

CANADA PRENATAL NUTRITION PROGRAM—  
First Nations and Inuit Component (CPNP-FNIC)

# The CPNP Guidebook

A CPNP WORKER'S GUIDE TO RUNNING A GREAT COMMUNITY PROGRAM



*Our mission is to help the people of Canada  
maintain and improve their health.*

Health Canada

**The CPNP Guidebook**

... a CPNP worker's guide to running a great community program

Également disponible en français sous le titre : ***Le Guide du PCNP***

*...un guide pour aider les intervenantes du PCNP à offrir un excellent programme communautaire*

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## Foreword

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CPNP projects in First Nations and Inuit communities across Canada have been growing and developing, and making a difference to the health of women and infants! The stream of CPNP delivered in First Nations and Inuit communities is called the First Nations and Inuit Component of CPNP; or CPNP-FNIC.

This revised CPNP Guidebook is intended to expand on the existing guidelines and framework of CPNP-FNIC, and to incorporate what CPNP workers, nutritionists and program participants have told us about what really works in community CPNP projects. The result is a comprehensive, easy-to-use, all-in-one reference for designing and delivering CPNP. This guidebook should be of particular benefit to new staff and will be a good reference for existing health workers and other stakeholders at the community level. It contains:

- Basic program information
- A description of accountability and evaluation required by workers
- Step-by-step instructions and “how-to’s” for key program activities
- Roles and responsibilities for a variety of health service providers
- And much more...

We hope you enjoy the resource!

Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program- First Nations and Inuit Component  
(CPNP-FNIC)



## Using this Guidebook

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- Have you just started to work in the prenatal nutrition program?
- Do you need help to plan program activities?
- Would you like to change or improve a program that already exists?

This book can help you deliver the prenatal nutrition program in your community.

It gives you:

- information about the program, and what CPNP workers do
- ideas and tips for program activities
- a list of helpful resources
- a guide to help you fill out your work plan.

This book can help you make the best use of the CPNP funds your community receives, to help women in your community have healthy pregnancies and healthy babies.

Section 1 gives you general information about CPNP and your role as a CPNP worker. The other sections provide more details, along with ideas for activities.



Make sure your program has these two CPNP resources:

- ***Building Healthy Babies***  
(First Nations or Inuit version)
- ***Tools for Success***

Your community nurse or registered dietitian/registered nutritionist may have a copy you can use.

If you cannot find these resources, please contact the CPNP contact in your region. See Section 7 for a list.





# All About CPNP





# All About CPNP



## Here's what you will find in this section:

- Why do we have CPNP?
- Who is CPNP for?
- How does CPNP work?
- What does a CPNP worker do?
- Do CPNP workers have any help?
- How can I spend CPNP funds?
- What are accountability and evaluation?
- Training: how can I learn more and keep up-to-date?
- Is confidentiality important?
- How can I make my program culturally grounded?



## Why do we have CPNP?

CPNP's goal is **to improve the health of mothers and infants!**

The choices mothers make while they are pregnant or feeding their babies can have a big impact on their health, and on their babies' health.

As a CPNP worker, you can help women make the best choices when they are pregnant. This gives babies the best chance to start life in a healthy way.

These are the three things to aim for:



### 1. Babies are healthy at birth

- They need to have a healthy birth weight. This will affect how healthy they are for the rest of their lives.
- They need a good immune system to fight off disease.
- They should not have Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder or other problems.



### 2. Babies are breastfed

- Breastfeeding has many benefits for the mother and the baby.
- Women are encouraged to continue breastfeeding for up to 2 years and beyond.



### 3. At 6 months of age, babies start to eat healthy solid foods

- Breast milk (or iron-fortified formula) is babies' main food until they are one year old.
- At 6 months old, babies still need breast milk (or formula) and they also need to start eating food rich in iron. This helps them grow and develop.
- They should be given other healthy foods between 6 and 12 months of age, so they are ready for healthy table foods by the time they are one year old.



CPNP is for women across Canada who may be more likely to have unhealthy pregnancies. The program supports women in a way that fits with their culture and community.

Through CPNP, you can help women to:

- have access to enough healthy food to nourish the baby growing inside them
- learn more about how healthy eating and physical activity help both mother and baby
- learn to improve the way they shop for food and how they cook
- choose to breastfeed their babies for the best start in life
- breastfeed longer
- learn how to start their babies on the right foods, at the right times

Every year across Canada, CPNP projects serve more than 9000 women in more than 600 First Nations and Inuit communities. These projects help to improve the health of mothers and infants. Your work is part of this success!

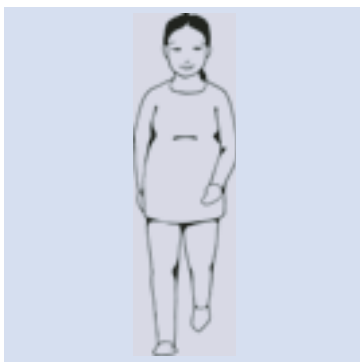
This is why Health Canada funds CPNP!

#### **Evaluation of CPNP tells us...**

- The projects funded by CPNP are providing services that in many cases would not be available in the communities.
- Women who take part in CPNP have access to services earlier in their pregnancy. This gives CPNP projects a better chance at helping to improve the health of the mother and infant.
- Part of the reason that CPNP is successful is because it provides a chance for women to come together in a supportive environment to share with one another as well as to learn about healthy nutrition and lifestyle during and after pregnancy.

## Who is CPNP for?

CPNP is a program for all women living in First Nations or in Inuit communities who are:



- pregnant



- breastfeeding, or



- have infants up to one year old. This includes parents who adopted babies less than one year old.

### Reaching women at risk

CPNP is for all women in your community. Sometimes the women who are most likely to have an unhealthy pregnancy do not come to your program. **They are women at risk.** You will need to reach out to them.

Women at risk may be facing:

- isolation (from their families and friends), or isolation because they live far from a community
- family violence
- use of alcohol or street drugs
- money problems
- too thin before getting pregnant
- not gaining enough weight
- gaining weight too quickly
- pregnant with more than one baby (twins, triplets, or more)
- many pregnancies (pregnant again less than one year after giving birth, having a miscarriage or an abortion)
- teenage pregnancy
- medical conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, vomiting, or anemia
- emotional problems

#### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

Home visits and other types of one-on-one support can help reach some of the women who are at higher risk.



### Can a woman invite a friend?

It is good for the woman to invite her partner, a close friend or a family member to come with her to CPNP activities.

- When family or friends come with a woman, they can learn about the kinds of support they can give her after the baby is born.
- Their support can make it easier for the woman to have a healthy lifestyle. For example, her partner can eat healthy foods with her, be active with her, and help her go to health care appointments.



### What about women who are not pregnant?

Women who are not pregnant are not the main target for CPNP funds. You can still provide programs for these women in years when there are not many births in your community.

Here are some examples:

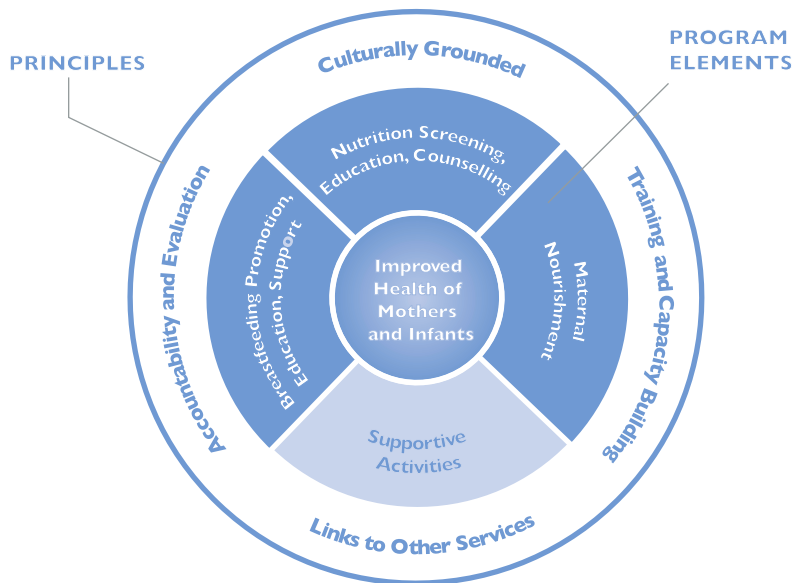
- Make a presentation to a high school health class. Talk about the importance of physical activity, the need to take folic acid supplements before pregnancy, and infant feeding.
- Write a story for the community newspaper. Use it to raise awareness about the need to take folic acid supplements before and during pregnancy.
- Plan a health fair about getting ready for pregnancy. Provide information about healthy eating and physical activity.
- Make a display at a community event. The display could remind women with diabetes to have their blood sugar under control before they get pregnant.

#### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

CPNP is meeting the needs of participants by providing a place for women to learn about nutrition and healthy lifestyles.



## How does CPNP work?



If you want to learn more about the CPNP program:

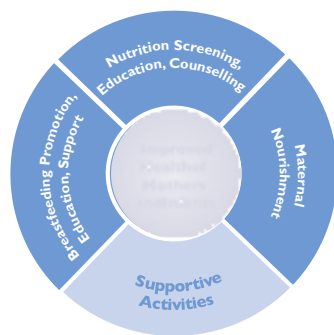
- Appendix A shows the goals and objectives in more detail.
- Appendix B is a full-page diagram of the program model.
- Appendix C shows a sample of a work plan

Let's look at each part of the CPNP circle. (See Appendix B for a full-page diagram.)



### The centre of the circle — Improved health of mothers and infants

- This is the **program's main goal**. When women are healthy during pregnancy, they learn how to stay healthy after the baby arrives. They also are more likely to give birth to a healthy baby. Babies who are healthy at birth are more likely to be healthy the rest of their lives.



### The circle's inner ring — Program Elements

There are four program elements. They tell you what kinds of activities you will be doing. The program elements consist of:

- **Core program elements** (the three darker sections in the circle). Most of your CPNP activities will focus on these three areas. (See Sections 2, 3, and 4 for details.)
- **Supportive activities** (one lighter section at the bottom of the circle). Supportive activities are things you can do **to support** the program in your community. These activities will help you deliver the program and meet your community's goals. (See Section 5 for details.)

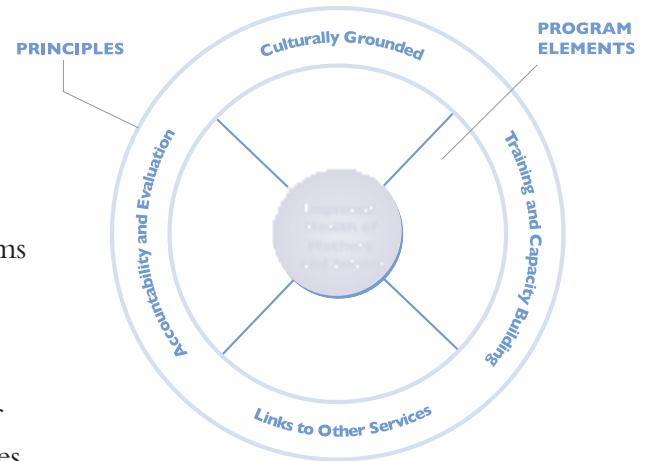




## The circle's outer ring — Program Principles

These four principles guide CPNP programs across the country:

1. **Culturally grounded**  
Your program should fit with your community's culture and values. (See page 1–20 for details.)
2. **Training and capacity building**  
CPNP helps workers get the skills and knowledge they need to create programs that make a difference. (See page 1–16 for details.)
3. **Links to other services**  
Your CPNP program will work best if you link with other community services. (See page 1–10 for ideas about partnerships you could build.)
4. **Accountability and evaluation**
  - *Accountability* — This means that program workers need to keep track of how CPNP funds are spent. To be **accountable**, you need to have a work plan and you need to report to the CPNP contact in your region during the year. (See page 1–14 and Section 6 for details.)
  - *Evaluation* — How do we know whether CPNP is improving the health of mothers and infants? We measure the impact of the program by doing an **evaluation**. You should evaluate your program at the local level. You also need to be part of the national evaluation. (See Section 6 for more information.)





## What does a CPNP worker do?

A CPNP worker plans and delivers program activities. Sometimes, there is more than one CPNP worker in a community. Sometimes, the community health representative (CHR) manages the CPNP program along with other duties.

In Appendix E, you will find a sample job description for a program worker.

The four points below describe how CPNP is delivered. As a CPNP worker, you are likely to be involved in these activities. You may do some of them with other workers, or with your program coordinator.

### 1. When you plan and evaluate program activities:

- You can talk with people in your community about how CPNP can meet their needs and goals.
- You will write up a work plan.
- You need to keep track of activities and expenses.
- You should look at your work plan often to check your progress.
- You need to complete program evaluations and reports.



### 2. When you deliver program activities:

- You can lead group or one-on-one sessions on prenatal nutrition.
- You can plan and host cooking groups where people can learn about nutrition, how to handle food safely and how to cook.
- You can set up a food hamper or food voucher system for women in your program.
- You can organize other activities such as grocery store tours, workshops that teach women how to make homemade baby food, and presentations at schools or health fairs.
- You can encourage and support breastfeeding women.
- You can help women attend program activities (by paying for transportation or childcare, for example).





### 3. Linking with other services:

- Your CPNP program will work best if you link (or create partnerships) with other community services. See the next page for more information.

### 4. Learning more about prenatal nutrition:

- You need to keep up-to-date on prenatal nutrition. See “Training: how can I learn more and keep up-to-date?” on page 1–16.



**Evaluation of CPNP tells us...**  
 CPNP projects encourage women to take control of their health by creating an opportunity for them to ask questions and access more services.



## Do CPNP workers have any help?



The answer is YES! You do not need to do this alone.

Across Canada, many CPNP workers have formed successful partnerships in their communities. Partnerships make the program community-based and community-supported.

### Here are some partners who can help:

#### The CPNP contact in your region

In each region of the country, there is a CPNP contact. This person can help you find out more about CPNP, develop your work plan, and get the training you need. See Section 7 for a list of contacts. See Appendix F for details on the role of this partner.

#### Community health nurse

The community health nurse is a good partner for the work you are doing. She is likely in contact with the pregnant women in the community. Sometimes, your program activities can fit into a prenatal class that the nurse has set up. Or you could have a display at the nurse's well-baby clinic.

#### Registered dietitians or registered nutritionists

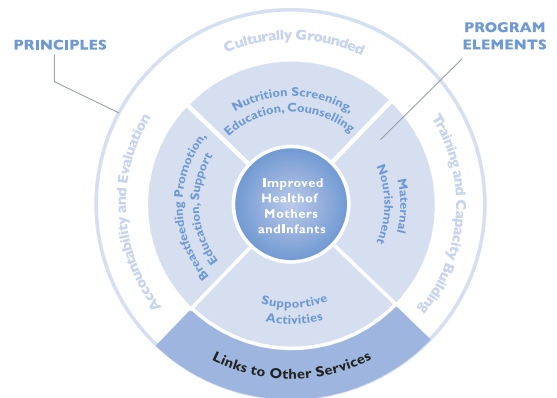
The CPNP contact for your region may be a registered dietitian or registered nutritionist. If not, she may be able to help you contact one. For example, there may be a dietitian or nutritionist at a nearby hospital or health centre. Why not invite this person to be a guest speaker at your program? See Appendix F for more details on what this partner can offer, how to find one, and how to make sure the person is qualified.

#### Community elders

You may invite elders in the community to be guest speakers. They can share traditional teachings and their experiences with pregnancy, breastfeeding and infant feeding. See page 1–20 for ideas about how to make your program culturally grounded.

#### Store owners or managers in the community

Store owners can help you set up a food voucher program. They may also agree to sell food at a lower price (provide a discount) when you buy food for your program activities.



**Evaluation of CPNP tells us...**  
When elders are involved in prenatal classes, women are more likely to feel satisfied with the classes.



### Schools

For activities involving teens, you may want to work with the school.

- You could offer to talk to students during a high school health class. The goal would be to raise awareness about the importance of exercise, taking folic acid supplements before getting pregnant, and infant feeding.
- Some pregnant teens may be too shy to come to a prenatal class, but they might feel comfortable about talking to you alone during a lunch break.

### Other community programs

- substance abuse programs
- programs to prevent FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)
- wellness programs
- recreation programs
- programs that help women to quit smoking
- diabetes programs
- Aboriginal Head Start
- Brighter Futures

### An advisory group

A community advisory group can help guide your program. It can:

- help you decide what the program's main focus should be
- help you set up program activities
- help you solve problems

The people in the advisory group are volunteers who will not be paid. Here are some people who might become members of a community advisory group:

- a pregnant woman who attends the program
- elders
- a nurse or community health representative (CHR) from the health centre or public health unit
  - a registered dietitian or registered nutritionist
  - a social services worker, alcohol and drug worker, community wellness program worker, or recreation worker
  - a councillor from the community leadership
  - a store owner or manager
  - the program's coordinator

**Evaluation of CPNP tells us...**  
Involving Aboriginal partners in the development and delivery of CPNP through Steering or Advisory Committees can help make your program a success.

See Appendix F for:

- more details on the roles of some partners
- a list of other partners

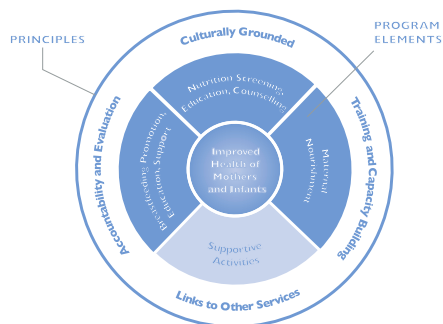
For more details on setting up a community advisory group, see Appendix F.

## How can I spend CPNP funds?

As a CPNP worker, your work plan shows how you will spend CPNP funds in your community. Here are some clear guidelines about how the funds can be spent.

### 75% or more of your CPNP funds can be spent on...

#### Core program elements



Activities based on the three CPNP core elements are very important for the health of mothers and infants. The core program elements are:

1. **Nutrition screening, education and counselling**
2. **Maternal nourishment**
3. **Breastfeeding promotion, education and support**

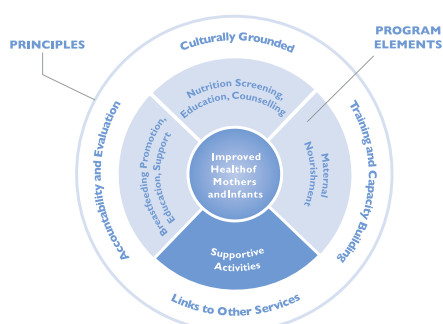
At least 75% of your CPNP funds are to be used for activities that support these core program elements. For example:

- You will need to buy food if you decide to do cooking groups or to provide food hampers.
- You may want to pay for the services of a registered dietitian/registered nutritionist, lactation consultant or program coordinator.
- You may want to offer a small gift or payment (honorarium) for speakers, including elders.
- You may buy educational resources to use for teaching or for your own learning.
- You may need to pay for training to help you stay up-to-date.

For examples of core program activities, see Sections 2, 3 and 4.

### Only 25% or less of your CPNP funds can be spent on...

#### Supportive activities



Two kinds of supportive activities can be part of your program:

1. **Activities that help women to access your program**  
This could include paying for childcare or transportation so women can come to your program, or paying for incentives to attract women to your program.
2. **Activities that do not focus on nutrition, but are needed to improve the health of mothers and infants in your community, and have no other funding in your community**

This could include parenting classes, exercise programs for women of childbearing age, family planning/sex education, programs that help women to quit smoking, diabetes education, or other things that fit with your community's goals for the health of mothers and infants.

Remember to budget carefully for your supportive activities. No more than 25% of your CPNP funds can be used for them.

For more information on supportive activities, see Section 5.



### You cannot use CPNP funds for...

- medical treatment or therapy
- major capital (such as a vehicle)\*
- major construction (such as a new building)
- infant formula or diapers
- things that are already covered by Non-Insured Health Benefits, or other medical plans and health services.

CPNP funding does not pay for these items.

\* Other funding sources exist for major capital. If there are major items that your program or health centre needs, discuss this with your director of health or present your case to your community council.

### Use your imagination...

Many worthwhile activities are free!

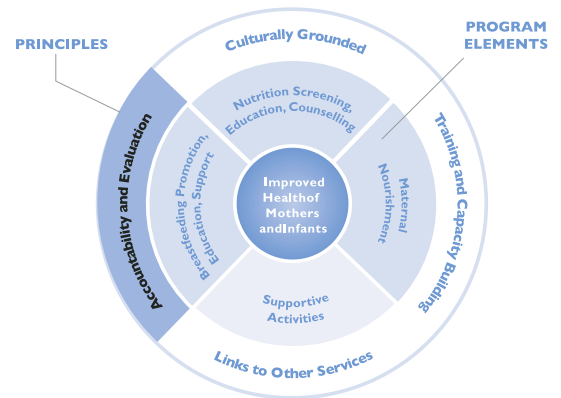


## What are accountability and evaluation?



**Accountability** is being able to clearly show people in your community and in Health Canada what your CPNP program has accomplished through project funding.

**Evaluation** gathers information so decisions can be made about program delivery. It provides program staff, and the community, with an opportunity to see what is working in the program and what changes are needed. The evaluation should be practical and useful to the program and the broader community.







## Evaluation

- **Local evaluation**

You can ask women who come to your program and program partners to give you feedback on your program. This lets you see what you are doing well, and how you can improve the program. It also shows leaders in your community that your program is making a difference. Although you do not have to do this, CPNP suggests that you do local evaluation as part of your community's program.

- **National evaluation**

Every five years, a few communities across Canada will be asked to take part in a national evaluation. This helps to find out how CPNP and other community programs are improving the health of families and children in First Nations and Inuit communities.

If your community is selected, it is very important that you take part in the national evaluation.



## Training: how can I learn more and keep up-to-date?



When pregnant women come to you with their questions, you might find you are not an expert on every subject. That's okay!

Your job is to help women **find the information** they need.

Part of your job is to learn about the three CPNP core program elements. They are:

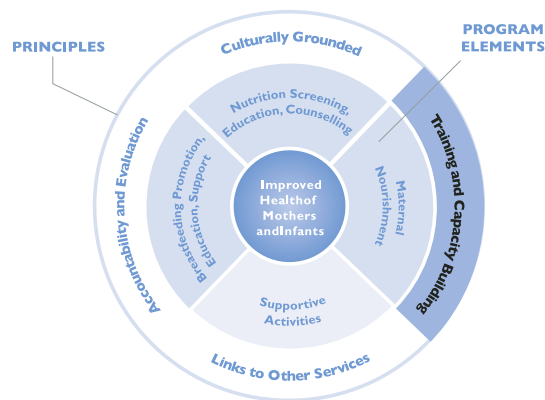
1. Nutrition screening, education and counselling
2. Maternal Nourishment and
3. Breastfeeding promotion, education and support.

Just like doctors and nurses, you need to stay up-to-date, too.

### How often should I get training? What should I learn?

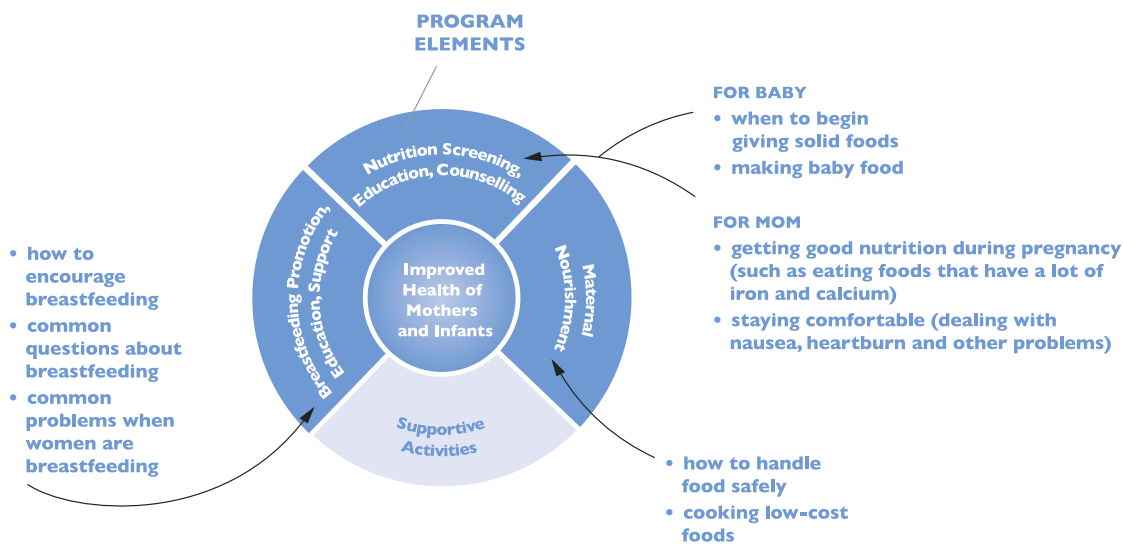
At least once a year, take the time to think about the three core program elements.

- Was there a time when you were not sure what the best advice was for the pregnant women who had questions? Decide what you would like to know more about.
- Look through the book *Building Healthy Babies*. Choose a topic you want to learn more about.





Here are some examples:



### How can I get the training I want?

Some regions have training events, teleconferences or videoconferences you can attend. Ask the CPNP contact in your region what is planned. See Section 7 for a list of CPNP contacts.

There are many ways to learn at home and in your community! You can...

- read sections of the book *Building Healthy Babies* to learn more about certain topics
- ask the community health nurse or registered dietitian/registered nutritionist to help you learn from the book *Building Healthy Babies*
- ask the community health nurse or registered dietitian/registered nutritionist to spend some time answering your questions
- talk to CPNP workers in other communities

For more ideas, contact the CPNP contact in your region (see Section 7 for a list of contacts).

## Is confidentiality important?

**YES!** Personal information about the women in your program is private (or confidential). You need to be careful what you say to others and where you keep documents that contain personal information.

### Be careful what you say to others

As a CPNP worker, you may hear very personal things from the women in your program. They may talk to you about trouble at home, their health, alcohol or drug use, and more. Your community health centre may have guidelines about privacy that you could read and follow. The goal is to keep all personal information private.



Here are some tips to help you maintain privacy (confidentiality):

- In public, do not say who is coming to your program, whether a pregnant woman is feeling well or not, and whether a woman's baby has been born yet.
- Do not share any information about the women who attend your program, even if someone asks and it seems harmless. If someone continues to ask questions, you can suggest that they talk to the person directly.
- If you need to share information with the community health nurse, do not talk where others can hear you (such as in a parking lot or grocery store).
- Use a private room for one-on-one sessions. Close the door to the room and make sure others cannot hear what you are saying.

### Keep documents private

As part of reporting to CPNP, you need to keep track of your program activities. The tracking sheet you use will contain the names of women who come to your program and information about any health concerns. It is important to keep the tracking sheets and your reports in a locked drawer or cabinet that only you or other program staff can open. Do not keep them on or in your desk.

### When does the confidentiality rule NOT apply?

Sometimes, by law, **you must tell someone** about a woman's private information. It is important for you to know about the cases when you have to report private information to the authorities. The laws are different in different provinces and territories. Talk to your employer about the mandatory reporting rules you need to follow.



### A common mistake — Annie's story

Imagine that one weekend, a friend told you that her sister, Annie, is pregnant with her fourth child. At the grocery store, you see your CPNP partner, the community health nurse. You tell her that Annie is pregnant again, so you are going to buy snacks for one more person for the next CPNP session.

Is this okay?

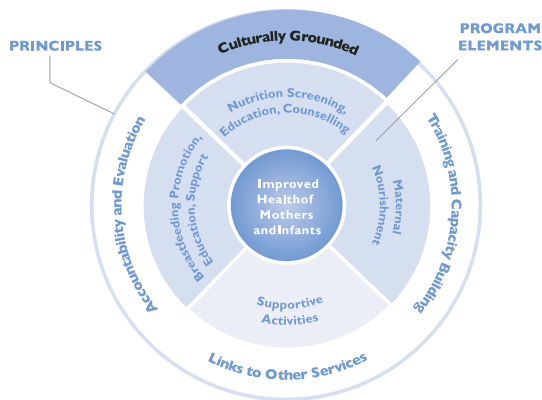
You had good intentions, and this seems harmless, but it is not. In many ways, it does not respect Annie's privacy:

- Annie did not tell you herself that she is pregnant. Maybe she is not ready for people outside the family to know yet.
- You should not talk with others about Annie's pregnancy (even the nurse) **until Annie has told you it is okay to do so.**
- Your talk with the community health nurse was not private. Anyone at the grocery store could have heard. They will now know that Annie is pregnant.
- You should not let others know who is coming to your program. Even if it would be okay for the nurse to know, others should not know this fact.



## How can I make my program culturally grounded?

Your community is unique. A culturally grounded program is one that fits with your community's culture and values. It is rooted in the community. It changes to meet your community's needs.



### Community input

- To make the most of CPNP funding, take some time to find out what the women in your community need most. Talk to young mothers, elders, community health care providers and others in the community. Then plan how to use your CPNP money to meet these needs.
- Ask participants and program partners to tell you what they like and do not like about the program. Use their feedback to make changes that will improve the program for the whole community.

### Elders in your community

Many programs invite elders to help them deliver their programs.



- You may invite elders to be guest speakers. They can share teachings. They can also share their experience with pregnancy, breastfeeding or infant feeding.
- Why not invite a community elder to attend many of your sessions? The elder can share his or her comments on any topic you are discussing.
- Do not forget to include men. Male elders often have many insights they can share with young parents and caregivers.
- You can use CPNP funds to buy a small gift or payment (honorarium) for guest speakers, including elders.

### Traditional foods/Country foods



- A culturally grounded program supports women's access to traditional foods. It also helps families to learn about traditional foods and how they are prepared. Partners in your community, including elders, may be able to provide this kind of cultural knowledge.
- It may be possible to set up a community freezer for traditional foods. It may also be possible to form a partnership with hunters and trappers in your community. Both of these actions would help make traditional foods available to the women in your program. Be sure to check with your local Environmental Health Officer or Regional Environmental Health Manager to find out if there are any regulations about this in your area.

# Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling





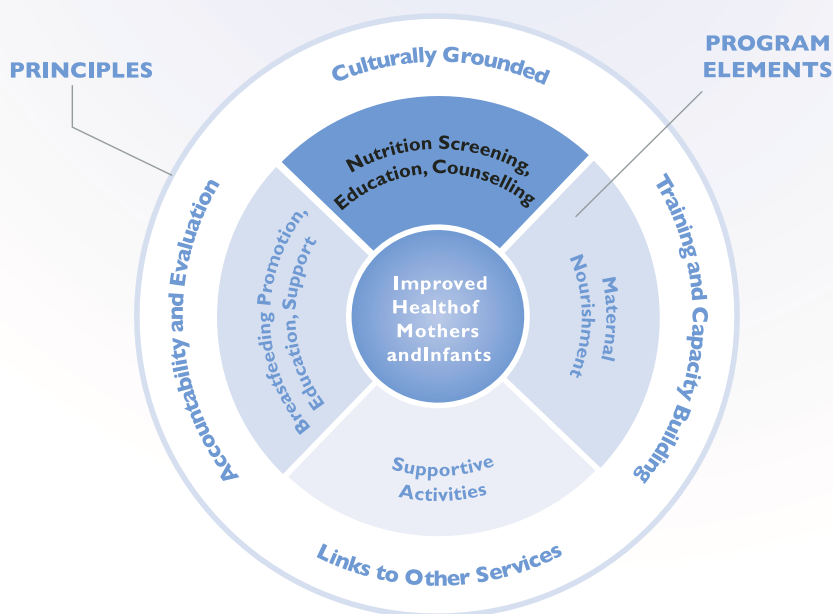


# Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling



## Here's what you will find in this section:

- What is “nutrition screening, education and counselling”?
- Why is this a core program element?
- Key activities you could do
  - Nutrition screening
  - Grocery store tour
  - Making baby food together
  - Promoting physical activity
- More ideas for activities
- Resources to help you learn and do more





## What is “nutrition screening, education and counselling”?

As a CPNP worker, you will do **nutrition screening and nutrition education**. By doing nutrition screening and education, you are adding to the support that a pregnant woman gets from her nurse, doctor and registered dietitian or registered nutritionist. These people will do **nutrition counselling** with pregnant women who are at risk of health problems.

### CPNP workers do nutrition screening and education:

#### Nutrition Screening

- Nutrition screening means talking to people about how they eat so you can find out how to help them eat better.
- In CPNP, you can use a simple *screening tool* to find out how a woman is eating. Then you will know what the woman needs to learn (**nutrition education**). You can help her set goals for healthy eating.
- By screening, you may find out that a woman has special nutrition problems. In this case, you should refer her to a registered dietitian, nurse or doctor for **nutrition counselling**.

#### Nutrition Education

- Nutrition education means helping people learn about nutrition and healthy eating.
- You can use the book *Building Healthy Babies* to help you choose topics for nutrition education for pregnant women (healthy eating for pregnancy, breastfeeding and infant feeding).
- You can do this one-on-one or in groups.

### A dietitian, nurse or doctor does nutrition counselling:

#### Nutrition Counselling

- Nutrition counselling is nutrition education that is tailored to help a person who has health problems related to nutrition.
- Health professionals (dietitians, nurses, doctors) can provide this kind of nutrition advice.
- Check the list below to find out which women in your program might need nutrition counselling.

#### Who needs nutrition counselling?

- Women who do not get key nutrients for pregnancy
- Women who are missing entire food groups
- Women who are not gaining enough weight
- Women with diabetes or other health conditions
- Women who are pregnant with more than one baby

## Why is this a core program element?

Nutrition screening, education and counselling will improve the health of mothers and infants — the goal of CPNP!

### Here is how:

Many women do not know that nutrition has a strong and lasting impact on the health of babies. How a woman eats when she is pregnant and how she feeds her baby after it is born will affect the baby's health.



When women choose healthy eating and exercise...

- It gives both the mother and her baby all the nutrients and energy they need to grow and be healthy.
- It helps women gain a healthy amount of weight during pregnancy.
- It helps babies begin life with a healthy birth weight.
- It helps babies grow strong and healthy during the first year of life. This is a very important year.

Through nutrition screening and nutrition education, you can help women learn to:

- eat better
- have healthier babies
- feed their babies the right foods at the right times.

### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

- Because of CPNP projects, women know more about nutrition and health.



## Key activities you could do

When planning your program, you need to plan activities from the three core elements of CPNP (see page 1–12). You can decide what activities to do based on your budget, the needs of your community, and what works in your community.

Four activities are described on the next few pages. They are good examples of things you could do in your program for the core element, “Nutrition screening, education and counselling”:

- Nutrition screening
- Grocery store tour
- Making baby food together
- Promoting physical activity

A list of more ideas for activities is on page 2–19.



### Why should I do nutrition screening?

- To find out what pregnant women are eating, so that you can help them to see how they can improve their eating habits.

As a CPNP worker, you can help women compare how they have been eating with the advice in *Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide- First Nations, Inuit and Métis*.

### When should I do this activity?

You can do this at the beginning of a group or one-on-one session. It can help you learn about how women in your program eat. It can also help you decide what to focus on for the rest of the session or for future sessions.

### How often should I do this?

Screening is an important part of the CPNP program. You should do it at least twice for every pregnant woman.

1. When a woman joins your program, screening can help her learn about her eating habits. It can also help her take the first steps to eating better.
  - After the screening, you can help the woman set goals based on what she learned during the screening.
  - You could also ask the woman to write down what she eats every day for a week, so she can see the food choices she is making.
2. A month after she has joined the program, do the nutrition screening again.
  - Then she can see if she has taken any steps forward, and can set new goals.

### How many people can be part of this activity?

You can do screening with a group or one-on-one. Some women may feel more comfortable if you do the nutrition screening alone with them.

### What do I need?

- Enough copies of Canada's Food Guide for each person.
- A nutrition screening tool. On page 2–7, you will find a sheet called “*This week I have eaten...*”. It is a quick, fun way for women to look at their eating habits.
  - One side of the page is for Inuit communities, and one is for First Nations. Make a photocopy of the page for each person in the group.
  - If you find that the tool lists many foods that people in your community do not eat, you can change it! Use some “white out” to remove some foods from the page. Write in the names of foods (from the same food group) that people in your community eat.
  - You can also use this screening tool with people who are not pregnant or breastfeeding!

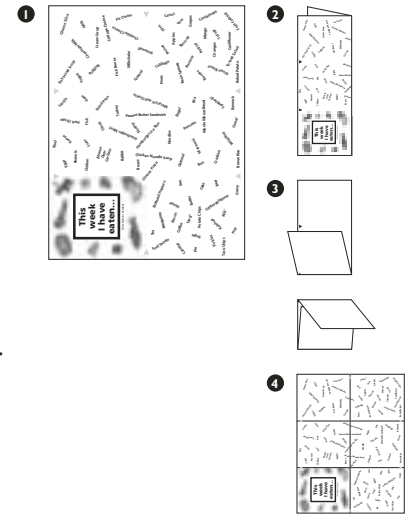
# ACTIVITY PAGE

## NUTRITION SCREENING



### Here's how to do nutrition screening:

1. Ask participants to circle any foods on the sheet that they have eaten in the last week.
2. Ask them to fold the paper in half lengthwise.
3. Then ask them to fold it in three.
4. When they open the paper again, they will see that it is divided into the four food groups and Foods and Drinks to Limit. People usually find this very interesting.
5. Talk about the foods that can help them have a healthy baby. These are the foods in the four food groups. These foods will give women and their babies all the nutrition that babies need for a healthy start.
6. Explain that Foods and Drinks to Limit contain a lot of calories, fat, sugar and salt. It is unhealthy for both the mother and baby to eat these foods often.
7. Encourage the women to set goals. They should aim for better balance among the four food groups.
8. Remind the women to take their prenatal vitamin and mineral pill every day.
9. Talk to a nurse or a registered dietitian/registered nutritionist if you are concerned about a woman's eating habits.



### Key messages for the women

- All babies need good nutrition to grow well and have the best start in life.
- When mothers eat foods from the four food groups every day, they increase their babies' chances of a healthy life.
- Foods and Drinks to Limit leave you less hungry for the foods your baby needs. Think of these foods as treats, and not everyday foods.

# This week I have eaten...

(First Nations Version)



Shrimp  
Goose  
Fish (cooked, fresh, frozen)  
Ham  
Turkey  
Peanut Butter  
Peanuts  
Eggs  
Shellfish  
Beef  
Pork Chops  
Turkey  
Rabbit  
Chicken  
Beans  
Moose Deer Caribou (dried, fresh, frozen)

Milk-based Soup  
Chocolate Milk  
Cheese  
Yogurt  
Fortified Soy Beverage  
Custard (made with milk)  
Milk  
Cheese slice  
Cottage Cheese  
Wild Greens  
Green Beans  
Grapes  
Squash  
Bean Sprouts  
Tossed Salad  
Corn  
Mango  
Carrot  
Fruit Cocktail (packed in fruit juice)  
Banana  
Oranges  
Cantaloupe  
Apples  
Cabbage  
Peaches  
Berries  
Prunes  
Potato  
Sweet Potato  
100% Real Fruit Juice  
Seaweed  
Turnip  
Raisins  
Cauliflower  
Potato

Wild Rice  
Pita  
Cereal  
Whole Wheat Bread  
Bagel  
Macaroni  
White Bread  
Pancake  
Spaghetti

Broccoli  
Canned meat  
Processsed meat  
Bacon  
Ice Cream  
Fruit flavoured drinks  
Candies  
Pie  
Potato Chips  
Taco Chips  
Beer  
Cookies  
Coke  
Pop

# This week I have eaten...

(Inuit Version)



- Cheese
- Fortified Soy Beverage
- Cheese Slice
- Chocolate Milk
- Milk
- 100% Orange Juice
- Broccoli
- Green Beans
- Peas
- Carrots
- Cottage Cheese
- Milk-based Soup
- Yogurt
- Potato
- Mixed Vegetables
- Grapes
- Apples
- Oranges
- Mountain Sorrel (Qunguliit)
- Prunes
- Canned Fruit (packed in fruit juice)
- Pudding (made with milk)
- Raisins
- 100% Apple Juice
- Celery
- Banana
- Berries
- Corn
- Duck
- Hamburger Meat
- Pitsi
- Chicken
- Muskox
- Rice
- Macaroni
- Bannock
- Bagel
- Turkey
- Eggs
- Char
- Peanut Butter
- Fish (cooked, fresh, frozen)
- Ham
- Bun
- Homemade Muffin
- Rabbit
- Pork Chops
- Seal
- Goose
- Whole Wheat Bread
- Pancake
- Porridge
- Wild Rice
- Crackers
- Baked Beans
- Shellfish
- Caribou (dried, fresh, frozen)
- White bread
- Spaghetti
- Ice Cream
- Chocolate Bar
- Candy
- Canned processed meat
- Bacon
- Pop
- Doughnut
- Sweet drinks made from crystals
- Cookie
- Potato Chips
- Bologna





### Why would I do a grocery store tour?

Healthy eating starts by choosing healthy foods. Healthy foods may be traditional foods (country foods), or foods that people buy in a store. By doing a grocery store tour, you can talk to women about choosing low cost, nutritious food when they are shopping.

You can focus on many things on a grocery store tour:



- **Reading the labels** — This is how you compare the nutritional value of foods that come in packages.
- **Choosing low cost food** — Some people are surprised that they can eat well for less money. For example, many women may not know that frozen vegetables are just as good for you as fresh vegetables. Compare the prices, and women will see that they CAN afford vegetables!
- **Making new choices** — Some people always buy the same things at the store. You can show them some new things to try!

### When? How often? How many people can be part of the tour?

- You can do this activity at any time. It is good to do it at least twice a year. That way, every pregnant woman will have a chance to tour a grocery store at least once.
- You can take one woman or a small group of women to the store. A group of eight or less is easy to manage.

### What do I need?

#### A few days before the tour:

- Contact the owner or manager of the store to talk about your plans. Let him or her know why you are coming and when you plan to visit. This is a good first step to forming a partnership with your community store.
- It is good to go to the grocery store by yourself two or three days before the tour. While you are there, you can find the best examples of foods to show the women from each of the four food groups.

#### Reading labels

It is good to talk about reading nutrition labels as a group before doing the grocery store activity. Then when you do go to the store, everyone will know where to look on food packages for the information you want to compare.

- You can use the label reading activity in the book *Building Healthy Babies*.
- You can also use the nutrition labelling toolkit. See Section 8 – Handy Resources, page 8–9.

#### On the day of the tour:

- Have a copy of *Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide- First Nations, Inuit and Métis* for each woman. They can look at the guide during the grocery store tour.



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## GROCERY STORE TOUR

### Here's how to do the grocery store tour:

Walk down the aisles of the grocery store with the women. Talk about foods from each of the four food groups that you find in the store. Compare prices and nutrition content. Show the women the “low cost nutritious choices”. These are the foods that are healthy and have low cost.

On the next page, you will find some examples of things to point out within each of the four food groups.

#### This can be a “maternal nourishment” activity, too!

- You can give women a price limit and ask them to choose nutritious foods up to that amount. They can do this during the grocery store tour.
- After the tour, you can give each woman a food voucher to pay for the healthy foods she chose. Or you can buy the food for them with your CPNP funds, if you have an account at the store.

#### Other tips for the women

- Make a list of what you need before you go to the store.
- Shop when you are not hungry or tired.
- If you have young children, shop with a friend and take turns watching the kids.
- Before choosing larger package sizes, make sure they are a bargain. Do the math: is it really cheaper per 100 g? Can you use that amount? Can you safely freeze or store it?
- Watch the store flyers to see when items you need are on sale. Then stock up! Buy as many as you can afford and can use before they are no longer safe or good to eat.

#### This is just the start!

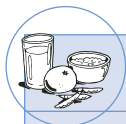
There are many good ideas that can help you add to this activity in Section 8 – Handy Resources.

### Key messages for the women

- The four food groups provide good nutrition to make healthy babies.
- Even with a small food budget, you can eat well if you plan and make wise choices at the grocery store.
- Basic ingredients are usually cheaper than food that is already prepared. For example, homemade spaghetti sauce costs less than the kind that comes in a can or jar.
- Do not buy cans that are dented, rusty or swollen. The food inside the can may not be safe to eat.
- If healthy food choices are not available, talk to the store owner or manager about bringing them in.



### What to point out at the store



#### Vegetables and Fruit

##### Fresh versus frozen:

- Tell the women that fresh, frozen and canned are all good choices.
- Ask them to find the prices of fresh and frozen carrots or other vegetables. They could also find the prices of fresh and canned tomatoes. They can compare the prices per 100 g. They will see that frozen and canned vegetables are often cheaper than fresh ones.

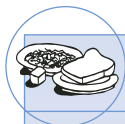
##### 100% Juice:

- Ask the women to find some drinks that are unsweetened 100% fruit juice and some drinks that are called “fruit drinks” or “fruit punch.”
- Compare the lists of ingredients. The group will see that the fruit drinks and punch are mostly sugar and water. Fruit juice is a much better choice.
- The frozen concentrated juice that you add water to is usually the best price, compared to fresh juice in jugs or cartons. Check the prices to see.

##### Fruit roll-ups:

- Ask the women to look at the ingredients of fruit roll-ups and other fruit snacks.
- Point out that the front of the food package may say “made with real fruit juice”. That can mean there is just a little real juice in there, but these snacks are mainly sugar. They usually have less nutrition value than real fruit or real fruit juice. Reading the label is important!

See the back of this page for tips on the other two food groups.



#### Grain Products

##### Bread:

- Ask the women to each take a different type of bread from the shelf.
- Help them look on the label to see which loaf has the most fibre per serving, and which loaf has the least fat.
- Decide which bread is the best choice. It is the one that is higher in fibre, lower in fat and low in price.

##### Crackers:

- Ask the women to compare the fat and fibre content of a few types of crackers.
- Help them decide which ones are the best buys. These are the ones that are high in fibre, low in fat and low in price.

##### Cereals:

- Ask the women to each take a different type of cereal off the shelf. Some should be basic cereals (oatmeal, cream of wheat, cornmeal, whole grain cereal) and others ready-to-eat cereals (sugary cereals, small oatmeal packets with flavouring).
- Compare calories, fat and fibre per serving.
- Help the women see that the basic cereals have the best value, based on nutrition and price. They can also see that some of the ready-to-eat cereals are better choices than others.

##### Rice and pasta:

- Take a look at the ingredients in instant or flavoured rice or pasta. Point out that they have a lot of ingredients such as salt that the natural rice or pasta do not have.
- Compare the cost of plain rice or pasta with the cost of the instant and flavoured kinds.
- Help the women figure out that the plain kinds are the best value, based on nutrition and price.

##### Baked goods:

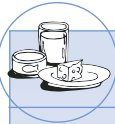
- Look at the fat content of baked treats such as muffins, doughnuts and cookies.
- Point out that these often cost more than homemade baked goods, and are less nutritious.
- Remind the women that when they make homemade baked goods, they can also boost their nutrition by adding oats and fruit, and by cutting down on the amount of oil or margarine the recipe calls for.

# ACTIVITY PAGE

## GROCERY STORE TOUR



### What to point out at the store



#### Milk and Alternatives

##### Check “best before” dates:

- Show women where to find the “best before” dates on fresh milk, cheese or yogurt. Remind them to buy the one with the latest date and to use it by that date.
- Tell them that once the package is open, milk and yogurt should be used within a few days.

##### Coffee whitener is NOT a milk product:

- Ask the women to look at the lists of ingredients for milk and for coffee whitener.
- Point out that the coffee whitener is NOT a milk product. It does not have calcium or other important nutrients that milk products have.

##### Milk, cheese and yogurt:

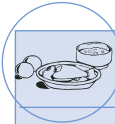
- Ask the women to choose a few types of milk, cheese or yogurt.
- They can check the labels for the % M.F. (milk fat). Compare the amount of fat in various types of milk, cheese or yogurt.
- Look at the calcium content of similar products. Point out that the nutritional value is the same even if the product is lower in fat.

##### Processed products:

- Ask the women to find some basic products (blocks of cheese, large containers of plain yogurt) and some prepared products (grated cheese, cheese strings, flavoured individual-size yogurt, yogurt in tubes).
- The group will see that the basic products are a better buy. They have the same nutrition value at a lower cost per serving. Suggest that the women can grate their own cheese, or add their own fruit to yogurt at home.
- Mention that powdered milk and canned milk are often a good buy. They can be stored unopened in a cupboard for about a year.

##### Non-dairy sources of calcium:

- Ask the women to find the amount of calcium in fortified soymilk or fortified orange juice. Point out that they can get calcium from these non-dairy sources.
- You can also mention that canned sardines, dried beans and sunflower seeds are other sources of calcium.
- For women with trouble digesting milk, point out lactose-free milks. They have the same nutrition value as regular milk. If they are not available, suggest that the store owner or manager try to bring it in.



#### Meat and Alternatives

##### Meat prices:

- Ask the women to first compare the cost of four pork chops with the cost of a pound of ground meat.
- Then they should think about how many people will be able to eat the food: The pork chops will serve four people. A pound of ground meat in a spaghetti sauce can feed many more people.
- Have them decide which one is the better buy. Remind them to always compare meat prices based on the number of people who will be able to eat the food.

##### Processed meats:

- Read out the ingredients in bologna or hot dogs. (You will probably find that some are hard to say!)
- Compare the cost of 100 g of bologna with 100 g of ground beef.
- Point out that the processed meats (such as bologna or hot dogs) may be cheaper, but they contain a lot of extra salt and fat. They also contain other additives and preservatives that are not found in natural meat.

##### Dried beans, peas and lentils:

- Find the canned or dried beans in the store (kidney beans, baked beans, lentils). Compare the price of 100 g of these foods with 100 g of ground meat.
- Point out that these foods have the same nutrition value as meat, with less fat and more fibre. The ones in cans are higher in salt and should be rinsed well before using.
- The group will see that these foods are usually low in cost. The kinds that need to be cooked at home cost even less than the ones in cans.
- Mention that both kinds (dried or canned) can be stored in a cupboard for about a year.

##### Eggs:

- To point out that eggs are a low cost nutritious choice, ask the women how many people could be served with 12 eggs. Compare the price of 12 eggs with the price of the meat that would feed the same number of people.
- Show the women how to buy eggs. Make sure the shells are not cracked. Have them find the “best before” date. Point out that an egg eaten after this date will still have the same nutrition value but will not be as fresh. In that case, it should be cooked very well (used in cooked recipes, or served hard-cooked or scrambled).



### Why would we make baby food together?



- CPNP is for infants up to 12 months of age. What babies eat during their first year is very important to their growth and development.
- You can show women that homemade baby food costs less and tastes better than baby food they can buy in a store.
- This is a fun activity that women enjoy. It also gives you time to talk to them about:
  - the right time to start feeding a baby solid foods (at 6 months of age)
  - the importance of breast milk (or iron-fortified infant formula) during baby's first year of life
  - the need for all babies to have an iron source at 6 months of age
  - the importance of vitamin D supplements for babies who are breastfed

### When? How often?

- You can do this any time. You do not need to wait until women have their babies. It's good for women to think about how they will feed their babies as soon as they are pregnant. Thinking about it early on gives women time to decide what they will do.
- If you plan this activity two or three times a year, every new mother will have a chance to be part of the group at a time that is good for her.
- If you have very few pregnancies in your community, you may do this one-on-one with a woman during a home visit. The best time might be when her baby is 2 or 3 months old. By then, she is starting to think about whether to give her baby solid foods.

### How many people can be part of the group?

- You can go to a woman's home to teach only her. You can also teach this in groups.
- Men, grandparents, and friends of the women often like to be part of this activity, too. It is a good way for you to help them learn how they can support the new mother and baby.



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## MAKING BABY FOOD TOGETHER

### What do I need?

- A place where you can cook, with plenty of working space (tables and counter tops), so everyone can get involved.
- A small selection of nutritious foods to make into baby food.
- One jar of baby food from the grocery store for each of the foods you will make (carrots and beef). This allows you to compare the “fresh” baby food with the baby food in a jar.
- A pot, stove, forks and knives (for mashing and cutting), and spoons (for tasting).
- A blender to purée food. (To purée means to grind up food so it is almost liquid.)
- Ice cube trays or cookie sheets.
- Plastic freezer bags.

### Here's how to make baby food together:

- In this example, we will use carrots and beef. You can use vegetables, fruits, meats, or cooked dried peas, beans or lentils.
- Before you start, talk about safety tips for the kitchen. See Appendices G and H for tips on how to make sure the kitchen and the food you prepare are safe.

#### Carrots for baby

##### What you need

- fresh or frozen carrots
- water

##### What to do

1. Wash the equipment and your hands.
2. Wash, peel and slice the fresh carrots, or use frozen carrots.
3. **Stovetop:** Put the carrots into a steamer or drop them into a small amount of boiling water. Simmer just until tender.

##### OR

- Microwave:** Place carrots in a microwave-safe bowl with a small amount of tap water. Heat at a high setting until carrots are tender.
4. Remove from heat. Drain the carrots.
  5. Purée carrots in the blender with a small amount of the cooking water.

#### Beef for baby

##### What you need

- 500 g (1 lb.) of boneless tender beef, cut into 2.5 cm (1 inch) cubes
- 500 mL (2 cups) water

##### What to do

1. Wash the equipment and your hands.
2. **Stovetop:** Put the meat and water into a saucepan and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for about 45 minutes or until meat is tender.

##### OR

- Microwave:** Place meat and water in a microwave-safe bowl and heat at a high setting until meat is tender.
3. Remove from heat and cool slightly.
  4. Blend or purée the meat with some of the cooking water.



### When the food is ready:

#### 1. Do a taste test!

- Let the women taste the homemade baby food and the grocery store baby food. Chances are, they will like the homemade food better!
- Talk to the group about all the foods they can make at home to offer their babies. There is much more variety than they can buy in jars from the grocery store. They can also control the texture of the food they make at home.
- Compare the cost of making your own baby food to the cost of baby food in jars. For example: what does a 2-kilogram bag of carrots cost, as compared to a jar of carrot baby food?

#### 2. Show the group (or the woman) how to store the baby food

- All food that is not served right away must be put in the fridge or the freezer
- Fresh (or freshly thawed) baby food will keep for 2 to 3 days in the fridge.
- If the baby food is kept frozen in a fridge freezer, use it within 2 months. If the food is kept in a deep freezer, use it within 6 months.

#### How to freeze baby food

- Put the puréed food into ice cube trays, or put small scoops on a cookie sheet.
- When the food is frozen, put the frozen chunks into plastic freezer bags. Write the date on each bag.
- These frozen chunks are ready-made portions for the baby!

#### 3. Explain how to thaw frozen food and reheat

- Frozen baby food should be thawed in the fridge, in a saucepan of hot water or in a microwave oven. To avoid hot spots, stir the food well and test it before giving some to the baby.
- Do not leave frozen baby food on the counter to thaw.
- Throw out any food that is left over after baby is finished eating.



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## MAKING BABY FOOD TOGETHER

### Key messages for the women

- Health Canada recommends that women feed their babies only breast milk for the first 6 months of life. Women are encouraged to continue breastfeeding for up to 2 years and beyond.
- Breastfed babies need a vitamin D supplement every day until they are getting enough of it from other foods. This is usually by the time they are one year old.
- Even if a woman breastfeeds her baby for only a few weeks or months, she will be helping to improve the baby's health.
- Health Canada recommends that babies not be given solids before 6 months of age.
- At 6 months of age, babies need to have foods rich in iron every day. This can come from iron-fortified infant cereal or from puréed meat.
- Between 6 and 12 months of age, babies need to try many kinds of nutritious foods. They need to get ready to eat table foods that are cut up for them by the time they are one year old.
- Do not give babies pop or any other foods that are not from the four food groups. Babies should only have foods that help them grow and be healthy. This is a very important time of life!

### This is just the start!

There are many good ideas that can help you add to this activity in Section 8 – Handy Resources.



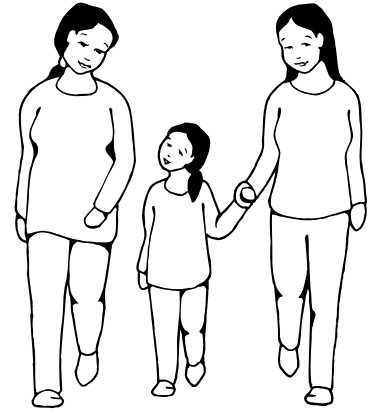


### Why should I promote physical activity?

Being active is good for a pregnant woman and can help her to have a healthy baby. Physical activity has many benefits for the mother:

- helps her feel healthy and comfortable
- gives her more energy and less stress
- can prevent her from gaining too much weight
- helps prevent and control gestational diabetes
- helps make labour and delivery more comfortable

Traditional wisdom tells us that it is normal and healthy for women to be active during pregnancy.



### When? How often?

You can encourage pregnant women to exercise any time during the pregnancy.

- If a woman wants to do more activity or do harder activity than she is used to, the best time to make changes is during the second trimester (months 4 to 6).
- It is good if a doctor or nurse can assess what type of activities are safe for each woman.

### How many people can be part of this?

You can talk about physical activity (and get women moving!) as part of a group session or one-on-one session. Other family members and elders could join in, too.

#### A few cautions

For most women, exercise is an important part of being healthy during pregnancy. But there are some cautions.

#### Know the signs that tell you when to STOP exercising and contact a doctor or nurse:

- A woman should STOP if she starts to bleed, has cramps, feels faint or dizzy, has chest pain or feels extreme pain in her joints.

#### Some women should NOT exercise:

- This might be true for women who are pregnant with twins, who have uncontrolled diabetes or high blood pressure because of the pregnancy, or whose baby is not growing well.
- The doctor or nurse can decide whether it is safe for these women to exercise.



### Here's how to promote physical activity:

- When you talk about healthy eating during pregnancy, mention the need to be active.
- Talk about common myths and fears. Myths are things that people believe without having the facts. For example, some women believe that exercise may harm the baby, make them feel too tired, or make the baby come too early. The truth is that it will give them more energy and it is good for the baby.
- Encourage women to keep active during pregnancy. Help them to think of physical activities they can fit into their daily lives.

### Add some physical activity to your sessions!

- Take a break during your CPNP sessions to go for a 10-minute walk as a group. Do some simple stretches when you return from the walk.
- Help the woman get involved in activities in your community, such as a walking club or prenatal exercise class. If these programs do not exist, try to set them up!

### Key messages for the women

- Physical activity is healthy during pregnancy. Traditionally, women stayed active when they were pregnant.
- If you were not active before you were pregnant, check with your doctor or nurse before you start. Start slowly.
- Exercise does not have to be hard or take a lot of time to be of benefit. A daily walk, swim or snowshoe will help!
- Listen to your body. Use the “talk test”— you should be able to talk while exercising. Use common sense. Take a short rest when you need to.
- Do not start vigorous activity during pregnancy.
- Know the signs that tell you to STOP exercising and get medical help.
- Avoid jumping, bouncing or stretching too far. Avoid activities that involve physical contact or the danger of falling.

#### **This is just the start!**

There are many good ideas that can help you add to this activity in Section 8 – Handy Resources.



## More ideas for activities

We have described only four key activities on the previous pages. Many other activities to support nutrition screening, education and counselling could be part of your work plan.

Here are a few ideas:

- set up a drop-in clinic or support group
- make home visits
- involve a registered dietitian or registered nutritionist in your program
- do school presentations to help young women learn about pregnancy (The focus could be on healthy eating, folic acid supplements, physical activity, and preventing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)
- set up a display at well baby clinics or prenatal clinics
- organize a mothers' support group
- provide nutrition education for breastfeeding mothers
- buy resources (reference books, handouts, videos) on infant nutrition and how to make baby food
- buy a guide to doing a grocery store tour

You can find information about projects like these in Section 8 – Handy Resources.

You can also look for tips for more activities in the resource *Tools for Success*.



## Resources to help you learn and do more

Here is a list of some resources that can help you plan your activities for nutrition screening, education and counselling. See Section 8 for details about how to order them.

### Two key resources

- Building Healthy Babies (First Nations or Inuit version)
- Tools for Success



### Reference materials

- The ABC's of Baby Food: Making Baby Food from Scratch
- Active Living During Pregnancy: Physical Activity Guidelines for Mother and Baby
- Nutrition Education and Counselling Resource Manual
- Nutrition for a Healthy Pregnancy: National Guidelines for the Childbearing Years
- What to Expect When You're Expecting

### Tools for CPNP workers

- Nutrient value of some common foods
- Nutrition BINGO for First Nations and Inuit
- Nutrition Labelling Toolkit for Educators — First Nations and Inuit Focus

### Videos

- Feeding the Spirit
- So You Want to Have a Healthy Baby

### Stuff for moms

- Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide- First Nations, Inuit and Métis
- Canada's Physical Activity Guide to Healthy Active Living
- Celebrating Pregnancy! and Celebrating New Life!
- Healthy Beginnings: Your Handbook for Pregnancy and Birth

# Maternal Nourishment



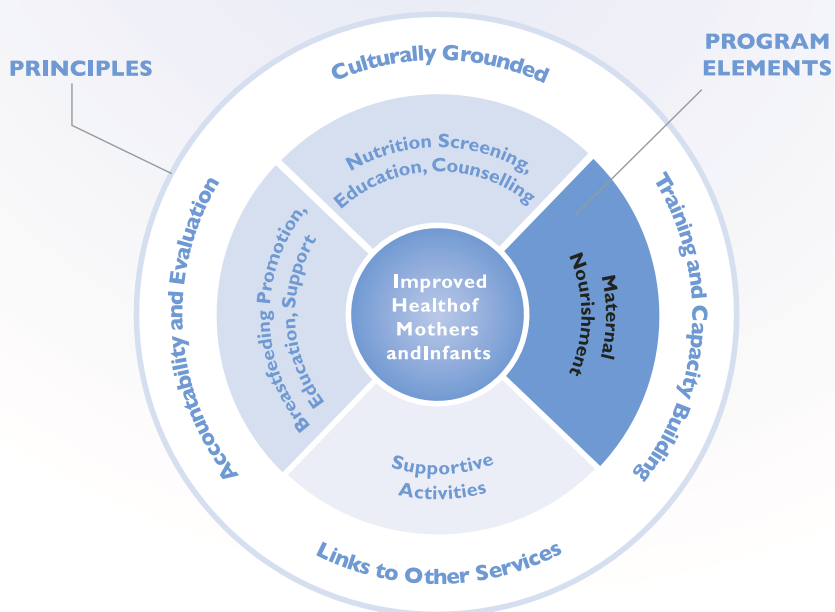


# Maternal Nourishment



## Here's what you will find in this section:

- What is “maternal nourishment”?
- Why is this a core program element?
- Key activities you could do
  - Cooking groups
  - Food hampers or food vouchers
  - Community food access projects
- More ideas for activities
- Resources to help you learn and do more





## What is “maternal nourishment”?

In CPNP, “maternal nourishment” means providing healthy foods to pregnant and breastfeeding women.

This can be done in many ways:

- You can give women healthy food directly. You may give them **healthy snacks** when the group meets or give them a **food hamper**.
- You can give women healthy food indirectly. One way to do this is by giving them **food vouchers** they can use to buy healthy foods.
- Many CPNP projects do food-based activities. You can set up a cooking group where women cook together, and then take the foods home.

- “Maternal” means mothers
- “Nourishment” means eating healthy food

Activities to support maternal nourishment should focus on healthy foods from the four food groups.



## Why is this a core program element?

Maternal nourishment is a very direct way to improve the health of mothers and infants — the goal of CPNP!

### Here is how:

When a mother eats healthy foods during pregnancy, this will help her baby grow healthy and strong.

- Many women do not have a lot of money, or they have many people to feed.
- When they are pregnant or breastfeeding, it is very important for them to eat well.
- When your program provides food to women and helps them learn to cook and to buy low-cost food, they will be able to eat well.



### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

The nutritional health of First Nations and Inuit women has improved because of access to food and food vouchers through CPNP projects. Pregnant women who receive food vouchers are more likely to make changes in the food they eat.





## Key activities you could do

When planning your program, you need to plan activities from the three core elements of CPNP (see page 1–12). You can decide what activities to do based on your budget, the needs of your community, and what works in your community.

Three activities are described on the next few pages. They are good examples of things you could do in your program for the core element, “Maternal nourishment”:

- Cooking groups
- Food hampers or food vouchers
- Community food access projects

A list of more ideas for activities is on page 3–15.



### **Why would I plan a cooking group?**

Many CPNP programs include this as one of their main activities. It is a good way to provide nutritious food to women and it is also fun! People will have a chance to learn new skills and try new foods together, in a way that is relaxed and fun.

A cooking group is also a good time to share other information, such as:

- nutrition information
- breastfeeding promotion
- traditional teachings about pregnancy, breastfeeding, parenting and food
- new recipes
- food safety and storage

This is also a good activity for reaching out to younger women of childbearing age. Teen cooking circles are popular in some communities.

### **When? How often?**

This will depend on the size of your program and your budget. Many CPNP programs have cooking activities once a month. You may plan to do this activity four or five times each year. Then every woman in your program will have a chance to attend two or three cooking groups, and to use her new cooking skills and recipes while she is pregnant.

### **How many people can be part of the group?**

You may want to start small, with just six or seven people. This is a good number for working together.

On the other hand, some CPNP projects invite all the women in their program to attend, and even to bring their families. Think about inviting an elder to your cooking groups.



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## COOKING GROUPS



### What do I need?

- **A location** — with enough tables or counter space for everyone. It should have the equipment you need for your recipes (such as a stove and oven). You might want to use a community centre, church, school or someone's home.
- **Kitchen tools** — such as bowls, pots, pans, spoons, knives, forks, and vegetable peelers. The equipment you need depends on your recipe. If the kitchen you will be using does not have the tools you need, you may be able to buy them over time with your CPNP funds.
- **A recipe** — You may choose the recipes yourself, or ask women in the community to help you choose. The recipe should:
  - be simple to prepare (and nutritious of course!)
  - contain ingredients that are easy to get and low cost
  - not take more than 2 or 3 hours to prepare
- **The ingredients** — You will need to figure out how many people the recipe should feed. Are you planning to have the group eat the food during your session, and then take some home? You might need to double or triple the recipe. Be sure to buy enough ingredients to do this.

### Don't forget...

Make a shopping list so you will have all the ingredients you need.

### Here's how to plan the cooking group:

1. **Set up the group**
  - Make sure the women in your program know where and when the cooking group will be meeting. Ask them to bring clean containers for taking food home.
2. **An hour before everyone arrives**
  - Go to the place where the group will meet to make sure that it is clean. Take out the ingredients and the equipment that you will need.
  - Read the recipe, and decide how many small groups you need. For example, you may need one or two people to cut onions, one or two to peel potatoes, and another to cook the meat.
3. **When everyone arrives**

#### Education

  - You may talk to the group about nutrition and tell them why the recipe you will be making is good for a healthy pregnancy.
  - Some women may not know how to cook or how to clean up after cooking. Help them feel comfortable by talking about this information to the group.



- Remember to talk about kitchen safety, how to handle food safely, and how to store the food you will be making. (See Appendices H and I at the end of this book for details.)
- While the women are cooking or cleaning up, you can start a discussion about pregnancy or breastfeeding. Women can talk, share what they know and ask questions.

### **Basic rules**

- It is good to make it clear at the beginning that everyone is expected to help prepare the food and clean up afterwards. After the room is clean, each person in the group will be given some food to take home. Each woman will get one portion for each person in her household.
- It is also important that women feel comfortable and welcome. The women should feel free to ask questions and to learn from each other. All questions are good questions!

### **Cooking together**

- Describe the recipe and all of the steps. Let people decide what they want to do. Then let them begin! Remember that you are the host of the session, and not the main cook.
- The people in the group should cook together, and try new things. If someone is not sure how to do something, let her work with someone who has done it before.

### **Clean-up**

- While the food is cooking in the oven or on the stove, everyone can start to clean up.

### **Eating**

- When the food is ready, sit down together for a meal. The women can take the leftover food home for their families.



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## COOKING GROUPS

### Key messages for the women

- Remind the women that this is **their** group. They are the ones who can choose what to do.
- Talk about the basic rules — everyone cooks together and everyone helps to clean up.
- There are no “stupid” questions. Everyone can learn from each other and have fun.
- Safety comes first — talk about food safety and kitchen safety.
- Take the time to choose recipes that are simple, nutritious and that most people will enjoy.
- Cooking groups allow women to share other information about nutrition and traditional teachings.

### This is just the start!

There are many good ideas that can help you add to this activity in Section 8 – Handy Resources:

- guides for cooking groups (pages 8–11 to 8–12)
- cookbooks (pages 8–19 and 8–20)

You can also look at Appendices G and H for information on kitchen safety and food safety.



### What are food hampers and food vouchers?

- A food hamper is a basket of healthy food.
- A food voucher is a coupon (or voucher) that a person can use at the store to buy healthy foods.

### Why would I provide food hampers or food vouchers?

- Providing food hampers or vouchers is one way to help mothers have nutritious foods in the house.
- Food hampers or vouchers can attract women to your program, where they will learn about having a healthy pregnancy.

Food hampers or vouchers are ways of giving healthy food to women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.

### When? How often? How many people can be part of this activity?

- Some programs offer food hampers or vouchers once a month to every woman who comes to a group or one-on-one session.
- Other programs offer food hampers or vouchers only when they have group sessions.
- What you decide to do will be based on the number of pregnant women in your community, and the amount of money in your budget.

#### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

Food vouchers often attract women to the program earlier in their pregnancy.

(Providing service to women earlier in their pregnancy is part of the goal of CPNP — it gives CPNP projects a better chance at helping to improve the health of the mother and infant.)





## ACTIVITY PAGE

## FOOD HAMPERS OR FOOD VOUCHERS

## What do I need?

First, you need to decide whether to offer food hampers or food vouchers.

	Food Hamper	Food Voucher
What is it?	It is a basket of healthy food that you give to a woman.	It is a coupon (or voucher) that you give to a woman. She can take it to the store to buy healthy foods.
Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You can be sure what the women are getting. You can provide recipes with the food.</li> <li>It can be nice to bring real food to a home visit or to have women take home a basket of food after they attend a group session.</li> <li>Food hampers are better for women who live far from the store or do not have access to a vehicle.</li> <li>You may be able to buy food for the hampers at lower prices (get a discount) if you form a partnership with the store owner or manager, or with co-op board members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The system is simple and does not need you to do any more work after it is set up and working well.</li> <li>Food vouchers give women more choice about the foods they receive.</li> <li>Because it is simple, it can be a better choice if there are a lot of pregnant women in your program.</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It can be a lot of work. You have to take time to buy the food and you may also have to deliver it.</li> <li>The amount of work will be greater if there are many women in your program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The people who work at the grocery store have to know what foods can and cannot be bought with the vouchers.</li> <li>Some women may feel ashamed to use a voucher.</li> <li>It may take a few months to get the system working well. You may need to meet at least once a week with the store owner or manager to talk about any problems.</li> </ul>

## Did you know...

You can also use CPNP funds to provide **healthy snacks** at your sessions. See page 3–12 to help you decide what healthy snacks to buy.





## Here's how to provide food hampers or vouchers:

### 1. Decide on the foods you will include

- All the foods should be healthy foods. That means they must provide some of the key nutrients for a healthy mother and baby:
  - folate (folic acid)
  - iron
  - calcium
  - vitamin D
  - vitamin A
  - essential fats

The book *Building Healthy Babies* has a lot of information about these key nutrients.

- Programs often include milk (powder, canned or fresh), 100% orange juice, eggs and meat or fish. These foods provide many of key nutrients and do not cost too much.
- See the other side of this page for the foods to include, and a list of foods and other items not to include.

### 2. Make sure other people know the foods that can be included

- **Vouchers** — You can print on the vouchers which foods the mothers can buy with the voucher. You will need to ask the store owner or manager to make sure that cashiers are aware of this.
- **Hampers** — Make a list of foods that can go into the hampers. Then no matter who is buying the food, the hampers will always contain healthy food.

### 3. Give out the hampers or vouchers

- It is best to combine this with other activities. Many CPNP workers find that food hampers or vouchers attract women to their program. Giving the food hampers or vouchers to women during a group or one-on-one session allows them to learn about healthy pregnancy at the same time as they receive nutritious food.
- Some CPNP workers find that a good time to give out food hampers or vouchers is the third week of the month when families may have less money for food.





## Key messages

- Make sure that the women and the store owner or manager (and cashiers) know which foods can be bought using the voucher system. Provide a list of the foods to everyone. This will avoid confusion.
- Include a variety of healthy foods in food hampers. Make sure each hamper has foods from the four food groups.
- You may want to put one or two simple, healthy recipes in a hamper. All of the ingredients for that recipe should be in the hamper.



**What to include? What not to include?**

- Use *Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide- First Nations, Inuit and Métis*. Healthy Choices come from the four food groups. Include foods that provide key nutrients and do not cost too much.
- Many CPNP programs include milk (powder, canned or fresh), orange juice, eggs and meat or fish.
- Foods that come from your local region are also good to include.
- Think about food safety if you include perishable foods in a hamper. These are foods that can spoil easily, such as fresh milk, eggs and fresh meat. See Appendix H for details.

<b>Vegetables and Fruit</b> 	<b>Grain Products</b> 
<p><b>YES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ dark green or orange ones</li> <li>✓ fresh, frozen or canned vegetables and fruit, 100% real fruit juice</li> </ul>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ whole grains, such as whole wheat bread, whole wheat pasta, brown rice, barley, oatmeal, bran cereal</li> </ul>
<p><b>NO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ French fries, home fries</li> <li>✗ fruit drinks (such as sweet drinks made from crystals, fruit punch)</li> </ul>	<p><b>NO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ baked goods (such as donuts, pies, cake)</li> <li>✗ cereals high in sugar and/or low in fibre</li> </ul>
<b>Milk and Alternatives</b> 	<b>Meat and Alternatives</b> 
<p><b>YES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ choices that are lower in fat</li> <li>✓ powder, canned or fresh milk</li> <li>✓ lactose-free milk for women who have trouble digesting milk</li> <li>✓ fortified soy beverage</li> </ul>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ choices that are lower in fat and less processed (such as eggs, canned fish, baked beans, lentils)</li> </ul>
<p><b>NO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ cream</li> </ul>	<p><b>NO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ hot dogs</li> <li>✗ Bologna or other processed meats (such as salami, pepperoni, canned meat)</li> <li>✗ sausages or bacon</li> </ul>

**Other items that CANNOT be included**

- ✗ any foods that do not fit into the four food groups (coffee whitener, pop, lard, butter or margarine, chips, candy, coffee or tea)
- ✗ infant formula (CPNP funds should not be used to buy infant formula. CPNP promotes breastfeeding.)
- ✗ non-food items (diapers, baby powder or creams, shampoo)

**This is just the start!**

There are many good ideas that can help you add to this activity in Section 8 – Handy Resources.



### What are community food access projects?

- Sometimes, pregnant women do not eat healthy food because it costs too much or it is not available in the community.
- You can use CPNP funds to bring healthy food into the community at prices women can afford to pay. Some examples are community gardens or green-houses, buying food in bulk and setting up partnerships with hunters and trappers in your community.

### Why would I plan community food access projects?

- These kinds of projects can have a lasting effect on the whole community. Everyone needs access to nutritious food.
- This is a clear step toward the CPNP goal of improving the health of mothers and infants. People who have access to low cost nutritious foods are more likely to eat well.

### When? How often? How many people can be part of these projects?

- This will depend on the needs of your community, the size of your budget, the interest of women in your program, and the interest of other program partners.

### What do I need?

- Depending on the project you choose, you may be able to involve many community partners, including leaders in the community. There may be other funds in the community that could help you develop a larger community food access program.

### Here's how to plan community food access projects:

- This Activity Page gives you some ideas to think about. You may also have ideas of your own about how to get some of these projects started.
- Talk to the women in your program about whether they want to be involved.
- If you have a community advisory group, let them know that you are thinking of starting one of these projects. They may be able to help you make partnerships with others in the community. (See page 1–11 and Appendix F.)
- It is good to ask your community health director and other community leaders for their support. They may have ideas for partners that can be involved.
- The CPNP contact in your region may also be able to support you while you get started (see Section 7 for a list of contacts).

#### This is just the start!

If you are ready to set up a community food access project, see Section 8 – Handy Resources for resources you may wish to buy.

You might want to have a manual that tells how to start these kinds of projects.



## ACTIVITY PAGE

## COMMUNITY FOOD ACCESS PROJECTS

### Community Garden or Greenhouse

- In parts of Canada where the climate allows, this project involves growing foods for your CPNP program.
- The women in the program can help take care of the garden, and can enjoy the harvest as well.
- Buying seeds and soil costs much less than buying all of the vegetables and fruits that you can grow!
- You may want to ask elders to teach the women to garden. You can use CPNP funds for a small gift or payment (honorarium) for the elder.

### Buying food in bulk

- “Buying in bulk” means buying large amounts of food at low cost. Women in the CPNP program can then buy this food from you at the prices you paid. These will often be lower prices than in the stores. You can also use this food in your cooking groups and food hampers.
- Your community store owner or manager could be a good partner for this project. You may be able to get lower prices if you buy food in bulk from the store.
- In Northern communities, you can become a **Food Mail** client. You can order healthy food and pick it up at the airport for the women in your program. They can buy the food from you at the same price you paid for it. For more information, visit this Web site ([www.ainc-inac.gc.ca](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca)), or talk to the CPNP contact in your region (see Section 7 for a list).



### Partnerships with hunters and trappers

- Your Community may have an Association of Hunters and Trappers that you can form a partnership with.
- Different communities and regions have their own policies and guidelines about handling and giving out wild meat. Contact your local Environmental Health Officer or Regional Environmental Health Manager to find out what you can do in your area.
- Remember to think about the safety of the food when gathering, preparing and storing it. See Appendix H for some tips on handling food safely.

## More ideas for activities

We have described only three key activities on the previous pages. Many other activities to support maternal nourishment could be part of your work plan.

Here are a few ideas:

- buy a guide that tells you how to set up a cooking group or community garden (see pages 8–11 to 8–12)
- buy cookbooks for your cooking groups (see pages 8–19 and 8–20)
- plan a special meal for the mothers
- provide healthy snacks at prenatal sessions
- use CPNP funds to buy foods for women during a grocery store tour (see page 2–9)

You can find details about projects like these in Section 8 – Handy Resources.

You can also look for tips for more activities in the resource *Tools for Success*.





## Resources to help you learn and do more

Here is a list of resources that can help you plan your activities to support maternal nourishment. See Section 8 for details about how to order them.

### Two key resources

- Building Healthy Babies (First Nations or Inuit version)
- Tools for Success

### Tools for CPNP workers

- Collective Kitchens Handbook
- The Food Experience: A Facilitator's Manual
- The Good Food Box Guide: How to Start a Program in Your Community
- How Does Our Garden Grow? A Guide to Community Garden Success

### Cookbooks

- 100 Meals for Under a Loonie per Serving
- The Basic Shelf Cookbook
- Community Kitchens Cookbook and Shopping Guide
- Instant Chef
- Meals for Good Health

# Breastfeeding Promotion, Education and Support





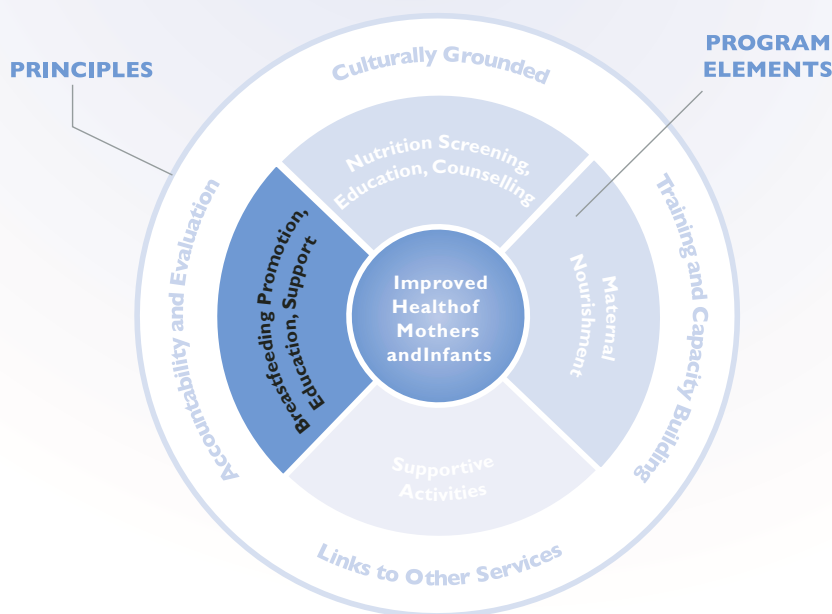


# Breastfeeding Promotion, Education and Support



## Here's what you will find in this section:

- What is “breastfeeding promotion, education and support”?
- Why is this a core program element?
- Key activities you could do
  - **Breastfeeding Promotion** — Let the whole community know!
  - **Breastfeeding Education** — Breastfeeding dollars
  - **Breastfeeding Support** — Breastfeeding circle
- More ideas for activities
- Resources to help you learn and do more



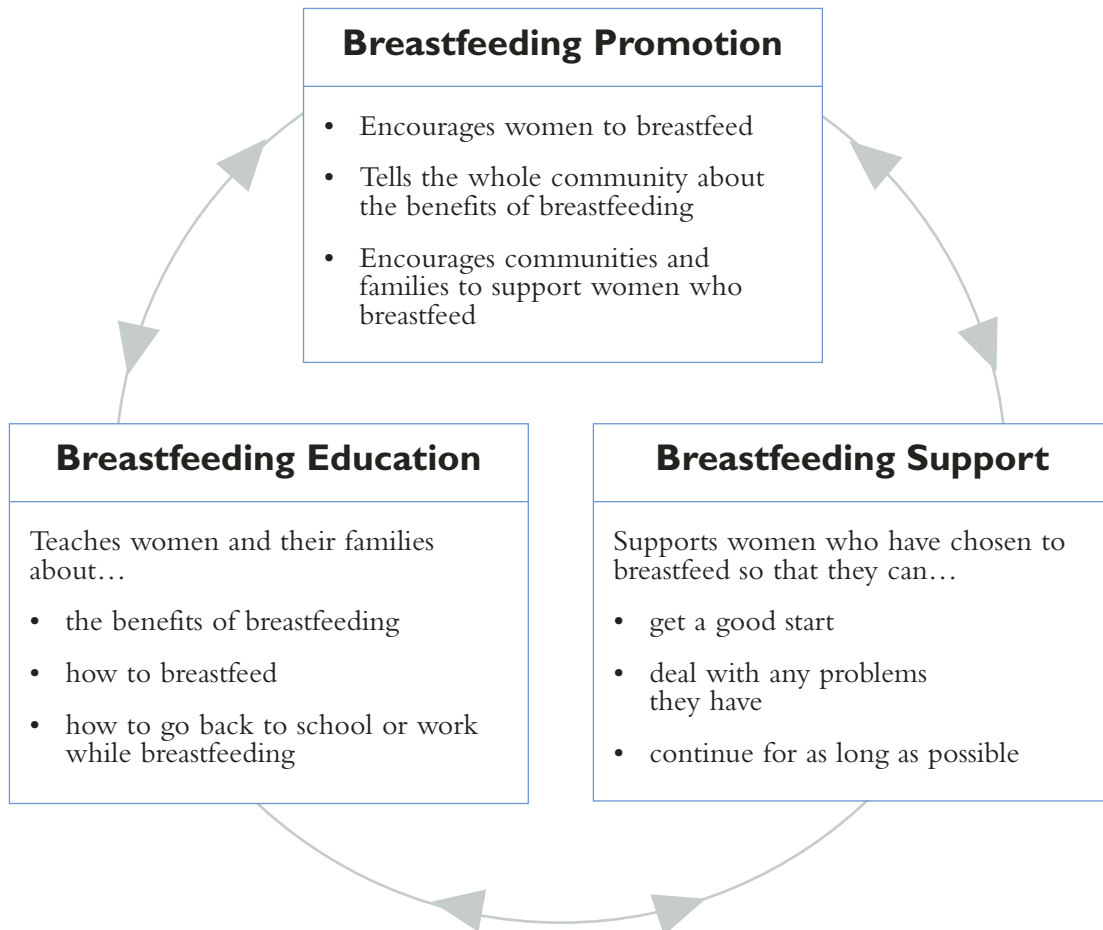


## What is “breastfeeding promotion, education and support”?

Breastfeeding promotion, education and support activities give women, their families and their communities the truth about breastfeeding. The truth is that breast milk is the best food a woman can give her baby.

These activities also support women so they can learn:

- how to breastfeed
- where to get help if they are having problems.





## Why is this a core program element?

Breastfeeding promotion, education and support will improve the health of mothers and infants — the goal of CPNP!

### Here is how:

Breastfeeding is the best way to feed a baby. It is best for mothers and babies for many reasons.



Breast milk:

- protects babies from getting sick (fewer colds and ear infections, less diarrhea, fewer trips to the hospital)
- may prevent allergies in the baby (such as asthma and eczema)
- may help prevent the baby from being overweight later in life
- may protect the mother from breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and osteoporosis
- costs much less than infant formula
- changes to meet the baby's needs

Breastfeeding is the natural, traditional way to feed a baby. It strengthens the tradition of nurturing and nourishing children.

More women will choose to breastfeed if they have the support of their partners, families and communities. With this kind of support, they will also be more likely to continue breastfeeding for a longer time.

### When a woman decides not to breastfeed...

- We know that breastfeeding is best for baby. It is your job as a CPNP worker to promote breastfeeding.
- There can be many reasons why a woman decides not to breastfeed. Respect her choice. Be careful not to make her feel guilty.
- If babies are **not** breastfed, they should drink iron-fortified infant formula instead. It is the only acceptable alternative to breast milk.
- Remember, you **cannot** use CPNP funds to buy infant formula.

### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

Through CPNP projects, it appears that more women are choosing to breastfeed and are breastfeeding longer.



## Key activities you could do

When planning your program, you need to plan activities from the three core elements of CPNP (see page 1–12). You can decide what activities to do based on your budget, the needs of your community, and what works in your community.

Three activities are described on the next few pages. They are good examples of things you could do in your program for the core element, “Breastfeeding promotion, education and support”:

- ***Breastfeeding Promotion***  
Let the whole community know!
- ***Breastfeeding Education***  
Help women understand why breastfeeding is best  
(Example — Breastfeeding Dollars)
- ***Breastfeeding Support***  
Help women find support  
(Example — Breastfeeding Circle)

A list of more ideas for activities is on page 4–13.



### Why would I “let the whole community know” about breastfeeding?

More women will start to breastfeed, and continue doing it, if they have the support of their community. Women’s partners, families, restaurant owners, and all community members need to know:

- that the women in the community need their support to breastfeed
- that breastfeeding has many benefits, for both mothers and babies
- that women who breastfeed are doing something good for their babies and for the whole community

### When? How often? How many people can be part of this activity?

This should be an activity that happens all the time. Think about people and places you know. Reach out to the whole community in as many ways as you can think of. Use every chance to promote breastfeeding.

### What do I need?

The main thing you need is a good imagination, so you can develop ideas! You may also need some markers and big sheets of paper to make posters.

### Here’s how to let the whole community know:

1. Think of some slogans that will stay in people’s minds. You can make up your own, or start a contest in the community. Give a prize to the people who give you the best slogans.

Here are a few ideas:

- Breastfeeding is best for babies and moms
- It takes a community... Support breastfeeding
- Breastfeeding women need our support
- Breastmilk: the best food for babies
- [*Name of your community*] supports breastfeeding!

**This is  
just the start!**

There are many other good activities to promote breastfeeding. See Section 8 – Handy Resources.

#### Be creative!

Maybe you could write a short radio play about:

- the hopes and fears of mothers who are breastfeeding, or
- a woman who continues to breastfeed after going back to school or work.

Include the thoughts of elders.

Turn the slogans into posters and newspaper ads. You could ask a local artist to draw some pictures to go on the posters.

2. Reach out to the community through your local newspaper, newsletter, radio or TV station. Ask them to support you by using your ads.
3. Hang posters in the local store, restaurant, arena, community centre and other places where a lot of people will see them.
4. Look at the resource list in Section 8 to find out where you can buy items such as posters, buttons and T-shirts.



### Key messages for the community

- Breastfeeding is best for babies, mothers and the whole community.
- Breastfeeding gives babies the best start in life. It gives them the best nutrition. It helps protect them from some illnesses.
- To breastfeed, women need the support of the whole community. We need to make women feel proud they are breastfeeding.
- Even if a woman breastfeeds her baby for only a few weeks or months, she will be helping to improve the baby's health.
- Health Canada recommends that women feed their babies only breast milk for the first 6 months of life. Women are encouraged to continue breastfeeding for up to 2 years and beyond.
- Breastfed babies need a vitamin D supplement every day until they are getting enough of it from other foods. This is usually by the time they are one year old.
- Breastfeeding is the natural, traditional way to feed a baby.
- If a woman decides not to breastfeed:
  - Respect her choice. Be careful not to make her feel guilty.
  - If babies are not breastfed, they should drink iron-fortified infant formula instead. It is the only acceptable alternative to breast milk.



## Why would I plan “Breastfeeding Dollars”?

- Most women will decide whether to breastfeed long before their baby is born. You can help to influence how they feel about breastfeeding.
- Women will be most likely to choose breastfeeding if you talk about the benefits of breastfeeding early in their pregnancy and often.
- “Breastfeeding Dollars” is a popular activity to promote breastfeeding. It shows that breastfeeding costs much less than infant formula does. It is a good way to start a session about the many benefits of breastfeeding.

## When? How often?

Talk about breastfeeding to women early and often in their pregnancy. This gives them time to think about it and decide.

## How many people can be part of this activity?

You can do this in a group or one-on-one. Try to include the women’s friends and family members.

## What do I need?

- sheet of breastfeeding dollars (provided on page 4–9)
- a photocopier
- a calculator (to help you do the math).



**This is just the start!**

There are many other good activities to promote breastfeeding. See Section 8 – Handy Resources.

## Here’s how to do this activity:

### Getting ready:

1. Find the price of iron-fortified infant formula at a local store. Look at the box on this page (to the right) to help you figure out what it costs to feed a baby with formula for a year. Use the calculator to do the math.
2. Figure out how many \$20 bills you need to reach that amount. For example, if the cost is \$1,340.99 each year, you would need 67 of the \$20 bills. (Use the calculator to do the math. Take the total cost of the infant formula for one year and divide it by 20 to find out how many \$20 bills you need).
3. Now that you know how many breastfeeding dollars you need, photocopy the sheet provided on page 4–9. Cut the dollars apart and make a stack.

### How to figure out the cost of infant formula for one year

Ready-to-feed formula:

Multiply the cost of a 235-mL can by 1095

Concentrated formula:

Multiply the cost of a 385-mL can by 365

Powdered formula:

Multiply the cost of a 400 gram can by 94



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## BREASTFEEDING DOLLARS

**When the group is together:**

- Pass around the stack of photocopied \$20 bills. Tell the women how much money it stands for. Ask them how much food they could buy with this amount of money. Or ask them what they would buy for their baby.
- Surprise! Tell them that this is how much it costs to feed a baby for one year using infant formula. This is also how much money they will save if they choose to breastfeed!
- Remind them that a breastfeeding mother only needs a little extra food to stay healthy while breastfeeding. She only needs to add two slices of bread, one cup of orange juice or one cup of milk or yogurt to her daily food. This costs much less than buying infant formula.
- Talk to the women about the other benefits of breastfeeding, for baby and mother. Encourage women to talk about it with their family and friends.
- Some women may have fears about breastfeeding that they do not want to talk about in a group. Find a way to talk to them in private.

### Key messages for women

- Breastfeeding is the best way to feed babies. It is best for mothers and for babies.
- Breast milk has many benefits:
  - It provides the best nutrition for babies.
  - It protects them from some illnesses when they are young.
  - It protects them from some diseases later in life.
  - It also protects mothers from some diseases.
- Breastfeeding is much cheaper than using infant formula.
- Even breastfeeding for a few weeks or months makes a big difference to a baby's health.
- Health Canada recommends that women feed their babies only breast milk for the first 6 months of life. Women are encouraged to continue breastfeeding for up to 2 years and beyond.
- Breastfed babies need a vitamin D supplement every day until they are getting enough of it from other foods. This is usually by the time they are one year old.
- Breastfeeding is the natural, traditional way to feed a baby.
- If a woman decides not to breastfeed:
  - Respect her choice. Be careful not to make her feel guilty.
  - If babies are not breastfed, they should drink iron-fortified infant formula instead. It is the only acceptable alternative to breast milk.









### What is a breastfeeding circle?

A breastfeeding circle brings together two or more people to ask questions and share information about breastfeeding. It can be a drop-in that is held regularly or a group session. It can include pregnant women, breastfeeding women, women who have older children who were breastfed, teens and elders.

### Why would I plan a breastfeeding circle?

Congratulations! A woman in your program has made the best choice — to breastfeed her baby. She deserves special attention and support.

Breastfeeding women need to have someone to talk to when they have problems or questions. A breastfeeding circle or a breastfeeding “buddy” can help women keep breastfeeding.

Women who are thinking about breastfeeding can also learn information that can help them make their choice.

### When? How often?

This can be an activity that happens regularly (maybe once every month or every week). It can begin when a woman is pregnant and continue for as long as she is breastfeeding.

### How many people can be part of this activity?

A breastfeeding circle can be big or small. All you need is at least two people!

### What do I need?

For a group meeting, find a comfortable setting, such as someone’s home or the community centre. Make sure there are cushions and chairs or a couch so women can breastfeed their babies.

**Most women who stop breastfeeding quit in the first few weeks. This is when they are most likely to have problems.**

#### **If a woman chooses not to breastfeed...**

Respect her choice. Be careful not to make her feel guilty.

#### **Did you know...**

- A lactation consultant is someone who has special training to help breastfeeding mothers.
- You can use CPNP funds to help pay for a community nurse or dietitian to get training to become a lactation consultant.

#### **This is just the start!**

There are many other good activities to support breastfeeding. See Section 8 – Handy Resources.



# ACTIVITY PAGE

## BREASTFEEDING CIRCLE

### Here's how to host a breastfeeding circle:

- Tell the women they are welcome to breastfeed their babies at the session. Provide comfortable chairs and cushions.
- The group can learn together by watching videos or looking at pamphlets and posters.
- Some women may be shy about breastfeeding in public. Other women in the circle who have breastfed can share their ideas on how to be private.
- Talk about how women can plan to breastfeed when they are going back to work or school.
- Talk about the right time to begin solid foods for the baby.
- Serve healthy snacks, including traditional foods.

### Key messages for women

- Breastfeeding is the natural, traditional way to feed a baby.
- Know where to go for help — you are not alone! Breastfeeding may be “natural” but the mother and baby still need to learn how!
- The keys to success are to start early, feed often and make sure the baby is in the proper position at the breast.
- Health Canada recommends that women feed their babies only breast milk for the first 6 months of life. Women are encouraged to continue breastfeeding for up to 2 years and beyond.
- Breastfed babies need a vitamin D supplement every day until they are getting enough of it from other foods. This is usually by the time they are one year old.
- Breastfeeding for even a few weeks or months helps to improve a baby's health.
- Health Canada recommends that babies not be given solid foods before 6 months of age
- At 6 months of age, babies need to have foods rich in iron every day. This can come from iron-fortified infant cereal or from puréed meat.
- If a woman decides not to breastfeed:
  - Respect her choice. Be careful not to make her feel guilty.
  - If babies are not breastfed, they should drink iron-fortified infant formula instead. It is the only acceptable alternative to breast milk.

## More ideas for activities



We have described only three key activities on the previous pages. Many other activities for breastfeeding promotion, education and support could be part of your work plan.

Here are a few ideas:

- set up a drop-in clinic or support group
- make home visits
- invite a lactation consultant as a guest speaker
- help pay for a community nurse or dietitian to get training to become a lactation consultant
- set up a display at well baby clinics, prenatal clinics and health fairs
- encourage the leaders in your community to declare the community as “breastfeeding friendly”
- buy reference books, handouts and videos that promote breastfeeding

You can find information about projects like these in Section 8 – Handy Resources.

You can also look for tips for more activities in the resource *Tools for Success*.





## Resources to help you learn and do more

Here is a list of resources that can help you plan your activities for breastfeeding promotion, education and support. See Section 8 for details about how to order them.

### Two key resources

- Building Healthy Babies (First Nations or Inuit version)
- Tools for Success

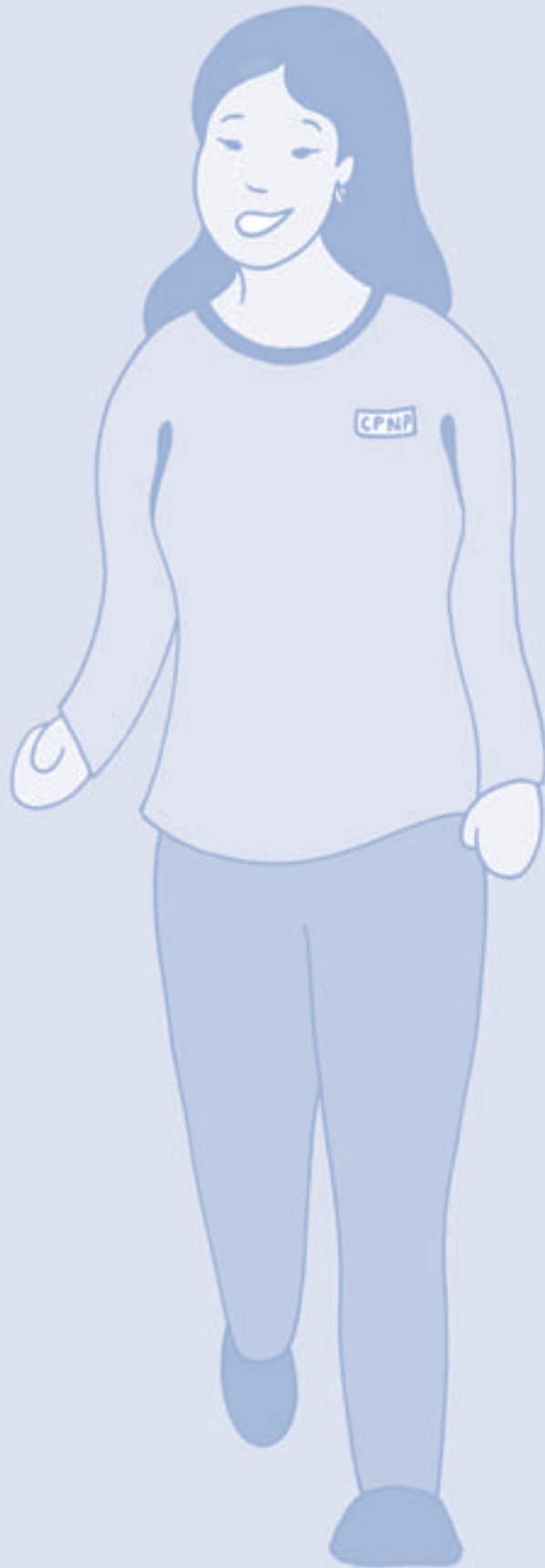
### Reference materials

- The Nursing Mother's Companion

### Videos

- The Art of Successful Breastfeeding: A Mother's Guide
- Breast is Best
- So You Want to Have a Healthy Baby: Breastfeeding Teachings

# Supportive Activities





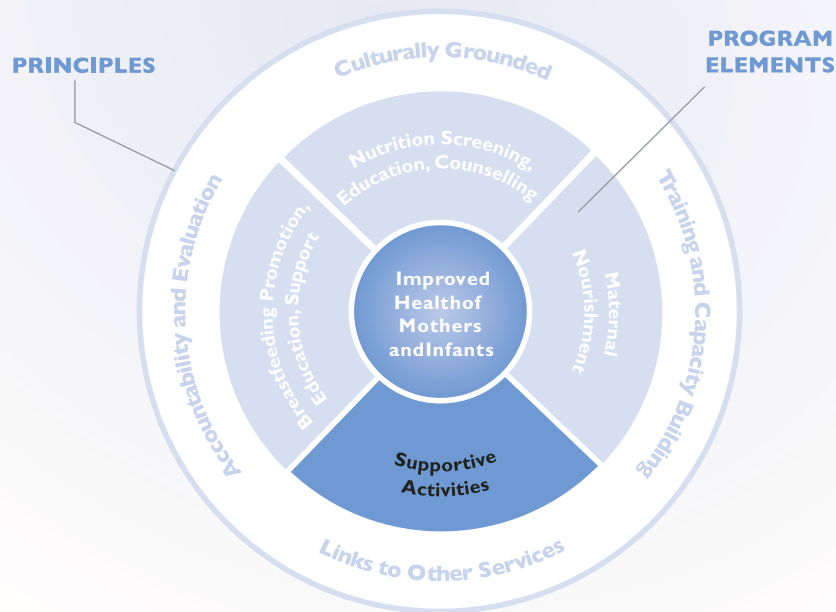


# Supportive Activities



## Here's what you will find in this section:

- What are “supportive activities”?
- Why are they important for your program?
- Key activities you could do
  - Transportation
  - Childcare





## What are “supportive activities”?

Supportive activities are things you can do that are not related to nutrition, but that contribute to the improved health of mothers and infants.

There are two kinds of supportive activities that can be part of your CPNP program.

Kinds of supportive activities	Examples
1. Activities that help women to access your program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• paying for transportation</li> <li>• paying for childcare</li> <li>• incentives</li> </ul>
2. Activities that do not focus on nutrition, but are needed to improve the health of mothers and infants in your community, and have <b>no other funding in your community</b> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• parenting classes</li> <li>• exercise programs for women of childbearing age</li> <li>• family planning/sex education</li> <li>• programs that help women to quit smoking</li> <li>• diabetes education</li> </ul>

### Choosing supportive activities

Remember to budget carefully for your program’s supportive activities. Communities can spend **up to 25%** of their CPNP funding on supportive activities. This means that it is important to set priorities with this small amount of funding.

- In many communities, transportation and childcare (to help women get to their program) are the main expenses with this part of their budget.
- Supportive activities **should only be funded by CPNP if there is no other source of funding for them** in your community.

### Buying craft supplies

Some programs invite women to get together to do traditional or other crafts (such as making breastfeeding pillows). At the same time, the women talk about eating healthy food during pregnancy.

- Please note that craft supplies are a **supportive activities expense**. The funding comes from this 25% of your budget.
- Remember to budget first for the basics, such as transportation and childcare, before deciding how much to spend on craft supplies.

## Why are supportive activities important for your program?

Supportive activities help you to deliver your program and improve the health of mothers and infants — the goal of CPNP!



### **Evaluation of CPNP tells us...**

Because of CPNP projects, some women have quit smoking while others have decreased their use of alcohol.





## Key activities you could do

These two key supportive activities make it easier for women to attend your program. You may want to include them in your work plan if they are needed in your community:

- Transportation
- Childcare

### Ways to help with transportation

- Help the women in your program be part of a walking club or “buddy system”. This works best for those who live close enough to walk to the program.
- Set aside money in your budget for transportation for those who live too far to walk. You might give the women vouchers for a taxi, or you could pay for gas for the health centre van. Suggest that women share taxis if they are coming to the program this way.

### Ways to help with childcare

- Find a way to provide childcare so that mothers can focus on program activities. Link up with a daycare or other childcare program in the community to save money.
- The childcare area should be away from the parent or group activities, but close enough so that mothers are not worried about their children.
- Try to have extra childcare workers when regular staff members cannot come. Local high school students might be willing to help.
- Encourage people in the community to donate toys. Check to make sure the toys are safe for the age of children who will be using them. Find out if you can get toys from a toy or equipment lending library. Be sure to keep the toys clean.

### Use your imagination...

Many good supportive activities are free!

Look for tips for more activities in the resource *Tools for Success*.

# Accountability and Evaluation



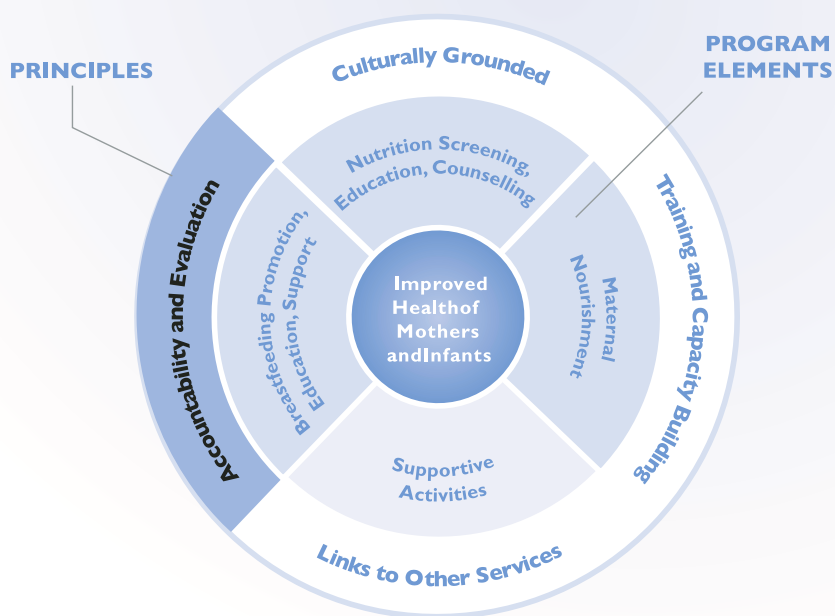


# Accountability and Evaluation



## Here's what you will find in this section:

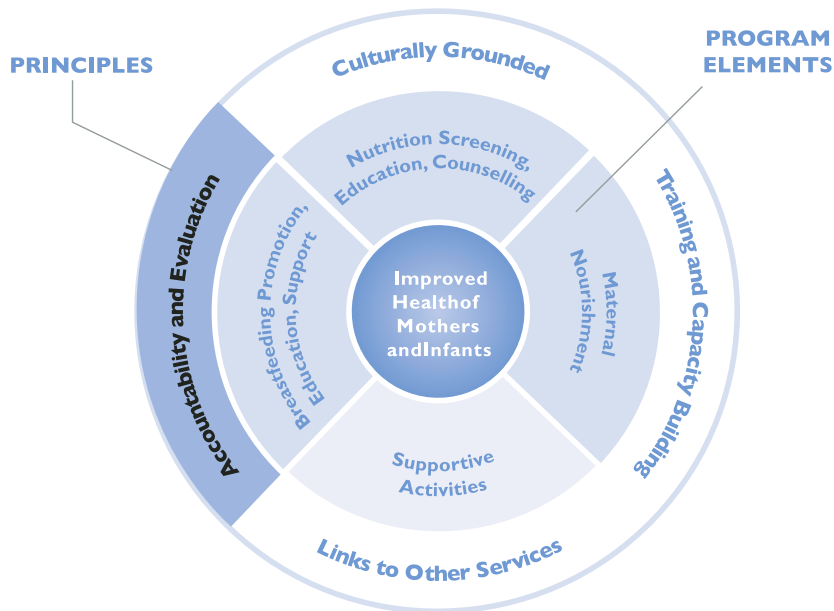
- Accountability
- Reporting
- Evaluation – What is it, and why do we do it?





## Accountability

**Accountability** is being able to clearly show people in your community and in Health Canada what your CPNP program has accomplished through project funding.







## Reporting

### Year-end reporting

In most regions, a report on your program activities is due in May or June. It includes details on your program activities to March 31, such as:

- how many women attended your programs in the past year
- what types of activities took place
- the number of referrals to other services or programs

A Tracking Sheet is also available to help you keep track of information in your program. The Tracking Sheet can be useful for recording the names of participants and information such as their baby's birth weight. By looking at the Tracking Sheet, you will be able to know how many babies in your community have a birth weight in the healthy range. See Appendix D for a sample Tracking Sheet.

### The CPNP contact in your region can...

- tell you how often you need to report and what forms you must use
- give you the form you need for your year-end reporting (due no later than May or June).
- give you a Tracking Sheet

See Section 7 for a list of CPNP contacts for each region



## Evaluation — What is it, and why do we do it?

How do we know whether CPNP is meeting its goal — to improve the health of mothers and infants? **Evaluation!**

There are two kinds of evaluation, local and national.

### Local evaluation

Although you do not have to do a local evaluation, we strongly suggest that you do one. It is best if you can do this kind of evaluation often, not just at the end of the year.

Look for other tips on evaluation in the resource *Tools for Success*.

Local evaluation	
<b>Why do I need to do this?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to learn what you are doing well</li> <li>• to help you see how the program can...               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– serve people better</li> <li>– save money</li> <li>– serve more people</li> <li>– be improved in other ways</li> </ul> </li> <li>• to show leaders in your community that your program is making a difference</li> </ul>
<b>How can I do it?</b>	<p>Here are a few ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask the women to fill out a simple feedback form after class.</li> <li>• Ask women who were part of the program a year ago for ideas on how to improve it.</li> <li>• Ask program partners (community health nurse, elders, community store owner or manager) for feedback.</li> <li>• Take time to think about how well an activity worked and what you could do better next time.</li> </ul>



### National evaluation

Every five years, a few communities across Canada will be asked to take part in a national evaluation. This helps to find out how CPNP and other community programs are improving the health of families and children in First Nations and Inuit communities.

If your community is selected, it is very important that you take part in the national evaluation.

<b>National evaluation</b>	
<b>Why do I need to do this?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• So Health Canada can learn how well it is supporting programs in communities and how it can improve its support.</li> <li>• To show government that CPNP is valuable and is making a difference across Canada.</li> </ul>
<b>How can I do this?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National office at Health Canada collects information about what is happening in community programs across Canada. You may be asked to provide different reports or fill out questionnaires, without actually naming your program participants.</li> </ul>

#### Evaluation of CPNP tells us...

All through this CPNP Guidebook, there are boxes like this one. They have information that we have learned from the national evaluation.

For example, we have learned that:

- Two out of three participants enter the program within their first or second trimester.
- Women in CPNP-FNIC are getting nutrition information earlier in their pregnancy.
- As a result of their participation in CPNP-FNIC participants learn practical skills related to choosing healthy food, budgeting and food preparation (for themselves and their babies). They also learn about FASD and its prevention, as well as the importance of breastfeeding and appropriate infant feeding.
- Virtually every CPNP-FNIC project offers breastfeeding education and support to participants.
- Most CPNP-FNIC participants introduce solid food into their babies' diets at an appropriate age.



# CPNP Contacts for All Regions of Canada





# CPNP Contacts for All Regions of Canada



To speak to your CPNP contact, please call the telephone number for your region. All CPNP staff are part of the **First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB), Health Canada**, or part of a territorial government.

## ATLANTIC REGION

Regional Nutritionist  
FNIHB, Atlantic Region, Health Canada  
Maritime Centre  
1505 Barrington Street  
Halifax, NS B3J 3Y6

TEL: (902) 426-6637  
FAX: (902) 426-2192

## QUEBEC REGION

Coordonnatrice des programmes  
PCNP/ETCAF  
Direction des programmes  
communautaires  
DGSPNI, Région du Québec,  
Santé Canada  
Tour est, 2e étage, Place Guy Favreau,  
200, boul. René Lévesque ouest  
Montréal (Québec) H2Z 1X4

TEL : (514) 283-1348  
FAX : (514) 283-8067

## ONTARIO REGION

Regional Nutritionist  
FNIHB, Ontario Region, Health Canada  
3rd Floor, 1547 Merivale Road, AL 6103A  
Nepean, ON K1A 0L3

TEL: (613) 954-5699  
FAX: (613) 952-7733

## ONTARIO REGION cont'd

Community Nutritionist  
FNIHB, Ontario Region, Health Canada  
3rd Floor, 1547 Merivale Road, AL 6103A  
Nepean, ON K1A 0L3

TEL: 613-952-7632  
FAX: 613-952-7733

## MANITOBA REGION

CPNP Coordinator  
FNIHB, Manitoba Region, Health  
Canada  
Suite 300, 391 York Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1

TEL: (204) 984-0099  
FAX: (204) 983-6018

## SASKATCHEWAN REGION

Regional Nutritionist/CPNP Lead  
First Nations & Inuit Health,  
Health Canada  
2045 Broad Street, 5th Floor  
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3T7

Phone (306) 780-5427  
Fax (306) 780-6864



### **ALBERTA REGION**

Community Nutritionist and  
CPNP Manager  
Health Canada  
FNIHB, Alberta Region, Health Canada  
Suite 730, 9700 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5J 4C3

TEL : (780) 495-7339

FAX : (780) 495-2687

### **PACIFIC REGION**

Regional Nutritionist  
FNIHB, Pacific Region, Health Canada  
312 Rockridge Place  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 5L3

TEL : (250) 729-3815

FAX : (250) 758-1453

### **NORTHERN REGION**

Program Consultant  
Northern Region  
Public Affairs, Consultation and  
Regions Branch  
Health Canada  
14th Floor, Room 1428  
60 Queen Street  
AL 3914A  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5V7

TEL: (613) 952-5018

FAX: (613) 946-1823

### **HEADQUARTERS contact:**

Manager, Canada Prenatal  
Nutrition Program  
Community Programs Directorate  
FNIHB, Health Canada  
20th Floor, Room 2088D,  
Jeanne Mance Building  
AL 1920D, Tunney's Pasture  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

TEL: (613) 954-8954

FAX: (613) 952-5244

### **HEADQUARTERS contact:**

Nutritionist, Canada Prenatal  
Nutrition Program  
Community Programs Directorate  
FNIHB, Health Canada  
20th Floor, Room 2086D,  
Jeanne Mance Building  
AL 1920D, Tunney's Pasture  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

TEL: (613) 960-0681

FAX: (613) 952-5244

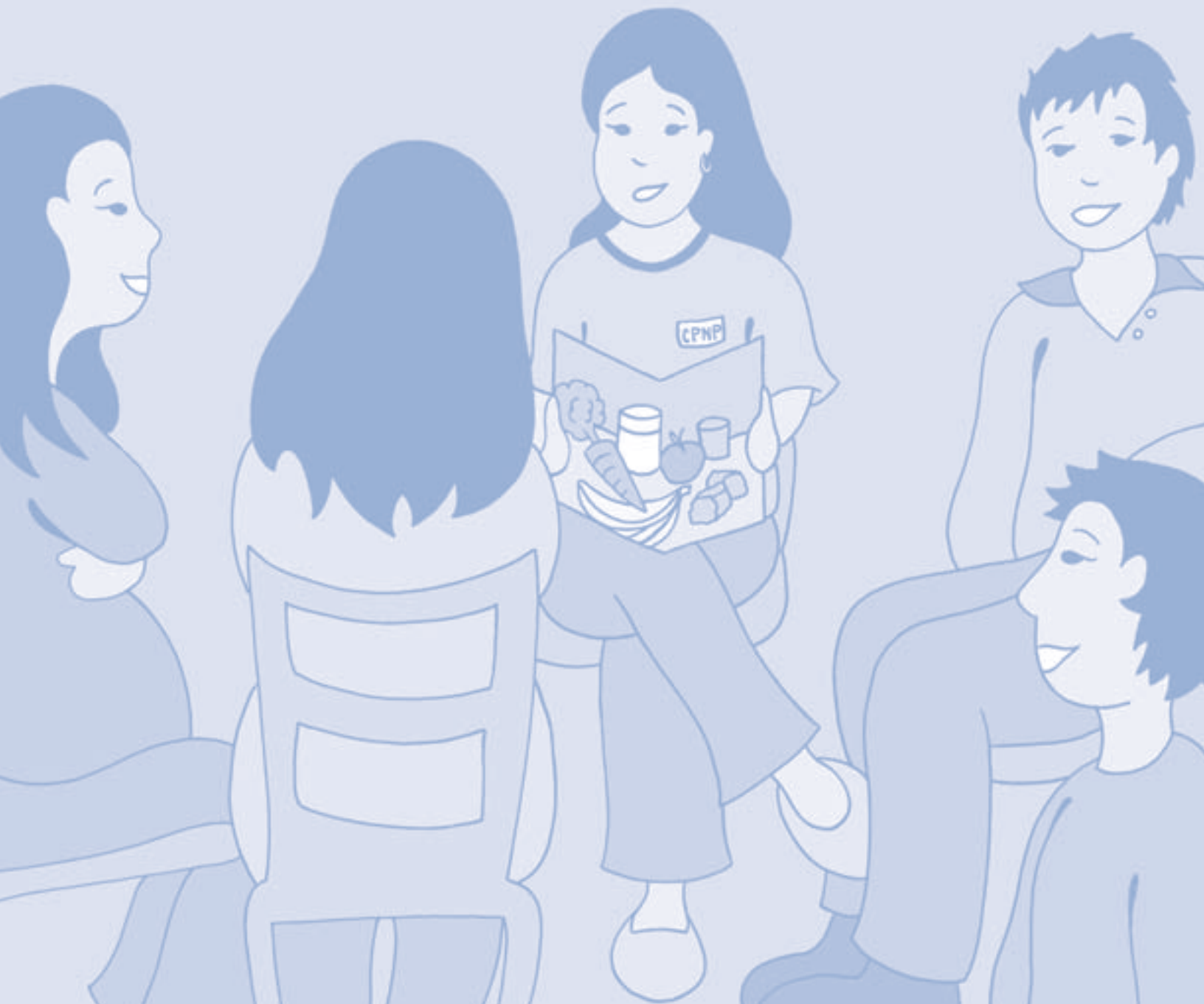
The CPNP contact in your region can also help you find other government contacts.

Here are some other ways to find out about government programs and services related to health:

- Health Canada Web site  
**[www.healthcanada.ca](http://www.healthcanada.ca)**
- Toll-free telephone service  
**1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)**



# Handy Resources





# HANDY RESOURCES

This section provides you with a list of resources that you could use in your program. It describes each resource, and tells you how to order it.

The resources are organized into the following groups:

<b>TWO KEY RESOURCES FOR CPNP PROGRAMS</b> .....	<b>8-3</b>
You should make sure that you have access to both of these resources.	
<b>REFERENCE MATERIALS</b> .....	<b>8-5</b>
These are books, manuals and other resources that you might find helpful to your program.	
<b>TOOLS FOR CPNP WORKERS</b> .....	<b>8-9</b>
These are teaching tools or activity ideas that might help you in delivering your program.	
<b>VIDEOS</b> .....	<b>8-13</b>
This is a list of videos that you can order for your program to use as teaching tools.	
<b>STUFF FOR MOMS</b> .....	<b>8-17</b>
This includes handouts and other items you may give to the women who come to your program.	
<b>COOKBOOKS</b> .....	<b>8-19</b>
This is a list of cookbooks with simple, low-cost nutritious recipes that you might find helpful for cooking activities in your program.	
<b>WHERE TO FIND OTHER RESOURCES</b> .....	<b>8-21</b>
This page has a list of catalogues that you can order and Web sites you can visit for more ideas.	

**Within each of the above groups, the resources are organized by core program element.**

### Please be aware....

Not all of these resources are from Health Canada. They can be very helpful to your project, but some of them might not have the most recent Canadian guidelines.

When you are looking for the most recent guidelines about prenatal nutrition, please use the Health Canada documents.



## TWO KEY RESOURCES FOR CPNP PROGRAMS

### Building Healthy Babies (First Nations or Inuit version)

**Description:**

*Building Healthy Babies* is a manual for community health workers in First Nations or Inuit communities. It has information about healthy eating before and during pregnancy. It also provides information on gestational diabetes and physical activity. The last two sections talk about nutrition after the baby is born, in the form of breastfeeding and infant nutrition (baby's first foods). This manual gives you the tools and information you need so you can encourage pregnant women to stay healthy and have a healthy baby. It suggests that women follow a healthy eating pattern, make healthy choices about food, exercise, smoking, and alcohol and drug use, and seek the support and services they need.

**Order the book from:**

The CPNP contact in your region (see Section 7 for a list)

### Tools for Success

**Description:**

This is a binder full of ideas and tips for CPNP workers, from other CPNP workers from across the country. It tells you what has helped other workers find success. It also gives you tips on how to attract women to your program, and more ideas for activities that support each of the core program elements.

**Order it from:**

The CPNP contact in your region (see Section 7 for a list)



## REFERENCE MATERIALS

### For Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling

#### The ABC's of Baby Food: Making Baby Food from Scratch

— by Krystyna Lewicki

**Description:**

This is a training manual that tells you how to teach others to make baby food. It suggests how you can plan and conduct the workshop. Topics include step-by-step planning for the workshop, workshop content (how to make baby food using simple kitchen tools), how to help parents develop a good feeding relationship with their babies, and information about nutrition. It has pages that you can photocopy for the people in your workshop. The manual is good for new parents who want to learn how to make baby food, what foods to give infants, and when. (1998)

**Order it from:**

FoodShare Toronto  
 Tel: (416) 363-6441 #229  
 Fax: (416) 392-6650  
 Email: zola@foodshare.net  
 Internet: [www.foodshare.net/publications\\_01.htm](http://www.foodshare.net/publications_01.htm)

**Cost:** \$25 including shipping and taxes

#### Active Living During Pregnancy: Physical Activity Guidelines for Mother and Baby

**Description:**

This book is for pregnant women who want to remain active, or begin physical activity so they can be healthy when they are pregnant. It describes the benefits of exercise during pregnancy, talks about safety, describes the FITT principles, and gives tips for healthy eating. It also suggests exercises women can do after the baby is born. This is an excellent book for fitness leaders, fitness and health professionals, and doctors. It has many photographs and drawings. (1999)

**Order it from:**

Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology  
 202-185 Somerset Street West  
 Ottawa, ON K2P 0J2  
 Tel: 1-877-651-3755 or (613) 234-3755  
 Fax: (613) 234-3565  
 Email: [info@csep.ca](mailto:info@csep.ca)  
 Internet: [www.csep.ca](http://www.csep.ca)

**Cost:** \$11.95 plus shipping and taxes

## Nutrition Education and Counselling Resource Manual

**Description:**

This manual was created to support you when you use the mothers' workbooks, *Celebrating Pregnancy!* and *Celebrating New Life!* It provides clear-cut information to help high-risk women get enough food during pregnancy. The nutrition information is combined with sensitive counselling techniques. The goal is to help you talk to women about making healthy food choices in pregnancy, while respecting their economic, social, cultural and physical environment. (1995)

**Order it from:**

OPTIONS Services to Communities Society  
100-6846 King George Highway  
Surrey, BC V3W 4Z9  
Tel: (604) 596-4321  
Fax: (604) 572-7413

**Cost:** \$20 plus shipping and handling

## Nutrition for a Healthy Pregnancy: National Guidelines for the Childbearing Years

**Description:**

These prenatal nutrition guidelines discuss nutrition and healthy eating both during pregnancy and throughout the childbearing years. Developed with the support of an expert advisory committee, the guidelines are based whenever possible on available scientific evidence. Practical advice, tips and suggestions are included.

**View it at:** [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/nutrition/prenatal/national\\_guidelines\\_cp-lignes\\_directrices\\_nationales\\_pc-eng.php](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/nutrition/prenatal/national_guidelines_cp-lignes_directrices_nationales_pc-eng.php)

## What to Expect When You're Expecting

(Workman Publishing Company Inc.)

— by Heidi Murkoff, Arlene Eisenberg and Sandee Hathaway

**Description:**

This pregnancy guide answers questions from mothers- and fathers-to-be, from the planning stage until after the baby is born. It also includes basic information on starting to breastfeed. It is written in a month-by-month format. (4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2008)

**Order it from:**

Most bookstores or online bookstores

**Cost:** About \$18 plus shipping and/or taxes



## REFERENCE MATERIALS

### For Breastfeeding Promotion, Education and Support

#### The Nursing Mother's Companion

— by Kathleen Huggins

**Description:**

Recommended by many health professionals, this book is a complete guide to making breastfeeding a success. The author is a nurse and lactation consultant, and she writes in an easy style about all the things new mothers need to know. The book is divided into sections that you use as you need them. Some examples are: nipple soreness, nutrition, and the effect of food and drugs on breast milk. There is also a section that answers the difficult questions women may ask about breastfeeding. (5<sup>th</sup> revised edition, 2004)

**Order it from:**

Most bookstores or online bookstores

**Cost:** About \$24 plus shipping and/or taxes



## TOOLS FOR CPNP WORKERS

### For Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling

#### Nutrient value of some common foods

**Order it from:**

Health Canada Publications  
 Tel: (613) 957-2991  
 Fax: (613) 941-5366  
 Email: [publications@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:publications@hc-sc.gc.ca)  
 Internet: [www.hc-publication-sc.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-publication-sc.hc-sc.gc.ca)

#### Nutrition BINGO for First Nations and Inuit

**Description:**

This package has colour BINGO cards as well as game pieces. The game is played like regular BINGO, but traditional/country and store-bought foods are used instead of numbers. It was originally developed in the Saskatchewan region and now features traditional and country foods enjoyed by First Nations and Inuit. Playing the game will help people learn how foods fit into the four food groups. The game can be used with many age groups.

**Order it from:**

Publication Resource Centre  
 First Nations and Inuit Health Branch  
 Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9  
 Tel: (613) 957-2991  
 Fax: (613) 941-5366  
 Email: [publications@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:publications@hc-sc.gc.ca)

#### Nutrition Labelling Toolkit for Educators — First Nations and Inuit Focus

**Description:**

This toolkit will help you read, understand and use the new nutrition labels that are on packaged foods in Canada. Using this kit, you will be able to show others in your community how to use food labels so they can make healthy choices in the grocery store. This toolkit includes posters, background information and a ready-to-go presentation. Ideas for activities that show people how to use nutrition labels are included. It also provides a fact sheet on nutrition labelling that you can photocopy and give to women in your program. (2003)

**View it at:** [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/label-etiquet/nutrition/fni-pni](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/label-etiquet/nutrition/fni-pni)



# HANDY RESOURCES

## TOOLS FOR CPNP WORKERS For Maternal Nourishment

### Collective Kitchens Handbook

**Description:** This is a guide on how to run a collective kitchen (cooking group). It gives step-by-step or day-to-day details on how to plan and deliver a collective kitchen. (revised edition, 2004)

**Order it from:**

Capital Health  
Primary Care Division  
Resource Office  
Suite 300, 10216 – 124 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5N 4A3  
Tel: (780) 735-3059  
Fax: (780) 482-4194

**Cost:** \$5.00 plus shipping and handling

### The Food Experience: A Facilitator's Manual

— City of York Health Unit

**Description:**

This is a manual that tells you how to set up community kitchens. It can be used along with the recipes in *The Basic Shelf Cookbook*. It will help you teach people with low incomes how to spend their food money wisely, cope with the stress of poverty as a group, and take action to improve their access to food. (2004)

**Order it from:**

Canadian Public Health Association  
Health Resources Centre  
400-1565 Carling Avenue  
Ottawa ON K1Z 8R1  
Tel: (613) 725-3769  
Fax: (613) 725-9826  
Email: [publications@cpha.ca](mailto:publications@cpha.ca)  
Internet: [www.cpha.ca/en/publications/pubs.aspx](http://www.cpha.ca/en/publications/pubs.aspx)

**Cost:** \$14.95 plus shipping and taxes

## The Good Food Box Guide: How to Start a Program in Your Community

— by Kathryn Scharf and Mary Lou Morgan

### Description:

*The Good Food Box Guide* helps people and organizations develop a non-profit system to distribute fresh fruits and vegetables. It also provides tips on dealing with staff and administration, promotion and marketing, fundraising, deliveries and equipment, box contents, newsletters and customer service. It gives examples of newsletters, pamphlets, box contents, and work schedules. (2008)

### Order it from:

FoodShare Toronto  
Tel: (416) 392-1629  
Fax: (416) 392-6650  
Email: zola@foodshare.net  
Internet: [www.foodshare.net/publications\\_01.htm](http://www.foodshare.net/publications_01.htm)

**Cost:** \$10 for photocopy (out of print), including postage

## How Does Our Garden Grow? A Guide to Community Garden Success

— by Laura Berman

### Description:

This manual provides complete information on how to start a community garden in your neighbourhood, schoolyard, apartment grounds, or rooftop. Some of the sections talk about fundraising, structure and leadership, rules and regulations for peaceful relationships among gardeners, finding and maintaining land, buying tools and equipment, and gardening with children and people with disabilities. The last part of the manual gives horticultural information, fact sheets about compost and soil testing, and reference and resource lists. “Month-by-month” sections will help anyone set up a community garden, in any location. (1997)

### Order it from:

FoodShare Toronto  
Tel: (416) 392-1629  
Fax: (416) 392-6650  
Email: zola@foodshare.net  
Internet: [www.foodshare.net/publications\\_01.htm](http://www.foodshare.net/publications_01.htm)

**Cost:** \$25 including shipping and taxes

## VIDEOS

### For Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling

#### Feeding the Spirit

**Description:**

This 40-minute video looks at prenatal nutrition, newborn nutrition and family nutrition from a First Nations point of view. It comes with a guide that includes sections on getting ready for pregnancy and birth, and tips for using the video. (2002)

**Order it from:**

Awasis Training Institute of Northern Manitoba  
100-701 Thompson Drive  
Thompson, MB R8N 2A2  
Tel: (204) 677-1500  
Fax: (204) 778-8428  
Email: [afitzner@awasisagency.ca](mailto:afitzner@awasisagency.ca)

**Cost:** \$225 (video and user guide)

#### So You Want to Have a Healthy Baby

**Description:**

This video is for future parents in First Nations communities. It talks about why it is important to have prenatal care, healthy food, and to plan for breastfeeding. The video is 12 minutes long. You can also order a booklet. (revised edition, 2004)

**Order it from:**

Fort Alexander Health Centre  
Box 70  
Pine Falls, MB R0E 1M0  
Tel: (204) 367-2208  
Fax: (204) 367-4587

**Cost:** Package (video, booklet) – \$30, 10 booklets – \$40





## VIDEOS

### For Breastfeeding Promotion, Education and Support

#### The Art of Successful Breastfeeding: A Mother's Guide (DVD)

**Description:**

This award-winning video describes how to get ready to breastfeed, how to start to breastfeed and how to cope with common problems. It tells women about the unique benefits of breastfeeding, so that families can make the best choice about infant nutrition and breastfeeding. It clearly explains how the breast works and shows simple steps that a mother can take to begin breastfeeding in hospital. It helps mothers cope with problems, including sore nipples, colic in babies, and mastitis (infection in the breast). (1995)

**Order it from:**

Internet: [www.breastfeedingclinic.com](http://www.breastfeedingclinic.com)

#### Breast is Best

**Description:**

This teaching video is about breastfeeding, breast milk and early contact with the newborn. It was made in Norway, where almost all new mothers begin breastfeeding and have strong support for their choice. This video answers important questions about breastfeeding. These include: why breastfeeding is better for the mother and baby, breastfeeding techniques, and dealing with sore nipples, engorgement and mastitis (infection in the breast). The purpose of this video is to promote and protect breastfeeding. (1995)

**Order it from:**

INFACT Canada  
6 Trinity Square  
Toronto, ON M5G 1B1  
Tel: (416) 595-9819  
Fax: (416) 591-9355  
Email: [ben@infactcanada.ca](mailto:ben@infactcanada.ca)  
Internet: [www.infactcanada.ca/mall/videos.asp](http://www.infactcanada.ca/mall/videos.asp)

**Cost:** \$60 plus shipping and handling

## So You Want to Have a Healthy Baby: Breastfeeding Teachings

**Description:**

This video helps parents in First Nations communities learn about the importance of breastfeeding. It is available in DVD or VHS format. (2004)

**Order it from:**

Fort Alexander Health Centre  
Box 70  
Pine Falls, MB R0E 1M0  
Tel: (204) 367-2208  
Fax: (204) 367-4587

**Cost:** DVD or VHS video – \$40

## STUFF FOR MOMS

### For Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling

#### Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide- First Nations, Inuit and Métis

**Description:**

*Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide - First Nations, Inuit and Métis* was developed to reflect values, traditions, and food choices of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. This food guide recognizes the importance of traditional and store-bought foods for Aboriginal people, and shows how traditional foods can be used in combination with store-bought foods for healthy eating. It highlights the diversity of traditional foods from across Canada, and shows store-bought foods that are generally available in rural and remote locations. This food guide is based on *Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide*, and has recommendations for healthy eating based on science. (2007)

**Order it from:**

Health Canada Publications  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9  
Tel: (613) 957-2991  
Fax (613) 941-5366  
Email: [publications@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:publications@hc-sc.gc.ca)  
Internet : [www.hc-publication-sc.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-publication-sc.hc-sc.gc.ca)

#### Canada's Physical Activity Guide to Healthy Active Living

**Description:**

This guide helps people make wise choices about physical activity. Its goal is to help Canadians prevent disease and get the most out of life. Like *Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating*, this guide uses a rainbow design. It describes the three main types of physical activities: endurance, flexibility and strength. It shows how to set goals and how to start being active. It also lists the benefits of physical activity and the health risks that come from not being active. (1998)

You can also order a handbook that provides more information to help people use the guide well.

**Order it from:**

Health Canada Publications  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9  
Tel: (613) 957-2991  
Fax: (613) 941-5366  
Email: [publications@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:publications@hc-sc.gc.ca)  
Internet: [www.hc-publication-sc.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-publication-sc.hc-sc.gc.ca)

## Celebrating Pregnancy! and Celebrating New Life!

**Description:**

These two workbooks are colourful and easy-to-read. The first one is for pregnant women and the second is for women with babies. The focus is on nutrition during and after pregnancy. They were made for women from many cultural backgrounds, including First Nation women. (2001)

**Order it from:**

OPTIONS Services to Communities Society  
100-6846 King George Highway  
Surrey, BC V3W 4Z9  
Tel: (604) 596-4321  
Fax: (604) 572-7413

**Cost:** \$3 each

## Healthy Beginnings: Your Handbook for Pregnancy and Birth

**Description:**

This handbook on pregnancy and childbirth contains both text and drawings. It includes complete medical information, from the time before pregnancy to the first few days at home with a new baby. Because it is like a diary, women can use it to take notes during prenatal visits, to write their thoughts and feelings, and to keep track of questions they might want to ask at their next medical appointment. (2000)

**Order it from:**

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada  
780 Echo Drive  
Ottawa, ON K1S 5R7  
Tel: 1-800-561-2416  
Fax: (613) 730-4314  
Internet: [www.sogc.org/health/bookstore\\_e.asp](http://www.sogc.org/health/bookstore_e.asp)

**Cost:** \$14.93 including postage and handling

# HANDY RESOURCES

## COOKBOOKS

### 100 Meals for Under a Loonie per Serving

**Description:**

This cookbook has been used in several community kitchen workshops. The recipes are easy to prepare and nutritious. (1994)

**Order it from:**

Nanaimo Community Kitchens  
271 Pine Street  
Nanaimo, BC V94 2B7  
Tel: (250) 753-7470  
Fax: (250) 753-9335  
Internet: [www.nanaimocommunitykitchens.org](http://www.nanaimocommunitykitchens.org)

**Cost:** \$8.00 + \$3.00 shipping = \$11.00

### The Basic Shelf Cookbook

— City of York Health Unit

**Description:**

All of the recipes in this cookbook are made from one list of low cost, nutritious ingredients. Most of these ingredients have a long shelf life, and do not need to be refrigerated. All of the recipes are low in fat, taste good and make delicious use of beans, peas and lentils. They are quick and easy to make for people who do not cook a lot. No fancy equipment is needed to make the recipes. This cookbook is written for people who have low incomes, who do not have much storage or kitchen space, and who cannot shop for groceries very often. This book proves that food can be low cost without giving up good nutrition and taste. (2<sup>nd</sup> revised edition, 2004)

**Order it from:**

Canadian Public Health Association  
Health Resources Centre  
400-1565 Carling Avenue  
Ottawa ON K1Z 8R1  
Tel: (613) 725-3769  
Fax: (613) 725-9826  
Email: [publications@cpha.ca](mailto:publications@cpha.ca)  
Internet: [www.cpha.ca/en/publications/pubs.aspx](http://www.cpha.ca/en/publications/pubs.aspx)

**Cost:** \$7.50 plus shipping and taxes

## Community Kitchens Cookbook and Shopping Guide

### Description:

This is a guide to cooking healthy meals using low cost food. It can be used at home or in a community kitchen. The guide offers advice on menu planning, shopping and food safety. It also features some favourite community kitchen recipes that cost less than \$1 per serving. (2003)

### Order it from:

Kamloops FoodShare  
c/o 231 Sunhill Court  
Kamloops BC V2E 2P5  
Tel. and Fax: (250) 372-0815

**Cost:** \$18 plus 10% shipping

## Instant Chef

### Description:

This is a set of cookbooks with simple meals using low cost food. Volumes 1, 2 and 4 are still available. (1998)

### Order them from:

Bookstore  
City Centre Campus  
10700-104 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5T 4S2  
Tel: (780) 497-5482  
Fax: (780) 497-4500  
Email: bookstorer@macewen.ca

## Meals for Good Health

— by Karen Graham

### Description:

This unique cookbook gives you a month of meals shown at actual size. It has 250 beautiful color photographs and is easy to read. The low-calorie meals are tasty, nutritious and easy to make. The photograph of each meal shows the actual size of portions. People can see very easily what to eat and how much to eat for good health. (2006)

### Order it from:

Canadian Public Health Association  
Health Resources Centre  
400-1565 Carling Avenue  
Ottawa ON K1Z 8R1  
Tel: (613) 725-3769  
Fax: (613) 725-9826  
Email: publications@cpha.ca  
Internet: [www.cpha.ca/en/publications/pubs.aspx](http://www.cpha.ca/en/publications/pubs.aspx)

**Cost:** \$29.95 plus shipping and taxes (\$19.95 soft cover)

# HANDY RESOURCES

## WHERE TO FIND OTHER RESOURCES

Many companies and organizations offer health education resources about pregnancy and nutrition, breastfeeding and infant feeding. Some have free catalogues that you can order to help you decide what to buy. Some have Web sites with information.

### INFACT Canada Breastfeeding Promotional Resources

**Description:**

INFACT stands for Infant Feeding Action Coalition. They produce posters, videos, booklets, T-shirts, stickers, cards, buttons and a World Breastfeeding Week Kit. You can also become a member of INFACT. Then you will receive their newsletter and get a discount if you buy their resources. Go to their Web site to see their catalogue.

**Order resources from:**

INFACT Canada  
6 Trinity Square  
Toronto, ON M5G 1B1  
Tel: (416) 595-9819  
Fax: (416) 591-9355  
Email: [ben@infactcanada.ca](mailto:ben@infactcanada.ca)  
Internet: [www.infactcanada.ca](http://www.infactcanada.ca)

**Cost:**

Posters, stickers, buttons, and so on – prices vary  
T-shirt (various) – \$20 plus shipping  
World Breastfeeding Week Action Kit – \$40 plus shipping  
Membership (includes 4 newsletters per year) – \$55

### Superior Medical Canada & Childbirth Care Canada

This company can provide you with the following catalogues:

- Childbirth Graphics
- Health EDCO
- Injoy Videos
- Krames (booklets, brochures, and fact sheets on pregnancy-related topics)

**Order catalogues from:**

Childbirth Care Canada  
c/o Superior Medical Limited  
520 Champagne Drive  
Downsview, ON M3J 2T9  
Tel: 1-800-268-7944, or (416) 635-9797  
Fax: (416) 635-8931  
E-mail: [info@superiormedical.com](mailto:info@superiormedical.com)  
Internet: [www.superiormedical.com](http://www.superiormedical.com)

## Other Web sites

### Breastfeeding.Com

[www.breastfeeding.com](http://www.breastfeeding.com)

**Description:**

The authors of this Web site describe it as “The #1 site for breastfeeding information, support and attitude”. It offers a wide range of information on breastfeeding and describes the benefits. Two useful features are the “photo essays” (photos and written information) and short video clips that show how to position the baby well, how to ensure a proper latch, and how to express breast milk. The site has tips that would help a woman who is returning to work or school continue to breastfeed. It also includes some amusing cartoons and articles.

### Childbirth.Org

[www.childbirth.org](http://www.childbirth.org)

**Description:**

This Web site pulls together many sources of information on pregnancy, childbirth and the first few months of a child’s life. Some examples are a link to a week-by-week calendar of baby’s growth, and information on exercise during pregnancy, breastfeeding and starting to feed solid foods. It includes an online bookstore, offering books, pregnancy journals and videos.

### Dietitians of Canada

[www.dietitians.ca](http://www.dietitians.ca)

**Description:**

Dietitians of Canada represents almost 6,000 dietitians across Canada and is committed to promoting the health and well-being of consumers through food and nutrition. For trusted information on nutrition and healthy eating and to register to receive DC’s regular nutrition updates, visit Dietitians of Canada award-winning website at [www.dietitians.ca](http://www.dietitians.ca).



## Provincial Dairy Board resources

### Description:

Your provincial dairy board may have useful nutrition resources. A good example is a set of food model cards. Each of the 50 cards has a colour photograph of a food. The names of the foods are written on the back side of each card, in English and French. The cards can be used for many activities, such as showing what foods belong in each food group and how to prepare balanced meals. Another good resource is a chart for healthy eating during pregnancy or breastfeeding.

### For a list of provincial dairy boards, contact the Canadian Dairy Commission:

Canadian Dairy Commission  
Building 55, NCC Driveway  
Central Experimental Farm  
960 Carling Avenue  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0Z2  
Tel: (613) 792-2000  
Fax: (613) 792-2009  
Email: [cdc-ccl@agr.gc.ca](mailto:cdc-ccl@agr.gc.ca)  
Internet: [www.cdc.ca/cdc/index\\_en.asp?caid=87&pgid=1050](http://www.cdc.ca/cdc/index_en.asp?caid=87&pgid=1050)



# Appendices





# APPENDICES

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# APPENDIX A

## GOALS AND PRINCIPLES OF CPNP-FNIC

### **Introduction**

This appendix includes the formal wording of the vision, goals and principles of the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program, First Nations and Inuit Component (CPNP-FNIC). They are described in Section 1 of this Guidebook. They can also be found in the program Guidelines and Framework, which were released in 2000.





# APPENDIX A

## GOALS AND PRINCIPLES OF CPNP–FNIC

### Vision

The Vision for the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program, First Nations and Inuit Component (CPNP–FNIC) is:

*First Nations and Inuit communities where, as life givers, women enjoy optimal health, and where future generations are given the healthiest possible start in life.*

### Program Purpose

From this broad vision, the purpose or mission of CPNP–FNIC is **improved nutritional health of mothers and infants:**

*Through the First Nations and Inuit Component of the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program, conditions are created in which maternal and infant health can flourish.*

### Goal and Objectives

The Goal of CPNP–FNIC is:

*To improve maternal and infant nutritional health by providing a greater depth of service to women earlier in their pregnancy and for a longer duration postpartum, with a particular focus on those at high risk.*

To meet this goal, the Objectives of projects within CPNP–FNIC will be to:

1. Improve the adequacy of the diet of prenatal and breastfeeding First Nations and Inuit women.
2. Increase access to nutrition information, services, and resources to eligible First Nations and Inuit women, particularly those at high risk.
3. Increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates.
4. Increase knowledge and skill building opportunities for those involved in the program.
5. Increase the number of infants fed age-appropriate foods in the first 12 months.

# APPENDIX A

## GOALS AND PRINCIPLES OF CPNP–FNIC

### Operating Principles

All CPNP–FNIC programs will operate in manner consistent with the following four principles. Program activities will be:

- 1. Culturally grounded, community based and community paced**  
Within the framework, First Nations and Inuit communities are responsible for decision making, planning, implementing and evaluating their program in a manner that is consistent with cultural beliefs and practices.
- 2. Integrated with community programs and linked to other initiatives**  
Linkages with other initiatives may be established to maximize program resources, enhance quality and effectiveness of CPNP programming and prevent duplication of services.
- 3. Sustainable and accountable, with clear evaluation processes**  
Projects will provide high quality services and activities that have a positive impact on the health of First Nations and Inuit women and infants. Processes for reporting and evaluating CPNP will be simple and comprehensive.
- 4. Build capacity and training**  
Focused, coordinated training and development, at both the community and regional levels, will enhance program delivery and project accountability.

# APPENDIX B

## PROGRAM MODEL FOR CPNP–FNIC

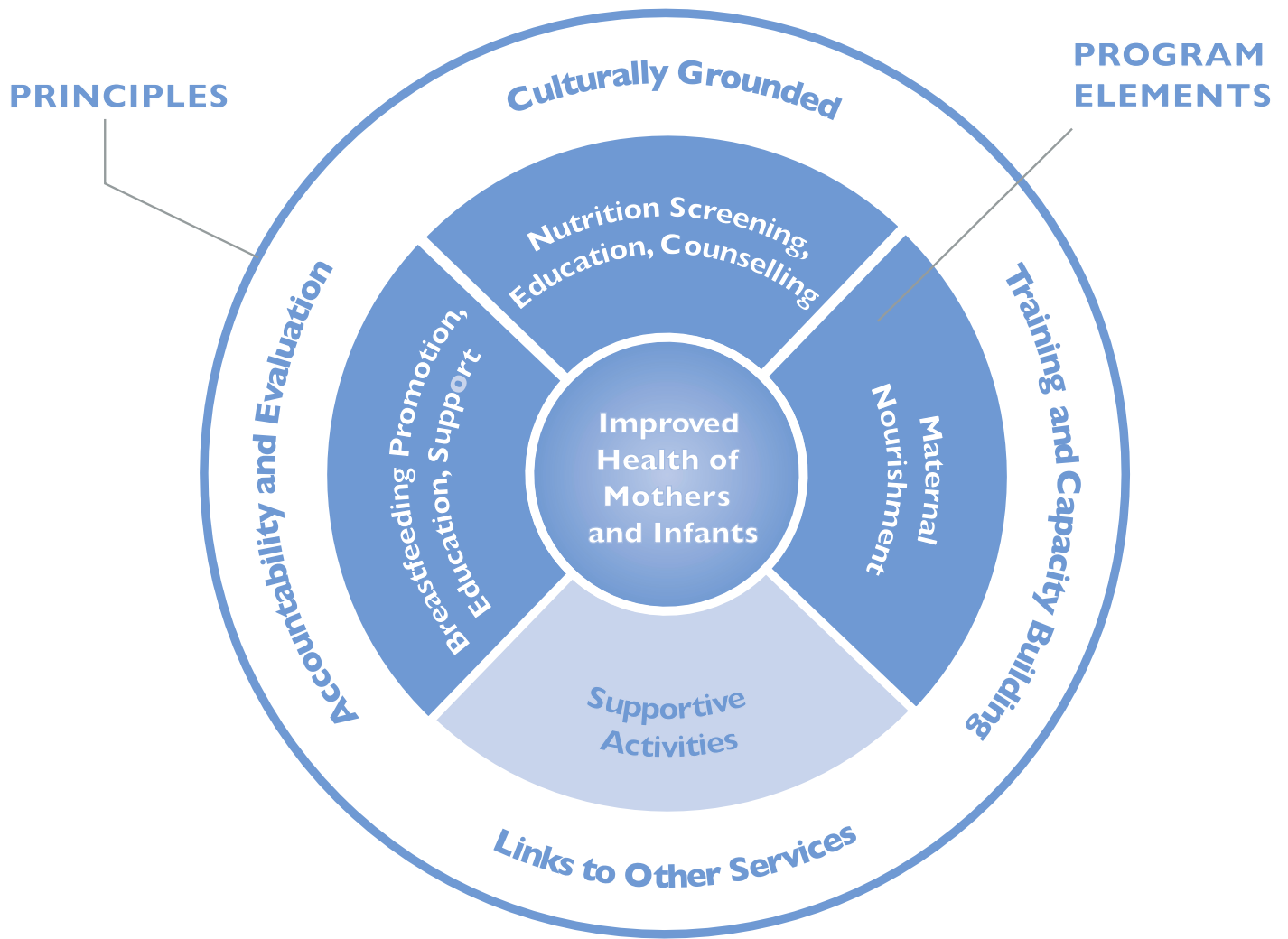
### **Introduction**

This appendix includes a full-page diagram of the model for the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program–First Nations and Inuit Component (CPNP–FNIC). It shows that the program principles, program elements and program goal are all linked together. The model is described in detail on page 1–6.



# APPENDIX B

## PROGRAM MODEL FOR CPNP-FNIC





# APPENDIX C

## SAMPLE CPNP WORK PLAN FORM

### **Introduction**

A work plan (sometimes called a proposal) is an outline of the activities you are planning for the fiscal year. The work plan shows what you will do, who will be involved, and how much you think the activities will cost.

During the fiscal year, you will do the activities listed in your work plan. This appendix is a sample work plan form to give you an idea of what makes up a work plan. The form you need to use in your region may look different. The CPNP contact in your region can provide you with the form that you need to use and tell you how often you need to report.





# APPENDIX C

## SAMPLE CPNP WORK PLAN FORM

<b>Sample Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program Work Plan Form</b> (please ask the CPNP contact in your region for the form to use in your region)						
<b>Community:</b>	<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Position:</b>				
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>			
<b>THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE CANADA PRENATAL NUTRITION PROGRAM HAS THREE CORE ELEMENTS:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nutrition screening, education and counselling;</li> <li>2. Maternal nourishment; and</li> <li>3. Breastfeeding promotion, education and support</li> </ol> <p>The overall goal of CPNP (improved nutritional health of mothers and infants) can be achieved through these core elements. Therefore, no less than 75% of your total funding should be used to support these core elements through activities that meet the needs of your community. <b>Please refer to the program guidelines.</b></p>						
<b>Core Elements</b> (at least 75% of funding)	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Anticipated Outcome</b>	<b>Actual Outcome</b> (to be completed at year end)
<b>Nutrition Screening, Education and Counselling</b>						
<b>Maternal Nourishment</b>						

# APPENDIX C

## SAMPLE CPNP WORK PLAN FORM

Core Elements (at least 75% of funding)	Activities	Time Frame	Responsibility	Budget	Anticipated Outcome	Actual Outcome (to be completed at year end)
<b>Breastfeeding Promotion, Education and Support</b>						
<p><b>NO MORE THAN 25% OF FUNDING IS TO BE USED TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES THAT HELP WOMEN TO ACCESS YOUR PROGRAM AND/OR ACTIVITIES THAT DO NOT FOCUS ON NUTRITION, BUT ARE NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF MOTHERS AND INFANTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY, AND HAVE NO OTHER FUNDING IN YOUR COMMUNITY.</b></p>						
Core Elements (no more than 25% of funding)	Activities	Time Frame	Responsibility	Budget	Anticipated Outcome	Actual Outcome (to be completed at year end)
<b>Activity to facilitate program delivery OR Activity to improve health outcome for which no other funding is available</b>						
<p><b>PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HOW YOU WILL INCORPORATE THE FOUR PRINCIPLES OF CPNP INTO YOUR ACTIVITIES:</b></p>						
<b>Culturally grounded</b>						
<b>Training and capacity building</b>						
<b>Links to other services</b>						
<b>Accountability and evaluation</b>						
<b>Prepared By</b>			<b>Date</b>		<b>Supervisor's Signature (if required)</b>	

# APPENDIX D

## SAMPLE CPNP TRACKING SHEET

### Introduction

All regions do not do their reporting in the same way. This appendix is a sample Tracking Sheet. The purpose of the Tracking Sheet is to help you keep track of the health factors of mothers and babies in CPNP. The CPNP contact in your region can provide you with a copy of the form.

Participant's Name										
Due Date (Month/Day/Year)										
<b>Accessed service for the first time during this pregnancy</b>	Before her pregnancy									
	1st Trimester									
	2nd Trimester									
	3rd Trimester									
	Postpartum									
<b>What risk factors does she have?</b>	Less than 16 years old									
	Smokes									
	Twins or triplets									
	Weight loss or poor weight gain									
	Drug and/or alcohol use									
	Diabetes before pregnancy									
	Diabetes diagnosed this pregnancy									
	None of those risk factors									
<b>Prenatal Attendance</b>	Did not attend prenatally									
	Attended less than half the time									
	Attended about half the time or more									

# APPENDIX D

## SAMPLE CPNP TRACKING SHEET (CONT'D)

Participant's Name									
Due Date (Month/Day/Year)									
<b>Birthweight</b>	Less than 5lbs 9oz (less than 2500g)								
	5lb 9oz to 8lb 11oz (2500-4000g)								
	More than 8lb 11oz (more than 4000g)								
<b>Breastfeeding Initiation</b>	Breastfed at birth								
	No breastfeeding								
<b>Breastfeeding Duration</b>	Stopped before 3 months								
	Stopped between 3 and 6 months								
	Stopped after 6 months								
	Still breastfeeding at March 31								
<b>Postnatal Attendance</b>	Did not attend								
	Attended less than half the time								
	Attended about half the time or more								
<b>Introduced Solid Foods</b>	Before 4 months								
	In the 4th or 5th month								
	In the 6th month								
	At 7 months or later								
<b>Postpartum Depression</b>	Yes								
	No								
	Not known								
<b>Father Involvement</b>	Yes								
	No								
	Not known								

# APPENDIX E

## SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTION

### **Introduction**

A job description outlines what is expected of workers. This includes their hours of work, who they report to and the activities they are involved in.

This appendix is a sample job description that lists the general activities that a CPNP worker may be involved in. Although all projects are not run in the same way, you may be able to use this sample job description and adapt it for your program.



# APPENDIX E

## SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTION

Below is a sample job description for a CPNP worker. You may be able to adapt it to meet the needs of your community.

<b>Job Title: Prenatal Nutrition Program Worker</b>	
<b>Reporting to:</b>	The Community Advisory Group
<b>Hours of work:</b>	Monday to Thursday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
<b>Main responsibility:</b>	The program worker makes sure that all program activities for pregnant women are running well, according to the prenatal nutrition program's goals and objectives.
<b>Duties:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organizes cooking groups for pregnant women. Helps women choose recipes, shops for groceries and snacks, makes sure there is enough cooking equipment and supplies. Keeps food costs within budget.</li><li>• Plans special activities and talks for weekly mothers' support group. Prepares healthy snacks for the group.</li><li>• Gives basic information on healthy eating, food shopping, and breastfeeding to women who come to the program.</li><li>• Assesses food intake of pregnant women regularly.</li><li>• Promotes the program in the community by sharing information at the prenatal clinic at the health centre, setting up information tables at the stores, and announcing program activities on the radio.</li><li>• Arranges childcare during program activities. Supervises the childcare worker.</li><li>• Makes sure that the program's site is clean and safe for women.</li><li>• Organizes regular meetings of the Community Advisory Group.</li></ul>
<b>Skills, abilities and education:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to read and write English at a grade 8 level.</li><li>• Basic cooking skills, and able to follow recipes and manage food costs.</li><li>• Ability and willingness to work with many people, to learn new information or activities related to healthy pregnancies.</li><li>• Good management skills, punctual, committed to helping pregnant and breastfeeding women.</li></ul>





# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### Introduction

It is a good idea to involve other partners in your CPNP projects. Partners can work together to promote healthy pregnancies and breastfeeding in the community.

This appendix gives you information on the roles of some common project partners:

- **Registered Dietitians / Registered Nutritionists**
- **The CPNP contact in your region**
- **Community advisory group**
- **Lactation consultant**
- **Breastfeeding counsellor or resource mother**

It also describes other partners that are common in the territories. Programs in Canada's provinces might not use these partners as often. They might find these ideas useful for their own programs.

- **Program coordinator and program assistants**
- **Regional and community sponsoring agencies**



# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### Registered Dietitians and Registered Nutritionists

Registered dietitians and registered nutritionists have expert knowledge and training. They know how to assess eating habits and how to provide counselling to help pregnant women improve their eating habits.

For this reason, communities need their support to ensure that mothers and infants get the best care possible.

In many communities, it is not easy to have access to a registered dietitian or registered nutritionist. If this is the case for your community, the CPNP contact in your region may be able to help you to link with one (see Section 7 for a list of CPNP contacts).

Here is what a registered dietitian or registered nutritionist can do:

- Assist with the planning, development and evaluation of your program. He or she may be a member of a Community Advisory Group.
- Assist in promoting the program in the community.
- Train program workers in nutrition for pregnancy and breastfeeding. This may include training on assessing food intake, organizing cooking sessions, or providing up-to-date information, and so on.
- Train peer counsellors or resource mothers in nutrition for pregnancy and breastfeeding.
- Find or develop handouts or other resources needed by your program. This may include education resources, assessment tools, or teaching aids.
- Do a complete nutrition assessment on a woman. This could be done in person, by telephone, or by videoconference.
- Counsel high-risk pregnant women.
- Review health charts and offer advice to program workers on how to support the women.
- Take part as a guest speaker for program activities.

#### Hire a qualified professional

- The titles “Registered Dietitian”, “Professional Dietitian”, “Dietitian” and “Registered Dietitian-Nutritionist” are protected by law. That means that only qualified health care workers can use those titles.
- Some qualified dietitians working in community settings use the title “Nutritionist”. That term is not protected by law in all provinces. Because of this, people with different levels of training and knowledge can call themselves a “Nutritionist”.
- You need to be careful to make sure that the person is a qualified nutrition professional. You can ask the CPNP contact in your region to check (see Section 7 for a list of CPNP contacts).

# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### **The CPNP Contact in Your Region**

The CPNP contact in your region has specific roles related to your prenatal nutrition program. These include:

- reviewing program work plans, and providing feedback and approval
- participating in regional advisory groups that review and approve proposals
- assessing needs for training
- planning and assisting with training of CPNP workers
- helping to ensure that CPNP activities complement existing programs in the region
- providing information on funding to programs

See Section 7 for a list of CPNP contacts.

# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### Community Advisory Group

It is a good idea to form a community advisory group to provide overall direction for your program. In the territories, it is standard to form this group.

Here is what the advisory group can do:

- Provide advice on how to plan and promote the program.
- Assist in hiring program workers. This can include writing job descriptions, deciding on hours of work, wages and benefits, and participating in interviews.
- Help you solve problems that may come up.
- Advise the program coordinator of issues in the community.
- Provide direction and consultation on pregnancy and breastfeeding issues.
- Plan the next year's activities.

The people you invite to volunteer as a member of this group should have skills and knowledge in many areas. For example:

- planning or running programs
- managing budgets
- coordinating support groups
- planning and carrying out learning activities
- professional knowledge of nutrition, pregnancy and breastfeeding

#### Who should become a member of this group?

Three to five people is usually enough for an advisory group. The number of people in the group would depend on the community's size and interest in the program.

Members may include:

- a pregnant woman who attends the program
- elders
- a nurse or community health representative (CHR) from the health centre or public health unit
- a registered dietitian or registered nutritionist (a Regional Nutritionist if the program has one)
- a social services worker, alcohol and drug worker, community wellness program worker, or recreation worker
- a councillor from the community leadership
- a grocery store owner or manager
- the program's coordinator (It may be the coordinator's job to arrange advisory group meetings.)

In the territories, this group may also include:

- a Pauktuutit member or Native Women's Association member
- Hamlet or Band councillor
- a member of the Hunters and Trappers Association

# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### ***Community Advisory Group (con't)***

#### **How often should an advisory group meet?**

It is good to have at least four meetings each year. The group may need to meet more often if the program is just starting. In some programs, the group meets every 1 to 2 months. Make sure to keep a written record of the issues discussed and the decisions made at the meeting (called minutes). You can include the minutes in the program's regular or year-end reports.

### **Lactation Consultant**

Your program may want to hire a lactation consultant or invite one to come as a guest speaker. Or you may want to help pay for a nurse or dietitian in your community to get training to become a lactation consultant.

A lactation consultant has special training to help breastfeeding mothers.

Here is what she can do:

- Help solve difficult breastfeeding situations, such as how to feed a jaundiced baby, or how to deal with nipple or breast problems.
- Train breastfeeding counsellors or resource mothers to understand the basics of breastfeeding.
- Act as a resource person for the program.

### **Breastfeeding Counsellor or Resource Mother**

Here is what a breastfeeding counsellor or resource mother can do:

- Be a role model.
- Assess a woman's readiness to breastfeed.
- Visit the breastfeeding mother often in the early weeks after birth.
- Keep up-to-date with information on breastfeeding.
- Provide the women with correct information on the benefits of breastfeeding, common concerns and the normal needs of the baby.
- Bring pregnant and breastfeeding women together.
- Offer home visits, group sessions, and telephone follow-ups.
- Refer special or difficult problems to a lactation consultant or nurse.

# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### Partners that are Common in the Territories

#### Regional and Community Sponsoring Agencies

Sponsoring agencies are common in the territories. Keeping track of the money for prenatal nutrition programs is one of the duties of the sponsoring agencies.

<b>Regional sponsoring agencies</b>	<b>Community sponsoring agencies</b>
<p>These are usually aboriginal organizations or regional health and social services boards.</p> <p>The regional sponsoring agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• signs the contribution agreement with the territorial government</li><li>• administers the prenatal nutrition programs in all of the communities in its region</li><li>• provides regional and financial reports to the territorial government</li></ul>	<p>These are often local governments like hamlet or band offices, friendship centres, wellness agencies, or district education authorities.</p> <p>The community sponsoring agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• handles the money for its community's prenatal nutrition program</li><li>• keeps track of payroll (Program workers are usually employees of the community sponsoring agency.)</li><li>• keeps track of accounts and payment of suppliers</li><li>• writes activity reports and financial statements that are sent to the regional sponsoring agency</li><li>• regularly reviews the program's finances and activities with the program coordinator and the community advisory group (at least once every 3 months)</li><li>• participates regularly in meetings of the community advisory group. (Someone from the community sponsoring agency usually becomes a member of the advisory group.)</li></ul>

# APPENDIX F

## ROLES OF SOME PROJECT PARTNERS

### **Partners that are Common in the Territories (con't)**

#### **Program Coordinator and Program Assistants**

These workers are common in the territories. A program coordinator and program assistants run the day-to-day activities and work with the women who come to the program. They are often the first point of contact with a pregnant woman.

<b>Program coordinator</b>	<b>Program assistants</b>
<p>The coordinator is responsible for all services offered by the program. The coordinator usually has training and experience in community health and education.</p> <p>Some duties of the coordinator may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• planning program activities</li><li>• making sure that all services are running well according to the program's goals and objectives</li><li>• meeting with the community advisory group about the program's activities and financial needs</li><li>• supervising and training program assistants</li><li>• holding one-on-one sessions and being directly involved in program activities like cooking groups</li><li>• completing program evaluations, reports and financial statements</li></ul>	<p>Program assistants may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• outreach workers or resource mothers who understand the needs of the women and encourage changes for a healthier pregnancy</li><li>• peer counsellors who have training in a special area like breastfeeding</li><li>• cooking facilitators who have good cooking and food shopping skills, and can be responsible for the cooking groups</li><li>• prenatal health educator or childbirth educator, usually hired on a contract to teach the prenatal groups</li><li>• childcare workers who care for the children so that their mothers can enjoy the program's activities</li></ul>



# APPENDIX G

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR KITCHEN IS SAFE

### **Introduction**

As a CPNP worker, you are responsible for keeping the kitchen safe when your group has a cooking class or is making baby food. This appendix provides you with some tips on how to make sure your kitchen is safe.

Cooking with a group can be very hectic. Before the cooking begins, take time to talk about how to prevent accidents, and make a few safety rules for the kitchen.



# APPENDIX G

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR KITCHEN IS SAFE

### **Making the kitchen a safe place**

- Keep a first aid kit in the kitchen. Learn basic first aid.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen. Make sure it is fully charged and that you know how to use it.
- Put a list of safety tips on the kitchen wall. Talk about the tips with all the women in your program before you begin your activity.
- Find out where the fire exit is. Do a fire drill at least once with each group.

### **List of safety tips for the kitchen**

- Everyone must wear shoes in the kitchen.
- Wipe up spills (from the floors and counters) right away.
- Pick up things that fall on the floor.
- Close cupboards and drawers.
- Use oven mitts (not dishtowels) to take things out of the oven. Carry hot dishes carefully.
- Turn pot handles in toward the stove (do not let them stick out over the edge of the stove).
- Keep paper towels, recipes, potholders and cloths away from the stove.
- Do not leave food cooking on the stove without someone watching it. Food can burn easily.
- Keep knives and ulus sharp. Carry knives and ulus with the blade pointing down toward the floor.
- Use cutting boards to cut food.
- Leave dirty knives and ulus beside the sink. Do not throw them into a sink full of water.
- Do not use broken or chipped dishes, cups or plates. Throw them away.
- Keep children out of the kitchen.



# APPENDIX H

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR FOOD IS SAFE

### Introduction

It is important to prepare and put away (or store) food in the proper way. This appendix gives you tips on how to make sure food is safe.

Why do we need to prepare and store food properly?

- so the food will not spoil
- so the food will be safe to eat
- so we can keep costs low by not wasting food
- Eating food that is not safe can lead to food poisoning. This can be very serious in a pregnant woman. It can cause harm to the unborn baby.

Everyone who is a part of a prenatal nutrition program needs to know how to handle food in a safe way.

- Make sure you know how to handle food safely.
- Remind the women in your group about food safety every second or third time you meet.



# APPENDIX H

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR FOOD IS SAFE

It is important to prepare and put away (or store) food in the proper way.

Why do we need to prepare and store food properly?

- so the food will not spoil
- so the food will be safe to eat
- so we can keep costs low by not wasting food
- Eating food that is not safe can lead to food poisoning. This can be very serious in a pregnant woman. It can cause harm to the unborn baby.

### **How to store (put away) food that belongs to your program**

- Foods must be stored in a place that is:
  - clean and dry with good air flow (ventilation)
  - free of bugs and dirt
  - easy to reach
  - secure (kept in a locked room, locked cupboard or locked freezer)
- Check expiry dates (on milk, bread, and other foods). Use the food before the expiry or “best before” dates.
- Store newer foods at the back of the shelf and move older ones to the front.
- Throw away cans of food that have dents or are swollen.
- Throw away any food you think may be spoiled. Be careful — some spoiled foods may not smell, taste or look bad.
- Clean the cupboards, fridge and freezer often.
- Make sure that containers have no cracks or holes. Put a label on containers to show the name of the food or the date when a package was opened.
- Keep laundry or dish soap, bleach, and other cleaners far away from food, in their own cupboard.

# APPENDIX H

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR FOOD IS SAFE

Everyone who is a part of a prenatal nutrition program needs to know how to handle food in a safe way.

- Make sure you know how to handle food safely.
- Remind the women in your group about food safety every second or third time you meet.

### How to handle food safely

#### Clean

- Wear clean clothes and a clean apron.
- Tie back long hair or use a hair net
- Do not smoke in kitchen
- Wipe or soak counters, cutting boards, pots and utensils using a mixture of bleach and water. **You do not need to use a lot of bleach.** We suggest only 1 teaspoon of bleach for every 3 cups of water.
- Use clean dishtowels and dish cloths.
- Wash all vegetables and fruit well before using.

#### Separate

- Keep raw meats (including fish and bird) away from other foods when you are cooking and when you store foods.
- Use separate cutting boards for raw meat, poultry, seafood and vegetables, and wash them before using them to cut any other food.
- Always keep foods covered.

#### Cook

- Make sure food is well cooked (and that dried meat is well dried). Cooking times and temperatures vary for different kinds of meat and bird.
- **Keep hot foods hot!** Prepare hot foods quickly, and serve them right away so they do not stay at room temperature where bacteria can grow.
- Use one spoon to stir food and another spoon to taste food. Do not put the “tasting” spoon back into the pot.

#### Chill

- Follow the 2-hour rule. Refrigerate or freeze leftovers and other foods that can spoil at room temperature within 2 hours.
- **Keep cold foods cold!** Make sure the fridge is set at a temperature of 4°C (40°F), and keep the freezer at -18°C (0°F).
- Thaw meats in the fridge. You may need to take meat out of the freezer a day or two before you cook it.

#### Wash your hands often

Each person in the group should wash their hands often with soap and warm water:

- before touching food
- after touching raw meat, fish or bird
- after using the bathroom or blowing their nose
- after coughing, sneezing or touching their eyes
- after taking out the garbage or sweeping the floors



# APPENDIX H

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR FOOD IS SAFE

Perishable and non-perishable foods must be stored in different ways		
	Perishable foods	Non-perishable foods
<b>What are they?</b>	Foods that spoil easily	Foods that can be kept for a longer time and do not need to be kept in the fridge
<b>Examples</b>	Fresh meat, fish, chicken, cheese, fresh milk, yogurt, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables	Macaroni, rice, dried beans, flour, sugar, canned foods
<b>How to store them</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Store perishable foods in the fridge.</li> <li>• Keep potatoes, onions, and bananas in a dry, cool cupboard.</li> <li>• Your fridge's temperature should be 4°C.</li> <li>• Your freezer temperature should be -18°C or colder.</li> <li>• Leave eggs in the carton and store them in the fridge.</li> <li>• Throw away broken or cracked eggs.</li> <li>• Use raw foods within 2 to 3 days.</li> <li>• Use cooked leftovers within 3 to 4 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep non-perishable foods in a dry, cool place.</li> <li>• Store them on shelves, not on the floor.</li> <li>• Put opened bags of flour, sugar and oatmeal in clean containers with lids.</li> <li>• Do not let canned foods freeze.</li> </ul>

### How to store leftovers

- When you are cooking, wrap up extra (leftover) ingredients or put them in a container with a lid. Put a label on them that says what the food is and the date.
- Put cooked leftovers into the fridge until you are ready to eat them.
- Put leftover canned food into another dish or container before storing it in the fridge.
- Use cooked leftovers within 3 to 4 days.
- Use raw leftover meat, fish or bird within 2 to 3 days.
- Do not re-freeze meat, fish or bird that was frozen before. You should cook any leftover raw meat, fish or bird and then put it in the fridge or freezer.

# APPENDIX H

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR FOOD IS SAFE

Eating food that is not safe can lead to food poisoning. This can be very serious in a pregnant woman. It can cause harm to the unborn baby.

### **Food safety tips for pregnant women**

- Do not eat hot dogs or luncheon meats (e.g., deli-meat) during pregnancy unless they are reheated until steaming
- Avoid soft cheeses like Camembert or Brie and blue-veined cheeses during pregnancy
- Do not eat refrigerated meat spreads during pregnancy. Canned or shelf-stable meats are safe to eat
- Only eat refrigerated smoked fish if it is in a cooked dish, such as a casserole. Canned fish or shelf-stable smoked fish are safe to eat.
- Do not eat raw meats (including fish and bird), raw eggs and unpasteurized milk products
- Do not buy (and/or eat) cans that are dented, rusty or swollen. The food inside the can may not be safe to eat.
- Use a pressure canner for home canning of vegetables, meat, bird or fish to prevent botulism.

The *Building Healthy Babies* manual has more information on food safety during pregnancy