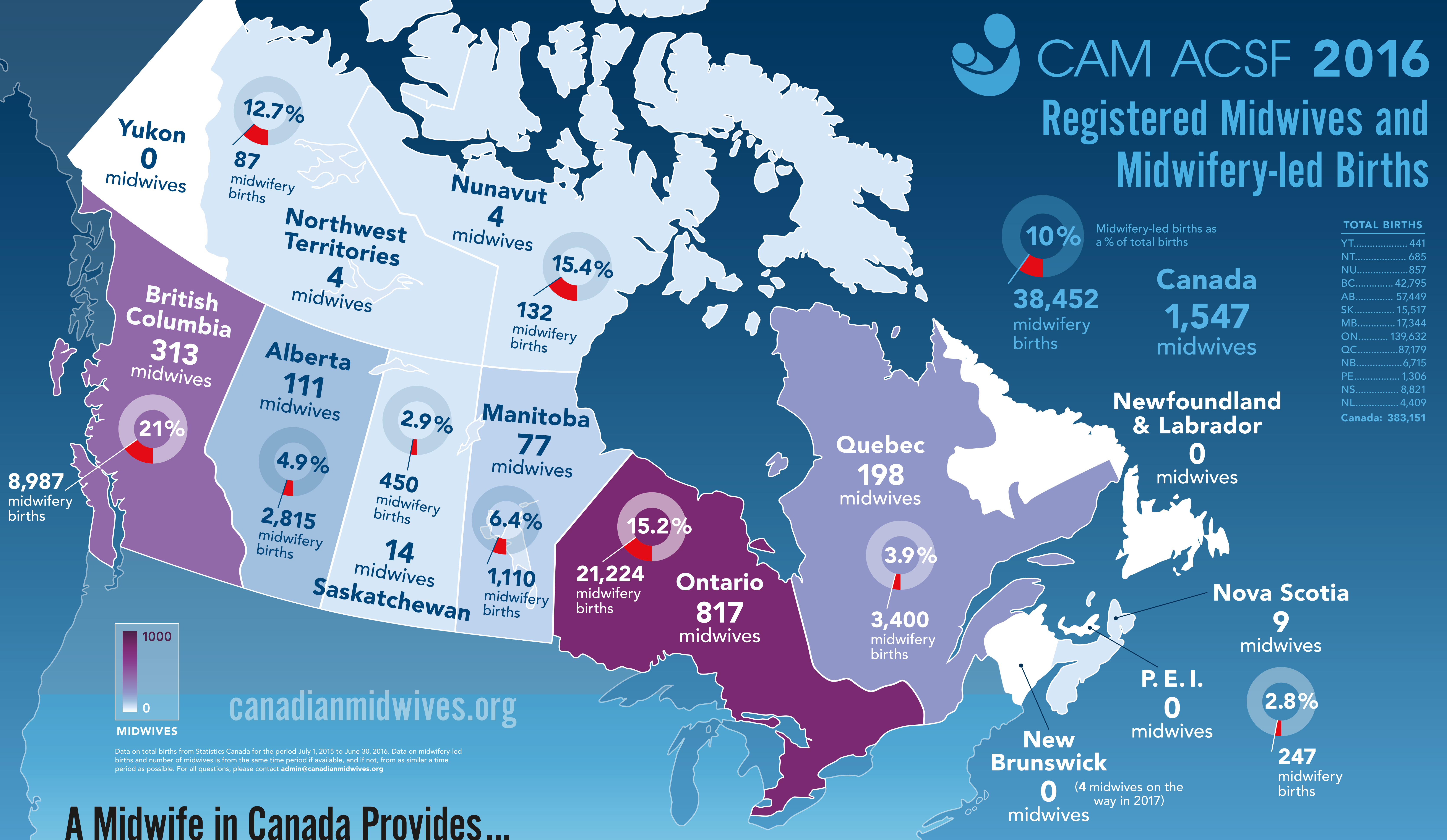


# CAM ACSF 2016

## Registered Midwives and Midwifery-led Births



### A Midwife in Canada Provides...



Prenatal care



Care during birth



Postnatal care



Primary care



Partnership



Informed choice



On call 24 hours



Evidence-based care



Choice of birth place

## Partnership with Save the Children

NACM's partnership with **Save the Children Canada** was renewed for a second year of funding. This partnership is helping build NACM's capacity and strengthen Indigenous Midwifery in Canada. One outcome of the partnership is the publication of three beautiful booklets to support Indigenous families looking for cultural knowledge that will help them prepare for giving birth and caring for their babies.

## Six Aboriginal Midwifery Programs Receive Funding

The Ontario government recently announced **funding for six Aboriginal midwifery programs**, with the goal of offering culturally appropriate child and maternity care to a number of Indigenous communities. Several NACM members, including Aboriginal Midwives working under the exemption clause, are now able to start or expand their practices serving Indigenous communities in Ontario.

Photo: Ellen Kanika Tsi Tsa Blais, former NACM Co-Chair and Aboriginal Midwifery policy analyst for the Association of Ontario Midwives with Ontario Minister of Health, Dr. Eric Hoskins

## NACM Gathering 2016

The 2016 NACM Gathering was held in Victoria and at Esquimalt First Nation on Vancouver Island in October. Over 25 NACM members attended to share, learn and discuss NACM's priorities. Melissa Brown, midwife in Winnipeg, was appointed co-Chair, replacing Ellen Blais who occupied the co-Chair position for the last three years. The Core Leadership Circle gathered in February 2017 to develop a **three-year Strategic Plan** for NACM. The plan was presented and accepted by members on April 27.

## Strengthening Midwifery Services in South Sudan

The *Strengthening Midwifery Services in South Sudan (Phase 2)* project, led by the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** and supported by the **Government of Canada** and others, sent six midwife consultants to South Sudan to support the **Peer-to-Peer, Association Strengthening, and Clinical Procedures Manual** components of the project. In addition, 17 early-career Canadian midwives were recruited to pair with the 17 recent midwife graduates in South Sudan. Many Canadian peers had a chance to meet Justine Mangwi Juma Olimpio, a South Sudanese midwife, when he visited Toronto and Ottawa in May 2017.

Photos: 1. Alix Bacon, Beverly O'Brien and Kelly Chisolm, midwife consultants for the Association Strengthening program  
2. Sariilyn Zimmerman and Basak Ardalani, Clinical Procedures Manual consultants, with South Sudanese midwife, Repent Khamis and International United Nations Volunteer midwife, Judith Dralern

## Improved Service Delivery in Tanzania

The *Improved Service Delivery for Safe Motherhood Project: Phase 2* began in 2017 and aims to increase the skills and availability of midwives across six zones of rural Tanzania. The project is funded by the **Sanofi Espoir Foundation** since 2013, and the **Tanzania Association of Midwives (TAMA)** continues to be the key partner. The project aims to improve midwives' abilities to handle obstetrical emergencies through **Midwifery Emergency Skills Training (MEST)** as well as implement ICM's Competency Based Education model in Tanzania.

## Midwives Save Lives

The *Midwives Save Lives (MSL)* project held in-country launches in Benin and Tanzania, and three Canadian midwife consultants worked with the midwifery association in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The MSL project, delivered in partnership with **Cuso International** and funded by the **Government of Canada**, is working to reduce maternal and child mortality in four countries by improving the quality of care, increasing the demand for midwifery services and through association strengthening activities.

## More and Better Midwives

In 2016, CAM began a partnership with **Jhpiego**, **Amref Canada**, and **TAMA** to deliver a project entitled *More and Better Midwives for Rural Tanzania*. The goal is to increase the profile, quality, and availability of professional midwifery in Tanzania. The project is funded by **Global Affairs Canada** and targets the most underserved regions of Tanzania with a focus on building capacity on the themes of mentorship and respectful maternity care.

## PROVINCIAL NEWS

### BC: Update on Vision Report

In 2015, BC midwives were involved in 21% of the province's pregnancies and births. This puts BC on track towards their **goal of involvement in 35% of the births by 2020**. To help attain this goal MABC launched the Rural Start Up Grant Program this year. MABC has also hired a Professional Practice Advisor to assist midwives with integration and navigation of privileging challenges. The MABC has partnered with UBC and CMBC to develop a continuing professional development program for midwives and first offerings include Safe Prescribing of Narcotics & Benzodiazepines for Midwives, Prescribing Oxytocin, and Managing the Oxytocin Pump.

### Midwifery a 'Priority' in Yukon

A new, Liberal-majority government was elected in Yukon in 2016. Mandate letters from the Premier to both Health Services and Social Services and Community stated that it must be a **priority to "regulate and fund midwifery"** to provide a safe and more affordable childbirth option in communities." Regulations are expected to be developed by 2018.



### Ontario Midwives Take the Stand for Human Rights

Hearings began in June 2016 regarding Ontario midwives' 2013 application to the **Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario (HRTO)** that alleges that midwives have experienced a gender-penalty in their pay set by the government for almost two decades. Witnesses have taken the stand to describe the history of discrimination and their efforts over the years to address the wage gap with the government. Closing statements will be in June 2017 and a decision is expected by the end of the year.

### New Brunswick Hires its First Midwife!

2017 will be remembered as the year New Brunswick started hiring midwives! **Melissa Langlais** is now the Lead Midwife at New Brunswick's first midwifery practice which is opening its doors in Fredericton. Melissa will be joined by three other midwives later in 2017.

Photo: Melissa Langlais demonstrates midwifery care at announcement by NB Minister of Health.



### Consultant Hired in Newfoundland and Labrador

The province of NL has hired midwife Gisela Becker as a consultant to facilitate the **integration of midwifery services** in the public healthcare system. The province's goal is to have registered and practicing midwives in NL in 2018.

## CAM Annual Conference 2016

A record-breaking 400 midwives and other health professionals attended CAM's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual AGM, Conference and Exhibit in late October in beautiful Victoria, BC. The conference theme, **Midwives Caring for Diverse Communities: Leadership & Collaboration**, was underscored by provocative and engaging presentations that touched topics of clinical practice, recent research, and reflections on the profession.

Photos: 1. Keynote speaker, Lesley Page, President of Royal College of Midwives  
2. BC government representative Ted Patterson with Ganga Jolicoeur, CEO of MABC, Emmanuelle Hébert, past President of CAM, and Alixandra Bacon, President of MABC

## International Day of the Midwife 2017

For IDM 2017, CAM organized a virtual dance party to celebrate midwives and midwifery! Over 1,400 people signed up to dance to *Rise UP* by Parachute Club. View a compilation video at: [www.canadianmidwives.org](http://www.canadianmidwives.org)

## Minister of International Development

Executive Director, Tonia Occhionero, and President, Katrina Kilroy met with the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development, in April 2017 to provide an overview of the important contributions of Canadian midwives to **Canada's international commitment to improving reproductive, maternal and newborn health** globally. CAM shared details of our unique "association to association" partnership model and discussed ways that midwifery can further contribute to the Ministry's priorities regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights. CAM also presented at a Ministerial Roundtable on reproductive health in Haiti.

Photo: Emmanuelle Hébert, Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and Tonia Occhionero

## Parliament Hill Reception

Approximately 70 parliamentarians, political staffers and government employees attended CAM's reception on Parliament Hill on May 10 to celebrate the contributions that Canadian midwives make across the country and around the world. The event highlighted Canada's contribution to the *Strengthening Midwifery Services in South Sudan* project. Canada's **Minister of Health**, the Honourable Jane Philpott, spoke on the importance of having trained midwives in South Sudan. South Sudanese midwife, Justine Mangwi Juma Olimpio, one of the participants in the peer-to-peer program, gave a touching account of his experience as a midwife.

"I continue to seek ways to be a champion for healthy birthing. (...) I want to say thank you to all of you who are investing your time and energy, your skills and expertise to be able to support healthy birthing around the world, and it will be an honour to continue to partner with you."  
— Jane Philpott, Minister of Health

Photos: 1. Jane Philpott, Minister of Health  
2. Justine Mangwi Juma Olimpio and his peer, Nicole McCloud, show Members of Parliament how to deliver a baby.  
3. Justine Mangwi Juma Olimpio and MP Joel Lightbound

## Deliver Midwives to ICM Fund

In collaboration with sponsor HIROC, Canadian midwives and supporters raised a total of **\$60,000** to bring midwives from under-resourced countries to the **2017 ICM International Triennial Congress** being held in Toronto June 18-22. The funds raised will support 20 midwives to attend.

## Organizational Growth

CAM now has 14 staff members, more than doubling in one year.  
Photo: Annual CAM staff retreat



aboriginalmidwives.ca

Canadian Association of Midwives  
**CAM GLOBAL**  
cam-global.org

300 Midwives  
will be trained in  
Emergency Skills  
in 6 districts

