



Innu Round Table Secretariat
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**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:
INNU ROUND TABLE SECRETARIAT
MIDWIFERY CONSULTANT**

Background

The Innu Round Table Secretariat (IRT Sec) is the collective organization of the Mushuau Innu First Nation (MIFN), the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation (SIFN), and the Innu Nation. It was created for coordinated administration of common priorities including capacity development, devolution of programs, and managing the tripartite process with Canada and the province of Newfoundland & Labrador (NL).

Prior to the 1960's the Innu of Labrador were nomadic and practiced traditional midwifery. In recent focus groups in Sheshatshiu and Natuashish Innu elders remembered and described childbearing on Innu lands in the past. After settlement of Sheshatshiu and Davis Inlet, traditional midwives continued to provide care in the communities for a short time before childbirth was moved out of the community and to Happy Valley Goose Bay. Currently Innu women and families are not receiving midwifery care by Innu midwives. Care is fragmented and women are seeing different providers for different aspects of their care which makes it difficult to build trusting relationships. Some care is provided in the community but there are no children being born in Sheshatshiu and/or Natuashish. All Innu women are required to travel to the Labrador Grenfell Health hospital which is located in Happy Valley Goose Bay. Other than a couple Innu interpreters Labrador Grenfell Health has no professional Innu health staff, making the hospital a foreign and uninviting environment to all Innu people.

Job Summary/Duties and Responsibilities

The Innu Round Table Secretariat is looking for a Part-Time Midwife Consultant who has worked with indigenous Maternal Child Health clients.

The midwife will support the development of Midwifery in the Labrador Innu Communities.

This includes the development of a draft implementation framework and work plan.

Activities include consulting, discussions and gathering of stories from Sheshatshiu and Mushuau Innu First Nations regarding midwifery traditions. The consultant will work with Innu elders to transfer knowledge of traditional and cultural birthing practices within the two communities, the elders will need time to reflect and share.

The consultant will coordinate the Midwifery Steering Committee, which will consist of Newfoundland & Labrador Provincial Midwife Consultant, Labrador Innu Organizations, First Nation Inuit Health Branch, and Local Health authority – Labrador Grenfell Health,

Ryerson University, and National Aboriginal Council of Midwives. Will work with this steering committee to develop a detailed three year work plan. Create a work plan that clearly states the steps to create community awareness of Midwifery.

Determine steps that need to be taken to offer midwifery education closer to Sheshatshiu and Natuashish.

Prepare monthly reports of work completed.

Qualifications:

- Midwife with 3 years' experience working with Indigenous clients and communities
- Excellent written and verbal skills
- Strong knowledge of cultural safety and ability to work closely with First Nations communities
- Excellent interpersonal skills and commitment to working collaboratively with diverse stakeholder groups.
- High degree of flexibility, resourcefulness, and adaptability
- Highly organized, attention to details and follow through required
- Previous experience as midwifery consultant an asset

Work Conditions:

- Willing to travel to remote communities
- Must have own equipment
- 2 year contract pay \$550/7hrs

Applications

Please direct any questions to and forward your CV and cover letter to jfry@irtsec.ca & tpenashue@irtsec.ca

Deadline for submission is March 13thth, 2020 COB