

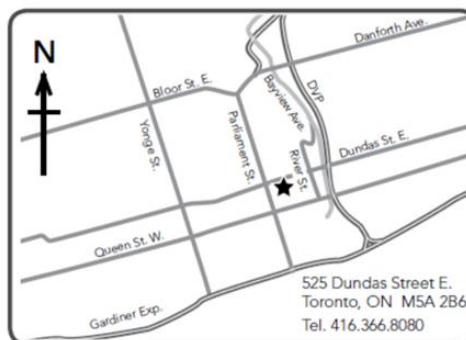
## TBC supports the rights of Indigenous Peoples:

- Ⓒ Indigenous teachings on our collective roles and responsibilities
- Ⓒ Including our right to practice Aboriginal/Indigenous midwifery fully in the ways of our ancestors (scope)
- Ⓒ Support for Aboriginal midwives practicing under the exception clause
- Ⓒ The UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- Ⓒ The Constitution of Canada
- Ⓒ The Ontario Human Rights Code



## Location

The Toronto Birth Centre is located near Dundas Street East and Parliament Street in downtown Toronto.



## Interested in a Tour?

### Contact Us!

Phone: (416)366-8080 x 101



525 Dundas Street East  
Toronto, ON M5A 2B6  
(416)366-8080

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

For more information about Aboriginal midwifery:

National Aboriginal Council of Midwives  
<http://www.aboriginalmidwives.ca/>

Tsi Non:we lonnakeratstha Ona:grahsta  
Six Nations Maternal and Child Centre  
<http://www.snhs.ca/bcBackground.htm>



## Indigenous Framework

## Toronto Birth Centre

*TBC's vision is to create a space where pregnant people, families and communities can access culturally safe birthing care*



### TBC services are grounded in the Indigenous Framework, from governance to operations:

- ⌋ Majority Indigenous representation and leadership
- ⌋ Awareness and acknowledgement of the histories of Indigenous peoples in Canada
- ⌋ Recognition of the inter-generational impacts/legacies of colonization
- ⌋ Support for Indigenous reclamation of culture & identity
- ⌋ Critical reflection on different narratives of history, society & health
- ⌋ A commitment to developing skills in providing culturally safe midwifery care
- ⌋ Supporting efforts to resist colonization, to self-locate and make connections between one's power and privilege

## What is an Indigenous Framework?

The TBC was founded with a conceptual structure that is reflective of the people who are Indigenous to Turtle Island (North America). This framework is based on the diversity of the First Peoples on Turtle Island and the worldviews that we hold.

*Itapisinowin*, a Cree word that represents an Indigenous worldview, reminds us that worldviews can vary from community to community, nation to nation and person to person.

### Common threads between Indigenous Worldviews:

- ⌋ Respect for the sacredness of all life
- ⌋ Interconnectedness & interdependencies of all of creation
- ⌋ Harmony and balance with the natural world and the universe
- ⌋ Our roles & responsibilities to the natural world and laws of nature
- ⌋ Focus on kinship relations (*biological, customary, chosen*)
- ⌋ Nurturing healthy & reciprocal partnerships
- ⌋ Maintenance of cultural integrity



### TBC's Core Values



### Toronto Birth Centre's Purpose

To achieve optimal health and wellness for the whole community through culturally centred care, education and research that supports the practice of Aboriginal midwifery in its fullest scope, both culturally and professionally.

### What is Cultural safety?

Cultural safety was first introduced by *Irihapeti Ramsden*, a Maori nurse in *Aotearoa* (New Zealand), in 1989. Her description of the term explained that cultural safety moves beyond cultural sensitivity and cultural competence in that it analyzes power imbalances in society, as well as political ideals of self-determination and de-colonization.\*

\*<http://www.aht.ca/aboriginal-culture-safety>

