Outcomes Study: Relating Canada's Unique Mifepristone Regulations To Health System Events, Costs And Access To Abortion, Using Linked Health Administrative Data.	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2020-2023	\$524,024
17.	Renner R (PI), Henry B (Co-PI), Wagner MS (Co-PI). Co-investigators: Barrett J, Begun S, Brooks M, Bryant-Lukosius D, Constandriopoulos D, Costescu D, Darling E , Davies C, Dunn S, Ferreira E, Gill R, Guilbert E, Kaczoowski J, Mansouri S, Martin-Misener R, McGrail K, Munro S, Norman W, Pymar H, Roussel J, Roy G.	The Canadian Surgical And Medical Abortion Provider Survey (CAPS)	Project Grant, Canadian Institutes Of Health Research	2019-2023	\$417,780
TOTAL					\$6,710,590

Centre Scientist Peer Reviewed Publications

January 1 to December 31, 2023

19 publications by Prof. Eileen K. Hutton, Dr. Beth Murray-Davis, and Dr. Elizabeth K. Darling by MMRC centre research theme.

Health Services, Population Health & Access to Care

1. Murray-Davis B, Grenier LN, Plett RA, Mattison CA, Ahmed M, Malott AM, Cameron C, Hutton EK, Darling EK. [Making Space for Midwifery in a Hospital: Exploring the Built Birth Environment of Canada's First Alongside Midwifery Unit](#). *HERD: Health Environments Research & Design JJournal*. 2023; 16(2): 189-207.
2. Ruby E, McDonald SD, Berger H, Melamed N, Li J, Darling EK, Barrett J, Ray J, Geary M, Murray-Davis B. [Exploring patients' perspectives of gestational diabetes mellitus screening and counselling in Ontario: A grounded theory study](#). *Health Expectations*. 2023; 26(2): 827-835.
3. Darling EK, Grenier LN, MacKenzie RK, Ramlogan-Salanga C, Cates EC, Graybrook R, Wilson-Mitchell K. [A mixed-method study exploring barriers and facilitators to midwives' mental health in Ontario](#). *BMC Women's Health*. 2023; 23(1): 44942.
4. McKerracher L, Moffat T, Barker ME, Murray-Davis B, Kennedy KM, Bellissimo CJ, Yeo E, Høtoft D, Zalot L, Parlette V. [Probiotics in pregnancy: Inequities in knowledge exchange, attitudes, and use of probiotics in a socio-demographically diverse, cross-sectional survey sample of pregnant Canadians](#). *PharmaNutrition*. 2023; 24: 100344.
5. Vanstone M, Correia RH, Howard M, Darling EK, Bayrampour H, Carruthers A, Davis A, Hadid D, Hetherington E, Jones A. [How do perceptions of Covid-19 risk impact pregnancy-related health decisions? A convergent parallel mixed-methods study protocol](#). *Plos One*. 2023; 18(8): e0288952.
6. Murray-Davis B, Grenier LN, Mattison C, Malott AM, Cameron C, Li J, Darling EK, HuttonEK. [Mediating expectations and experiences that influence birth experiences in Canada's first Alongside Midwifery Unit](#). *Birth*. 2023; 50(4): 968-977.

Health Services, Population Health & Access to Care (continued)

7. Popoola A, Panday J, Taneja S, Greyson D, McDonald SD, Patel T, Darling EK, Vanstone M. [Pregnant and lactating people's strategies to mitigate the risk of cannabis consumption](#). *Women's Health*. 2023; 19: 17455057231202406.
8. Darling EK, Lemay SB, Ejiwunmi 'R, Miller KJ, Sprague AE, D'Souza R. [The impact of funding models on the integration of Ontario midwives: a qualitative study](#). *BMC Health Services Research*. 2023; 23(1): 1087.

Health Outcomes

9. Robinson C, Schlorff M, Chanchlani R, Gayowsky A, Darling E, Mondal T, Seow H, Batthish M. [Cardiovascular Outcomes During Index Hospitalization in Children with Kawasaki Disease in Ontario, Canada](#). *Pediatric Cardiology*. 2023; 44(3): 681-688.
10. Robinson C, Chanchlani R, Gayowsky A, Brar S, Darling E, Demers C, Mondal T, Parekh R Seow H, Batthish M. [Cardiovascular outcomes in children with Kawasaki disease: a population-based cohort study](#). *Pediatric Research*. 2023; 93(5): 1267-1275.
11. Ricci C, Otterman V, Bennett TL, Metcalfe S, Darling E, Semenic S, Dzakpasu S. Canadian Perinatal Surveillance System. [Rates of and factors associated with exclusive and any breastfeeding at six months in Canada: an analysis of population-based cross-sectional data](#). *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. 2023; 23(1): 56.
12. Hutton EK, Simioni JC, Thabane L. Baby & Mi Research Team, Morrison KM. [Associations of intrapartum antibiotics and growth, atopy, gastrointestinal and sleep outcomes at one year of age](#). *Pediatric Research*. 2023; 94(3): 1026-1034.
13. Hirsch L, Berger H, McDonald SD, Murray-Davis B, Abdulaziz KE, Geary M, Barrett J, Melamed N. [Maternal age and pregnancy outcomes in twin compared with singleton gestations](#). *International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics*. 2023; 162(2):684-692.
14. Melamed N, Okun N, Huang T, Mei-Dan E, Aviram A, Allen M, Abdulaziz KE, McDonald SD, Murray-Davis B, Ray JG. [Maternal First-Trimester Alpha-Fetoprotein and Placenta-Mediated Pregnancy Complications](#). *Hypertension*. 2023; 80(11): 2415-2424.
15. Berezowsky A, Melamed N, Murray-Davis B, Ray J, McDonald SD, Barrett J, Geary M, Colussi-Pelaez E, Berger H. [The impact of antenatal care modifications during the COVID-19 pandemic on gestational diabetes mellitus outcomes](#). *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*. 2023; Dec 10:S1499-2671(2300721-9e.



Research Productivity

Midwifery Education

16. Johnston BK, Gum L, Hilsenteger E, Murray-Davis B. [Connecting Canadian and Australian Midwifery Students Through a Global Peer-to-Peer Program](#). CJMRP. 2023; 22(2): 1-9.
17. Johnston BK, Darling EK, Malott A, Thomas L, Murray-Davis B. [Results from a Piloted Point of Care Ultrasound Course for Ontario Primary Maternity Care Providers](#). CJMRP. 2023; 22(2): 10-17.
18. Bourret K, Mattison C, Hebert E, Kabeya A, Simba S, Crangle M, Darling E, Robinson J. [Evidence-informed framework for gender transformative continuing education interventions for midwives and midwifery associations](#). BMJ Global Health. 2023; 8(1): e011242.
19. Spelten E, Gitsels, VVerhoeven C, Hutton EK, Martin L. [The DELIVER study; the impact of research capacity building on research, education, and practice in Dutch midwifery](#). Plos One. 2023; 18(10): e0287834.

Peer Reviewed Presentations

January 1 to December 31, 2023

Despite pandemic set-backs, in 2023 we presented our findings through peer reviewed oral presentations at local, national, and international conferences.

1. Thorne O, *Graybrook R, Kirubarajan A, Mitsuk B, **Murray-Davis B***. REDEFINE: Redefining Reproduction and Sexual Health A Scoping Review. 2SLGBTQIA + Health and Wellness Summit. November 24-December 1, 2023. Virtual oral, international.
2. **Murray-Davis B**. Insights into Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Screening and Counselling in Ontario: Exploring views of patients and providers. Oak Valley Health Alongside Midwifery Unit Rounds. November 2023. Oral, local.
3. Thorne O, *Graybrook R, Kirubarajan A, Mitsuk B, **Murray-Davis B***. REDEFINE: Redefining Reproduction and Sexual Health A Scoping Review. Canadian Association of Midwives Conference. October 4-6, 2023. Ottawa, Ontario. Oral, national.
4. Brunton G, **Murray-Davis B**. Engaging diverse and vulnerable clients in Canadian midwifery practice, education, policy and research: Secondary analysis of a scoping review. Canadian Association of Midwives Conference. October 4-6, 2023. Ottawa, Ontario. Oral, national.
5. **Murray-Davis B, Ruby E**. Patient Perspectives on GDM Screening. Association of Ontario Midwives Webinar. September 2023. Oral, provincial.
6. **Darling EK, Graybrook R, Jameel B, Dion A, Ku-Carbonell S, Begun S, Mattison CA**. The impact of integrating midwives into primary care settings on access to care: A case study from Ontario, Canada. 33rd International Confederation of Midwives Congress. Bali, Indonesia. June 12, 2023. Oral, International.
7. **Murray-Davis B**. Midwives experiences within Canada's first alongside midwifery unit: impacts and implications for midwifery practice. McMaster Midwifery Research Centre Symposium. May 2023. Oral, international.
8. **Murray-Davis B**. A framework for understanding how midwives perceive and manage care for clients with GDM and HDP. Oak Valley Health Alongside Midwifery Unit Rounds. May 2023. Oral, local.
9. Malott A, Grenier L, *Plett R, Mattison C, Ahmed M, Cameron C, **Hutton EK, Darling EK, Murray Davis B***. Exploring the birth environment of Canada's first alongside midwifery unit: making space for midwifery in the hospital. International Labour & Birth Conference. Grange Over Sands, U.K. April 2023. Oral, international.
10. **Darling EK, Mackenzie RK, Cameron C, Malott A, Murray Davis B**. Maternal and neonatal outcomes at Canada's first alongside midwifery unit: a cohort study using a difference in differences analysis. 22nd International Normal Labour and Birth Conference. Grange Over Sands, U.K. April 24, 2023. Oral, International.
11. Begun S, Dion A, Mathewson C, *Graybrook R, Jameel B, Carbonell S, Mattison CA, **Darling E***. "Miracle in my life": Perspectives of reproductive healthcare received through expanded midwifery models in Ontario. Paper presentation in Symposium, Disrupting health inequities through the promotion of reproductive justice, Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference. Phoenix, Arizona, USA. January 2023. Oral, International.

Italics indicates trainee, **bolded** text indicates MMRC Scientist

Spotlight

**Developing Canadian Midwifery Research Priorities,
Dr. Beth Murray-Davis, Principal Investigator**

In recent years, there has been a global call to invest in midwifery as a strategy to improve health for families. This has been underscored by developing international research priorities to address gaps in existing evidence. However, the landscape of Canadian midwifery research remains relatively unexplored, leaving uncertainties regarding the extent of Canadian contributions to this evidence and the alignment with international research priorities.

The aim of our study was to identify gaps and areas of strength in the current Canadian midwifery landscape of evidence and to use this to shape a national research agenda for the years to come. As part of this process, we conducted a scoping review of the literature, a survey and a series of focus groups with key stakeholders across the country including midwives, service users and experts in midwifery research.

The review followed the Joanna Briggs Institute protocol and screened articles using a-priori criteria. The survey employed Likert scales and open-ended questions. The focus groups were completed with participants who completed the survey and included questions to rank and score the developing list of priorities generated through the survey data.

In the scoping review we identified 590 articles that met our criteria, while 208 respondents from eight provinces completed the survey. Findings highlighted strengths such as research regarding organization of care, promotion of physiological processes, and prenatal and intrapartum time periods. Notable gaps included research concerning postpartum care, and midwifery education. Participants emphasized the need for research inclusivity, advocating for studies focusing on underrepresented populations, alongside a pressing demand for capacity building within Canadian midwifery research.

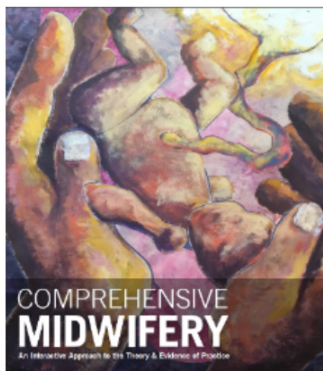
Focus group analysis is underway and the final list of research priorities for Canadian Midwifery is being developed. This has been an important project that acknowledges the substantial growth in Canadian midwifery research over the last decade and emphasizes the necessity of capacity building to address identified gaps in the Canadian Midwifery evidence.

McMaster e-Book Foundry Textbooks

Our e-Book Foundry has published six midwifery education e-books, the first ever midwifery-specific textbooks in Canada, that include: Comprehensive Midwifery Vol. 1: Professional Roles, Vol. 2: Normal Pregnancy, Birth, Postpartum & Newborn Care, Vol. 3: Management of Complications, Physical Assessment of the Well Woman & Newborn, Pharmacology Revealed, and Woman-Centered Reproductive Health Care: An e-Resource for Lady Health Visitors and Midwives in Pakistan that is now being piloted.

The books have been adopted as required texts across Canada and in some US and Australian midwifery education programs. The books include the contributions of a team of technical and creative designers, more than 50 authors, 10 medical illustrators, and 40 midwives across Ontario who participated in videos outlining tips for best practice.

We are continuing to evaluate the educational impact of these books as a learning resource.



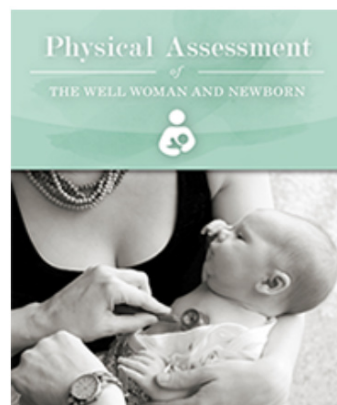
VOLUME 1:
PROFESSIONAL ROLES



VOLUME 2:
NORMAL PREGNANCY, BIRTH, POSTPARTUM
AND NEWBORN CARE



VOLUME 3:
MANAGEMENT OF COMPLICATIONS ARISING IN
PREGNANCY, BIRTH, POSTPARTUM & NEWBORN CARE





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