



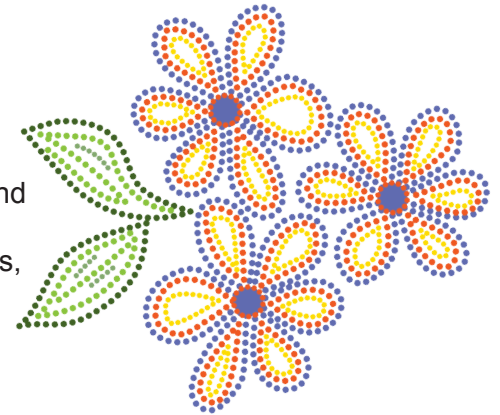
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Provincial-Level Policy Considerations Midwifery Legislation/Scope of Practice

Midwifery care is a key component of reproductive justice, offering continuity of care, informed choice, and culturally grounded support throughout pregnancy, birth, and the postpartum period. Because midwifery is regulated at the provincial level, provincial legislation and funding decisions directly shape whether Métis families can access community-based, culturally safe birthing options. In many provinces, Métis people face limited access to midwives, particularly outside major urban centres, and Métis-specific models of care remain underdeveloped or unfunded.



Strengthening Métis reproductive justice requires provinces to recognize and support Métis-led midwifery models as distinct from First Nations and Inuit frameworks. This includes expanding the scope and settings in which midwives can practice and investing in Métis-specific education, mentorship, and workforce development. By supporting Métis midwifery, provinces can help restore birthing autonomy, improve maternal and infant outcomes, and advance Métis cultural continuity across generations.

Considerations:

- ∞ Expand midwifery funding to include Métis-specific midwifery models (current models primarily focus on First Nations and Inuit).
- ∞ Enable midwives to practice in more settings, such as birth centres, community hubs, Métis settlements, and mobile clinics.
- ∞ Fund Métis midwifery education pathways and mentorship.

To be effective, provincial midwifery policy must also address jurisdictional and structural barriers that limit Métis access to care.

1. Provinces should work in formal partnership with Métis governments to co-develop Métis midwifery policies and ensure accountability beyond one-time consultation. This includes recognizing Métis decision-making authority in program design and oversight
2. Addressing systemic barriers Métis learners face in entering regulated midwifery professions (including cost, credentialing, and discrimination)
3. Supporting community-owned data collection to guide planning and evaluate outcomes.
4. Implementation should prioritize flexible regulatory approaches, such as pilot projects and phased expansion, to support Métis-led models across urban, rural, and remote contexts while advancing self-determination and long-term sustainability.

