

College of Midwives of Manitoba

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF CANADA'S CALLS TO ACTION

The College of Midwives of Manitoba (CMM) is committed to acting on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) Calls to Action. As such, we aim to ensure that midwives provide care that is equitable, accessible, flexible, non-judgmental, nurturing, accepting, respectful and safe. We encourage all midwives to review the TRC's Calls to Action, specifically recommendations number 22, 23, 24 and 33 and consider actions they can take in their practice.

The CMM recognizes that midwives have a privileged position in their relationships with clients. We acknowledge the harmful effects of colonization, and policies such as residential schools, on the health and wellbeing of indigenous people. The College of Midwives of Manitoba is committed to ensuring that all midwives are working towards culturally safe midwifery practice.

KEY ACTIONS

The College of Midwives commits to:

1. Include indigenous awareness and cultural safety in the Core Competencies for Midwives in Manitoba.
2. Include indigenous awareness and cultural safety courses as a requirement for registration as a midwife in Manitoba.
3. Advocate for inclusion of the following standards in the proposed national midwifery education program accreditation/approval process:
 - a. indigenous awareness and cultural safety
 - b. strategies to increase recruitment and retention of indigenous applicants and teachers
4. Require all registered practicing midwives to participate in continuing education in cultural safety that shall, at a minimum, fulfill the following learning objectives:
 - a. Apply the concepts of cultural safety to practice
 - b. Acknowledge and work towards dismantling stereotypes
 - c. Be aware of indigenous healing practices and modalities
5. Provide the opportunity to hold a sharing and learning circle at the Annual General meeting for members who have experienced or witnessed culturally unsafe care or teaching.