

## Hotì ts'eeda Project Spotlight

# NORTHERN BIRTHWORK COLLECTIVE

*Reproductive Justice Advocacy*

The Northern Birthwork Collective (NBC) is a team of NWT reproductive justice advocates (including birthworkers, parents, and community members). NBC works to improve access to reproductive care in the NWT, grounded in anti-racism, cultural safety, and inclusivity.

### WHAT IS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE?

Reproductive justice refers to a person's rights in relation to pregnancy and childbirth, including the right to have a child, the right to not have a child, and the right to raise children in a safe and healthy environment.

NBC's vision for reproductive justice is for all pregnant/birthing people and families in the NWT to have access to holistic and dignified support that is respectful and free of oppression and racism; with a focus on those in underserved communities.

### NBC'S WORK

The NBC offers cost-supported programming and services for families and individuals throughout the stages of **contraception, pregnancy, birth, postpartum, lactation, loss, abortion, and parenting.**

### What is a birthworker?

Birthworkers (also known as Birth Keepers, Aunties, or Doulas) are trained professionals who offer emotional, spiritual, physical and informational support for people who are pregnant or in early postpartum.

### BIRTHWORKER TRAINING

The NBC is developing an Indigenous Birthwork Training program, which will reflect traditional birth practices of all regions of the NWT. This training will create opportunities for northern Indigenous people to support their communities in having safe and culturally affirming births. Stay tuned to NBC's website for updates on this training.



Hotì ts'eeda is proud to support the ongoing work of the NBC. Learn more at [northernbirthwork.com](http://northernbirthwork.com)

#### References

1. <https://www.northernbirthwork.com/vision>
2. <https://www.northernbirthwork.com/blog/what-is-a-birthworker>
3. <https://www.northernbirthwork.com/indigenous-birthwork-training>



**Hotì ts'eeda**  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
SPOR SUPPORT UNIT



[nwtsp.or.ca](http://nwtsp.or.ca)