

May 11, 2022

Health Canada

Addressing Racism and Discrimination in Canada's Health Systems Program  
Ottawa, ON

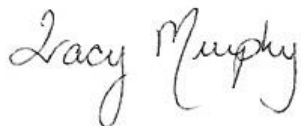
Dear Health Canada Representative,

The **Canadian Midwifery Regulators Council** (CMRC) is a network of provincial and territorial regulatory authorities. Collectively, we regulate the profession of midwifery, setting and maintaining high standards of practice, and ensuring regulatory harmony across the country. We are writing to express our support for, and intention to collaborate with, the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives (NACM) & the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) *Midwives' Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism and Discrimination in Canada's Health System* project.

As noted in the *Canadian Competencies for Midwives* "Midwives have a responsibility to address racism and bias at the individual and system levels. Midwives are expected to provide culturally safe care and embrace cultural humility and are called upon to identify and address power imbalances in the health care system", and the CMRC is committed to taking meaningful actions towards to truth and reconciliation. The CMRC would welcome the development of midwifery-specific professional development materials produced by NACM & CAM to increase midwives' ability to provide culturally safe and sensitive care. We support this effort to combat anti-indigenous racism in our sector.

We are aware that NACM and CAM intend to work directly with midwifery education program(s) to pilot course content on cultural safety and sensitivity to combat anti-indigenous racism which is experienced within the midwifery sector (by students, educators, in-service midwives, and service users). This course content will also be adapted and delivered as a professional development course for in-service midwives, impacting care in acute settings. This work is needed, and we feel that NACM and CAM are well-placed to execute such a project in an impactful way. Given the new content in the CMRC competencies related to cultural safety and humility, and to responding to and combatting anti-Indigenous racism, this CAM-NACM project is highly relevant, timely and very necessary.

Sincerely,



Tracy Murphy  
Executive Director, CMRC