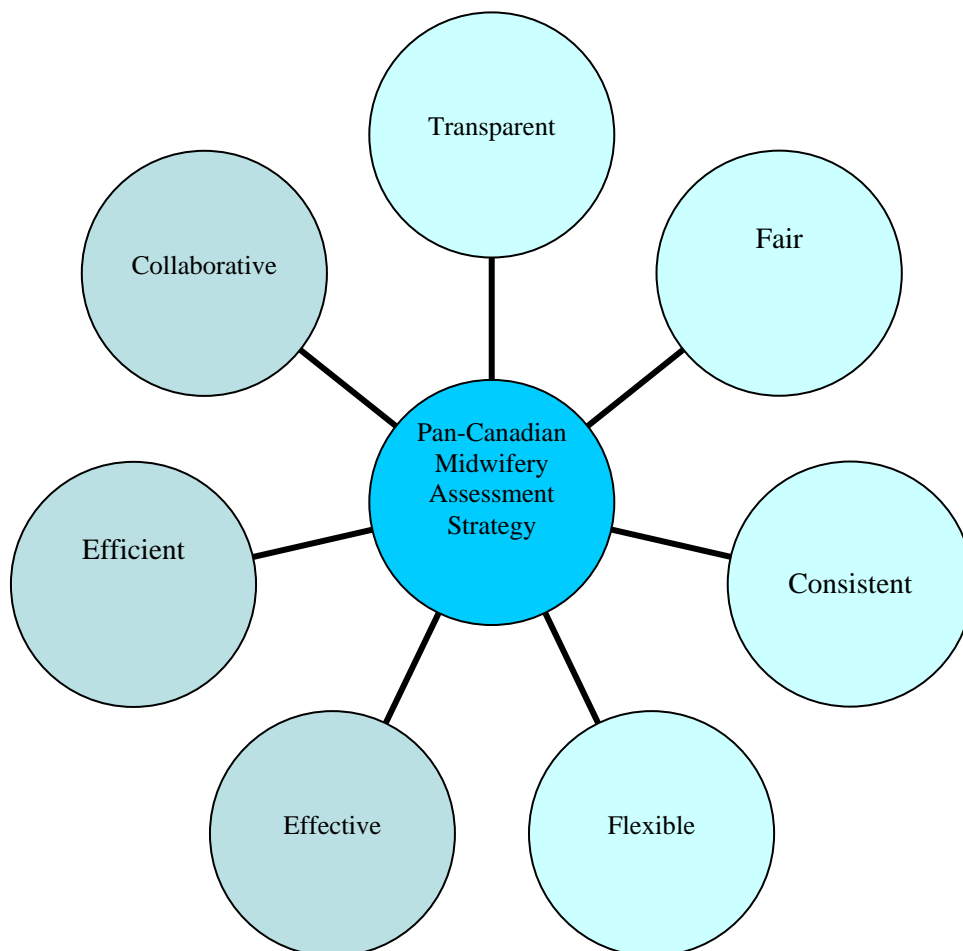


National Midwifery Assessment Strategy

Over the course of the NAS project, the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Consortium and its member regulators adopted a pan-Canadian strategy for the assessment of internationally-educated midwives.

Principles

The strategy, and the assessment tools used to implement it, must adhere to the principles of good assessment illustrated in the diagram and narrative descriptions below.



Transparent

The path to becoming a registered midwife in Canada must be clear to internationally-educated candidates.

Information should be accessible to IEMs prior to their arrival in Canada to assist them to determine if their skills and experience fit, if they want to practise in the Canadian model of

practice, and if they have the financial and personal resources to complete the assessment process for registration.

All information should be clear, easily accessible, and comprehensive. While provincial and territorial regulators must provide detailed information on their specific processes, information should also be provided from a national perspective in order to assist IEMs who may not know in which province they wish to settle.

Fair

Assessment tools and processes must be fair to internationally-educated midwives. They should follow industry standards or better. All those involved in carrying out assessment processes should provide respectful and culturally competent support to IEMs.

Consistent

Assessment processes should be as consistent as possible from one jurisdiction to another. Wherever possible, policies and procedures should be harmonized, and regulators should consider harmonizing assessment tools when this is viable.

Flexible

Assessment processes should be as individualized as possible. They should be offered in as many locations and as often as resources will allow. Provinces and territories should consider accepting assessments or partial assessments from other jurisdictions once harmonization has taken place.

Effective

All assessment tools must be able to effectively identify candidates who can practise safely in Canada, and conversely must enable identification of those who are incompetent for Canadian practice.

Efficient

The pan-Canadian strategy should decrease each regulator's workload by ensuring that duplication in tasks between provinces/territories are avoided.

Collaborative

Provinces and territories should collaborate to ensure the best assessment of internationally-educated midwives. This may include sharing of information, co-offering certain assessment processes (eg national exam), and/or working to ensure processes are as harmonized and in keeping with industry standards as possible. It is noted however that provinces and territories will maintain coordination of their provincial processes, candidates will continue to apply to the province or territory they wish to practise in, and regulators will continue to set requirements and make decisions about all applicants for registration accordingly to their provincial legislation.