



Community Readiness Grant

Explore Developing an Indigenous Midwifery Program

The Community Readiness Grant (CRG) provides funding for First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities and/or Indigenous governed organizations with an interest in developing an Indigenous Midwifery Program to meet the clinical midwifery needs of the community. The grant is funded by the Ministry of Health.



What is an Indigenous Midwifery Program?

Indigenous Midwifery Programs (IMPs) provide culturally safe and community-centered reproductive, perinatal, sexual and infant health care to First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) families. Indigenous Midwifery Programs offer community-based and culturally centered midwifery care for First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities.

Distribution

Community Readiness Grant funding is distributed through Transfer Payment Agencies (TPAs) and will be available to:

- First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and Urban Indigenous Communities that have a partnership with a governing body, such as a community elected board or council to be accountable to;
- Indigenous Midwives working within the exemption clause and Indigenous Registered Midwives
- Interprofessional primary health care organizations currently serving Indigenous communities
- Partnerships of any of the above.

How does the Community Readiness Grant Work?

The grant funds the community-driven work required for a First Nations, Inuit or Métis community to be ready to develop an Indigenous Midwifery Program. It can be utilized to fund work to undertake any of the following activities:

- ✓ Community consultations
- ✓ Needs assessment
- ✓ Partnership development
- ✓ Capacity building
- ✓ Research
- ✓ Preparation of narrative and financial reporting
- ✓ Meeting expenses, community feasts and travel
- ✓ Funding for community engagement activities, including food
- ✓ Miscellaneous office expenses (phone, photocopying, postage)
- ✓ Professional consultation (legal, medical, financial)



Resourcing an Indigenous Midwifery Program

The Ministry of Health issues an open call for CRG applications, typically once a year when funding is available. The funding approach recognizes that each community and Nation is at a different place in the reclamation of midwifery. The Ministry of Health, along with Indigenous midwife reviewers, will assess proposals based on the proposed project description, objectives, deliverables and timelines and will consider the community's immediate or future need for an IMP.

The AOM does not assess submitted applications. The Ministry of Health determines which applications are approved and manages the grant directly.

Support

The Indigenous Midwifery Team at the AOM can help midwives and organizations determine their state of readiness to apply and offer feedback on CRG Applications before they are submitted.

The IM Team is eager to connect with prospective FNIM communities and Indigenous midwives exploring the possibility of developing an Indigenous Midwifery Program. Please contact the IM Team at the Association of Ontario Midwives for more information and support.