“Breastfeeding Rounds”

Sponsored by
Manitoba Baby Friendly Committee

Breastfeeding as a Rite of Passage: Strengthening Indigenous Families and Communities

Date: Wednesday Jan 6, 2016

Time: 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Breastfeeding as a Rite of Passage: Strengthening Indigenous Families and Communities: Current research shows that rates of breastfeeding initiation and exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months is significantly lower amongst both on-reserve and off-reserve Indigenous mothers. Prior to colonization, breastfeeding was a rite of passage and new mothers relied on the traditional knowledge of their grandmothers and women’s helpers in their communities. This presentation will discuss the sociocultural, political and economic barriers that have resulted in lower breastfeeding rates for Indigenous mothers. It will also discuss the benefits of supporting Indigenous mothers and their families to reclaim the tradition of breastfeeding using a community based approach. Using a culturally competent, community based approach has been shown to improve breastfeeding initiation rates amongst Indigenous families.

Presenter:
Melissa Brown is a Registered Indigenous Midwife, currently working at Mount Carmel Clinic. She strives to maintain exemplary clinical care and evidence based practice while integrating traditional knowledge and Indigenous ways of knowing and learning. Melissa graduated from the kanaci otinawawasowin Bachelor of Midwifery program at the University College of the North in 2014. Melissa is currently a member of the Kagike Danikobidan council, the advisory committee on Aboriginal women’s issues to the College of Midwives of Manitoba and a member of the core leadership of the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives. Melissa is co-founder of the Manitoba Indigenous Doula Initiative and enjoys working in the community facilitating workshops and presentations on Indigenous Midwifery, Breastfeeding, and Traditional Parenting.

Application for 1.5 IBCLE CERPs points has been made.

Host Site: The Birth Centre Wisdom Room (Limited space available.)

Please check with your BFI committee member to see if there are telehealth sites near you. Please note on the following page the other sites that have booked space. Contact Linda Romphf for more details: Linda.Romphf@gmail.com
Sites:

Fisher River Health Centre – Room CLIN2
Pine Falls Health Complex – Room CLIN1
Sprague-East Borderland Primary Health Care Centre - Clinic Room 2
Winnipeg-Health Sciences Centre - John Buhler Research Center - Room 777
Winnipeg-WRHA-785 Keewatin (Access Nor’West) – Room 104
Winnipeg-WRHA-640 Main Street (Downtown East) – Room 230