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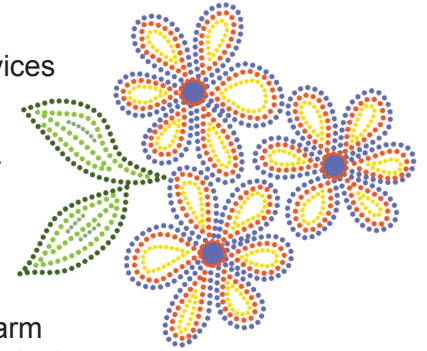


Public Health Agency of Canada
Agence de la santé publique du Canada

Municipal-Level Policy Considerations

Interventions

Municipalities influence access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services through public health programming, housing, transportation, community safety, and urban planning. While municipalities do not legislate healthcare directly, their decisions shape whether Métis people can safely and equitably access services.



1. Local Public Health Programs

Municipal public health units can deliver or fund programs, including SRH, harm reduction, and prenatal supports. To support Métis reproductive justice, municipal programs should:

- ∞ Ensure clinics explicitly include Métis cultural safety practices and trauma-informed approaches.
- ∞ Partner with Métis organizations to co-deliver SRH programs, family supports, and reproductive health education
- ∞ Collect Métis identity data (voluntarily and safely) to understand service use and inform planning.
- ∞ Provide Métis-specific prenatal and parenting supports that reflect kinship networks and cultural practices
- ∞ Integrate services across mental health, violence prevention, and harm reduction to address intersecting barriers.

2. Transportation Policies

Transportation barriers often prevent Métis families from accessing prenatal care, abortion services, or other SRH programs. Municipal interventions can include:

- ∞ Subsidized transportation to healthcare appointments, especially from rural or peri-urban zones.
- ∞ Bus vouchers, municipal rideshare partnerships, or dedicated shuttles for medical appointments.
- ∞ Collaboration with Métis councils and community organizations to identify transit gaps affecting community members and design solutions.

3. Youth & Community Programming

Youth programming supports SRH knowledge, autonomy, and early intervention. Municipal strategies can include:

- ∞ Métis-led youth sexual and reproductive health programs delivered through schools, community centres, and local hubs.
- ∞ Municipal funding for Métis youth wellness hubs that integrate gender-affirming, reproductive, and mental health supports.
- ∞ Dedicated services for 2SLGBTQQIA+ Métis youth, including gender-affirming and reproductive health care, education, and safe spaces.
- ∞ Policies to reduce surveillance or policing of youth accessing SRH services, ensuring confidentiality and trust.

