

The background features a stylized landscape. The top portion consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles of varying shades, creating a mountain range effect. Below this, a horizontal band of bright orange and yellow textured brushstrokes separates the mountains from the bottom section. The bottom section is a solid, dark green color, mirroring the top section's color palette.

# Aboriginal Midwifery in Canada

Presented by:

Carol Couchie, R.M., BHSc

# Aboriginal Midwives working in every Aboriginal Community



# Meet the Midwives



<http://www.aboriginalmidwives.ca/resources>

# Aboriginal Midwifery Education

<http://www.aboriginalmidwives.ca/resources>

# Aboriginal Midwifery



<http://www.aboriginalmidwives.ca/resources>



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Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# AUTONOMY

Aboriginal women, families and communities have the inherent right to choose their caregivers and to be active decision makers in their health care.

Sacheen Seitsham is a midwife at  
Snuneymuxw/Ahousaht, British Columbia





# Aboriginal Midwifery is... **COMPASSION**

Aboriginal midwives act as guides and compassionate caregivers in all Aboriginal communities, rural, urban and remote. The dignity of Aboriginal women is upheld through the provision of kind, considerate and respectful services.

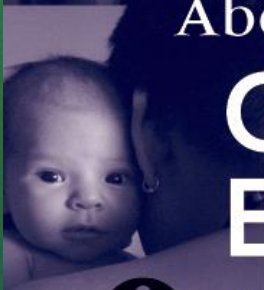


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Darlene Birch is a midwife at  
Norway House Cree Nation, Manitoba





Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# CLINICAL EXCELLENCE



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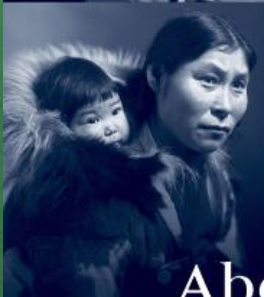
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Aboriginal midwives uphold the standards and principles of exemplary clinical care for women and babies throughout the lifecycle. This includes reproductive health care, well woman and baby care and the creation of sacred, powerful spaces for Aboriginal girls, women, families, and communities.

Annie Tukulak is a midwife at the Inuulitsivik Health Centre, Puvirnituq, Quebec







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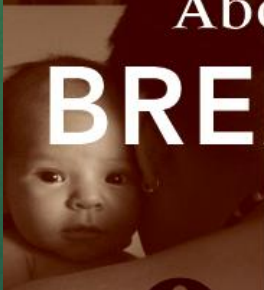
Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# RESPONSIBILITY

Aboriginal midwives are responsible for upholding the values of Aboriginal midwifery through reciprocal and equal relationships with women, families and their communities.

Evelyn Harney is a midwife in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia





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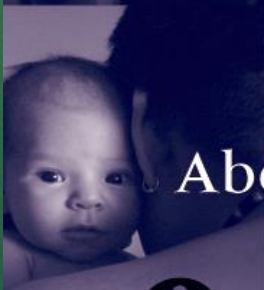
Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# BREASTFEEDING

Aboriginal midwives uphold breastfeeding as sacred medicine for the mother and baby that connects the bodies of women to the sustaining powers of our mother earth.

Diane Simon is a student midwife at Ryerson University, Ontario





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Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# RESPECT

Aboriginal midwives respect birth as a healthy physiologic process and honour each birth as a spiritual journey.

Nathalie Pambrun is a midwife  
in Sackville, New Brunswick





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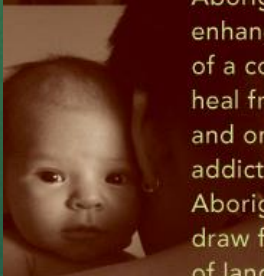
Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# CULTURAL SAFETY

Aboriginal midwives create and protect the sacred space in which each woman, in her uniqueness, can feel safe to express who she is and what she needs.

Kristi Shawana is a midwife at the Six Nations Birthing Centre, Ontario





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Aboriginal Midwifery is...

Aboriginal midwives enhance the capacity of a community to heal from historical and ongoing traumas, addictions, and violences. Aboriginal midwives draw from a rich tradition of language, Indigenous knowledge, and cultural practice as they work with women to restore health to Aboriginal families and communities.

# HEALING

Laurie Jacobs is a midwife at the Six Nations Birthing Centre, Ontario





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# Aboriginal Midwifery is... **BONDING**

Well-being is based on an intact mother and baby bond that must be supported by families, communities and duty bearers in health and social service systems.

Cherylee Bourgeois is a midwife with  
Seventh Generation Midwives Toronto, Ontario





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Aboriginal Midwifery is...

# EDUCATION

Aboriginal midwifery education and practice respect diverse ways of knowing and learning, is responsive to Aboriginal women, families and communities and must be accessible to all who choose this pathway.

Aimo Nauyuk is a student midwife at Arctic College, Cambridge Bay, Nunavut

