



NACM
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL
COUNCIL OF MIDWIVES

JOB POSTING

COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH

Growing Indigenous Midwifery: A Pathways Study

November 1st 2019

Title: Researcher

Location: Remote

Background:

NACM exists to promote excellence in reproductive health care for Inuit, First Nations, and Métis women and families. We advocate for the restoration of midwifery education, the provision of midwifery services, and choice of birthplace for all Indigenous communities.

NACM's vision is to have Indigenous midwives working in every Indigenous community.

Indigenous midwives play a key role in building healthy and safe Indigenous communities in rural and urban areas. Indigenous midwives enable: the return of birth to communities; a reduction in the number of costly medical evacuations for births in remote areas; and improved health outcomes for mothers and babies through culturally safe midwifery care.

The Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) is the national professional association representing midwives and the profession of midwifery in Canada. NACM and CAM have a long -standing relationship as allied organizations and work together on many projects and initiatives. Both CAM and NACM are governed autonomously and share office space and resources and both are staffed by a passionate team of individuals dedicated to providing support for midwives and the profession of midwifery across Canada and globally.

Job Summary

NACM is leading a research project with the First Nations and Inuit communities and regions impacted by the 2017 Federal Investment in Midwifery. The broad goal is to identify successes and learning opportunities stemming from this investment in order to build evidence for how future federal investments could be structured. The Researcher is responsible for conducting a multi-site review of the impacts of the 2017 Federal Midwifery Investment, including successes and learning opportunities.

Working closely with NACM, the researcher will engage with communities working to return midwifery services through the 2017 investment. The Researcher is responsible for designing processes and methodology that are culturally responsive and respectful, collaborative, inclusive and community based. A strengths-based approach will be prioritized. Research outcomes will be communicated and disseminated in a way that enables communities and other stakeholders to understand the study results, learn from them and utilize them for future planning and work around returning midwifery to Indigenous communities.

The research will report to the NACM Director and will collaborate with:

- NACM Logistics Staff
- Project Coordinator
- NACM Advisory Committee of Indigenous midwives who are subject matter experts in the area of returning midwifery services to communities

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

The researcher, once hired, will be responsible for developing a research plan and will present this to the NACM Advisory Committee for feedback and approval. The research plan must include a detailed strategy and timeline for engaging with communities who have been involved in the demonstration sites and development regions. The program of research should then be presented to a meeting of the Advisory Committee for feedback and discussion.

Once approval is granted, the researcher should conduct the study, under the supervision of NACM Advisory Committee and with support of the NACM staff.

The researcher will have regular check-in meetings with NACM staff and will make a mid-point presentation to the NACM Advisory Committee as well as the FNIHB Task Team, comprised of representatives from FNIHB, including potentially representatives from the National Indigenous Organizations. The researcher will incorporate feedback received from the Committee into the research plan.

Key Deliverables

- A written report presenting and summarizing the research findings
- A detailed presentation of the study findings for the NACM Advisory Committee, FNIHB Task Team and participating communities (diverse presentation formats will be required allowing for presentation to be shared in-person and via webinar and video-conferencing platforms)
- Relevant community-facing tools and materials (e.g. Infographic, booklet, toolkit). These materials should be designed with the purpose of supporting ongoing knowledge and information sharing by NACM, FNIHB and members of the Task Committee, and particularly, communities and other stakeholders working to build successful Indigenous midwifery practices.

- If time and funding allow, the researcher may also develop some of the research findings into an article for a peer-reviewed journal, and for presentation in community and academic conferences. This will be determined collaboratively by NACM staff and the researcher.

Other Responsibilities

- Coordinate with NACM Logistics Assistant and CAM Finance Officer to schedule travel, in-person meetings, file appropriate documentation of expenses, and ensure smooth operation of project.
- Support the writing of interim and final reports for projects.
- Provide additional support and information to NACM Director as needed.

Qualifications, Skills and Knowledge Requirements

- University degree in Indigenous studies, public health, health communications, knowledge translation, or other related discipline.
- Minimum 3 years' experience conducting community-based research with Indigenous communities and/or organizations, or in public health, health communications, or related position.
- Strong knowledge of cultural safety and ability to work closely with diverse Indigenous communities (First Nations, Métis, Inuit).
- Demonstrate strong knowledge of social and political contexts that impact health policy and service delivery and more specifically Indigenous health.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and commitment to working collaboratively with diverse stakeholder groups, including staff, members, volunteers, donors, and other stakeholders.
- High degree of resourcefulness, flexibility, and adaptability.
- Highly organized, attention to detail and excellent follow-through required.
- Computer literacy, including effective working skills of MS Word, Excel and Outlook required.
- Bilingual English and French a strong asset.

Additional Assets

Knowledge of midwifery and/or reproductive health in Canada and globally.

* We encourage applications from all backgrounds and communities and are committed to having a team that is made up of diverse skills, experiences and abilities.

Working Conditions & Location

- Remote Work: Must have own equipment
- Must be able and willing to travel (within Canada)
- Six-month contract beginning November 15th until March 31st, 2020.

Applications

Please follow these instructions:

- Send your CV and a cover letter in one PDF document and ensure that your first and last names and the letters “INDIGENOUS MIDWIFERY RESEARCHER” are included in the file name. Applications without a cover letter will not be reviewed.
- Send your PDF by email with the subject “INDIGENOUS MIDWIFERY RESEARCHER” to kwilliams@canadianmidwives.org
- Deadline for applications is 12 a.m. Eastern Time on November 10th, 2019.

We thank all applicants for their interest however, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.