## **Urgent request for replacement midwives** From June 20<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 (min 2 weeks, ideally 4)

The Inuulitsivik maternities are also looking for:

a) Experienced midwives to serve on a regular rotating team of mentor/instructor midwives for each of its 3 maternity sites who will be available to work as of January 2018.

We hope to establish 3 teams, each consisting of 3-5 midwives who can commit to giving 2-6 months per year for the next two to three years in one of the three village maternities. This is to provide improved continuity and to expand our midwifery education program. These midwives will be expected to serve as mentor/instructors to the student midwives. They will communicate with each other throughout the year on the progress of each student, submit reports, and, together with the local midwives, continue to develop the education program according to the ongoing needs of the students and their communities.

# b) Replacement midwives (approximately 4 to 8 week intervals) for all three villages maternities who will be available to work as of January 2018.

These midwives will replace both local and southern midwifery staff who are on leave. They will be expected to fully participate in the functioning of the maternity in which they work, and, according to their experience, to participate in the ongoing education of students and staff.

#### The conditions for all contracts (regardless of length) are the following:

- Base salary between 27.57\$ and 46.80\$ / hour (based on experience);
- Isolation and remote practice bonus (between 8 848\$ and 15 595\$ /year);
- Food allowance (6 034\$ /year);
- Paid overtime;
- Furnished lodging provided by employer.

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- Canadian citizenship or a work permit for Canada
- Registration with the OSFQ reciprocity and payment agreements are available for midwives registered in other Canadian provinces or France. Unfortunately, New Registrant's from outside of Quebec cannot register with the OSFQ. Reciprocity only applies to General Registrants (without conditions).
- Current Obstetric Emergency Skills (ESW, ALSO, ALARM, or MORE)
- Updated Neonatal Resuscitation certification (including intubation)
- An open mind, teaching skills and a capacity to listen are a must
- A good working ability in English (the second language of the local staff) Ability to speak and write French is an asset
- Northern and/or cross-cultural experience is an asset

### About Inuulitsivik Maternity :

Nunavik midwives have been providing complete maternity, well-woman and well-baby care to the Inuit communities of the Hudson Bay Coast since 1986. Experienced local midwives and midwifery students provide services in Inutitut. Midwifery education is based on a community-centered apprenticeship model, which strives to combine both traditional and modern ways of knowing and learning. In the fall of 2008, the Quebec Ministry of Health together with the Order of Quebec Midwives (OSFQ) granted recognition to Inuulitisivik's Midwifery Education Program and its traditional learning pathways, offering full licensure to its graduates. Midwives from across Canada, the United States, Greenland, Scandinavia, France, England, Germany, and the Middle East have participated in the education program. The WHO, ICM, CAM, NAHO, and the SOGC have identified Inuulitsivik's combined midwifery service and education program as an appropriate and realistic model for aboriginal and remote communities.

Each village maternity was initiated by and continues to take direction from the people of its community. Prior to the creation of these services, two generations of women were separated from their families and sent to Moose Factory (Ontario) to have their babies with people who did not share their language or cultural background. The effects of these evacuations were devastating not only for the families, but for the entire community. Now, most women on the Hudson Coast give birth to their babies in their own communities, their own culture and language, and with family and friends.

The Inuulitsivik Health Centre Maternity in Puvirnituq has been serving women and families for over twenty three years. It is located in a wing of the Health Centre and serves its own village population and that of the smaller villages that do not yet have midwives. Puvirnituq midwives also receive and provide care during birth for women whose medical and social situations require additional or more specialized care than can easily be given in the more remote villages. The Inukjuak Maternity opened in 1996, and the maternity in Salluit began training students in 2004. These maternities are located in

the CLSC (nursing stations) and serve the women and families of their respective villages. Women who have a normal pregnancy and birth history have the opportunity to stay in their village to have their babies.

The reality of a remote northern region requires a larger scope of practice in both emergency care and community health than in southern midwifery practices. Midwives work in collaboration with medical and nursing staff and community service workers.

Working in the North is both challenging and rewarding. It is an opportunity to support the Inuit community in their efforts to regain autonomy for defining health and health care, and to reclaim birth as a normal and important community event.

If you are interested and available, please contact me! For information or to send your CV, contact: Catherine Mason - catmason@gmail.com