



Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan

Terms of Reference

- Vision:** To provide a provincial framework that promotes breastfeeding as the cultural norm for infant feeding within Saskatchewan.
- Mission:** To protect, promote and support breastfeeding within Saskatchewan as the normal method of infant feeding.
- Goal:** From 2023-2028, the BCS will focus on promoting the Baby Friendly Initiative (BFI) as the evidence informed best practice standards for improving food security and health for families in Saskatchewan
- Functions:**
1. Provide support to local and provincial groups for implementation of the Baby Friendly Initiative.
 2. Provide ongoing expert advice and recommendations on breastfeeding and implementing the Baby-Friendly Initiative, to governments and organizations for research, policy and program development, and direction.
 3. Facilitate and support collaborative networks to protect, promote and support breastfeeding in Saskatchewan (ie. Public Health Nutritionists Working Group, Breastfeeding Committee of Canada, local breastfeeding committees).
 4. Provide a forum for sharing information and facilitating the sharing of evidenced-based breastfeeding research and materials to the group.
 5. Develop resources to support breastfeeding as a cultural norm for infant feeding in Saskatchewan.
 6. Develop/revise the strategic plan and develop a yearly action plan at the annual strategic planning meeting.
 7. Promote, support and incorporate indigenous/multicultural customs and traditions around infant feeding.

Membership:

- Representatives from the former health regions in Saskatchewan and additional representatives including, but not limited to, CPNP, LaLeche League, First Nations communities, CNE, Kids First, Saskatchewan Prevention Institute and consumer representatives.
- The Committee will maintain multi-disciplinary representation such as, but not limited to, registered nurses, lactation consultants (IBCLC), dietitians, speech pathologists, physicians, pharmacists and more
- The executive of the Committee will have 2 co-chairs, 1 secretary, 1 treasurer and 3 members-at-large.
- Visitors are welcome to observe committee meetings with the approval of the co-chairs. Visitors will not be allowed to vote.
- Ex-officio members:
 - PHAC
 - Saskatchewan Ministry of Health Public Health Nursing Consultant

Commitment:

- Meeting will be held a minimum of three times per year by teleconference plus one combined AGM and strategic planning meeting in the spring to develop the strategic plan for the coming year.
- Committee members have the following responsibilities to the Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan:
 - Bring/share information at the meetings about their local breastfeeding committee work and updates on work being done in their local geographical area.
 - Participate in at least one sub-committee.
 - Participate in the executive positions
 - Share information from committee meetings with local breastfeeding committees/groups/organizations through sharing minutes with manager/director or designate. Members are to be actively involved in the work of the BCS committee.

Accountability:

Each Committee member is accountable to their own organization/committee/community group that they represent.

Minutes from the BCS meetings will be shared with manager/director or designate.

Position Statements:

- Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan. (2019). *Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan Position Statement -- Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding through The WHO Code and the Ethical Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes*. Retrieved from https://www.thebcs.ca/documents/position%20statements/2019May%20BCS_Position_Statement_WHO_Code.pdf

- Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan. (2019). *Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan Position Statement - The Baby Friendly Initiative™: Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding. Breastfeeding is a critical public health issue*. Retrieved from https://www.thebcs.ca/documents/position%20statements/2019MayBCS_Position_Statement_BFI.pdf
- Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan. (2019). *Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan Position Statement – Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding Through Donor Human Milk Banking*. Retrieved from https://www.thebcs.ca/documents/position%20statements/2019MayBCS_Position_Statement_DHMB.pdf

The Breastfeeding Committee for Saskatchewan supports the following as foundational principles:

Breastfeeding Committee for Canada. Baby-Friendly Initiative [Internet]. 2021. Available from <https://breastfeedingcanada.ca/en/baby-friendly-initiative/>

Canadian Pediatric Society (2020). Position Statement: The Baby-Friendly Initiative: Protecting, promoting and supporting Breastfeeding. Available at: <https://www.cps.ca/en/documents/position/baby-friendly-initiative-breastfeeding>

Health Canada (2015). Nutrition for healthy term infants: Recommendations from six to 24 months. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/canada-food-guide/resources/infantfeeding/nutrition-healthy-term-infants-recommendations-birth-six-months/6-24-months.html>

UNICEF UK. (2019) *The UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Resources to Implement Baby Friendly Standards*.

Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org.uk/babyfriendly/baby-friendly-resources/implementing-standards-resources/>

World Health Organization. Protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding: the baby-friendly hospital initiative for small, sick and preterm newborns [Internet]. 2020. Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240005648>

WHO (1981). *International code of marketing of breast-milk substitutes*. Geneva: World Health Organization.

Retrieved from https://www.unicef.org/nutrition/files/nutrition_code_english.pdf

World Health Organization/United Nations International Children’s Fund. (1990). Innocenti Declaration. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/programme/breastfeeding/innocenti.htm>

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