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For Immediate Release October 20, 2012

Free public lecture presented by the Museum of Health Care

"Cultures of birth: midwifery in 19th- and 20th-century Ontario"



(KINGSTON, ON) – "Cultures of birth: midwifery in 19th- and 20th-century Ontario" is the title of a free public lecture on the history of midwifery presented by the Museum of Health Care. The lecture takes place Thursday, October 18th, at 7:00 pm in Mackintosh-Corry Hall (68 University Avenue), room D216, Queen's University. Refreshments will follow. Admission is free.

The lecture is the museum's 16th annual Research Fellowship Presentation and will be delivered by Diana Gore, the 2012 Margaret Angus Research Fellow. Gore's presentation will explore the fluctuations in the popularity and usage of midwives in Ontario since the 1800s, with an emphasis on how women's choices and actions influenced changes in birthing practices.

"I was fascinated by the recent surge in the number of women using midwives, and I wanted to find investigate how that came about," says Gore, a recent graduate of the Master of Museum Studies Program at the University of Toronto. "The Museum has a wonderful obstetrics collection that I used as a starting point to understand how birthing options have changed in Ontario over the past two centuries," she adds.

Each year, the Margaret Angus Research Fellow is chosen by the Museum of Health Care from a pool of qualified applicants. The appointed fellow spends six months researching and preparing a manuscript reflecting the history of health and health care as exemplified by the Museum's collection.

Further details:

Upcoming Museum of Health Care programs include:

"A Healthy Dose of Horror" with Dr. Greg Baran on October 27th held at the Museum (32 George St.)

"Half Gods Good Surgeons Might Be Called" a free public lecture by History Ph.D candidate Samantha Sandassie on November 14th the Museum (32 George St)

Launch of a new online exhibit "Fighting For Breath. Stopping the TB Epidemic" on December 6th the Museum (32 George St.).

More information about Museum of Health Care programs and events can be found at www.museumofhealthcare.ca.

Location: Mackintosh-Corry Hall, Room D216, Queen's University

Date & Times: Thursday, October 18th at 7:00-8:30 pm

Contact: Jenny Brown or Diana Gore 613-548-2419 | museum@kgh.kari.net | www.museumofhealthcare.ca