



Apply for recognition as a Leading Practice and showcase your success with the Baby-Friendly Initiative!

Background

The Breastfeeding Committee for Canada (BCC) is leading a National Baby-Friendly Initiative Quality Improvement Collaborative Project ('BFI Project') with 15 healthcare organizations and 25 hospital facilities from across Canada. Many other hospitals and community health services outside of the BFI Project have attained BFI designation from the BCC. We encourage organizations that have participated in the BFI Project or attained BFI designation from the BCC in the last 5 years to submit your BFI Journey as an HSO Leading Practice!

What is a Leading Practice?

A Leading Practice is an innovative, people-centred, evidence-informed practice that has been implemented by teams in an organization. The leading practice has demonstrated a positive change related to safe and reliable care/service, accessible and appropriate care/service, and/or integrated care/service. All Leading Practices are published in HSO's [Leading Practices Library](#).

Who can apply?

Organizations that have been successful in implementing the Baby-Friendly Initiative practices and demonstrated improved care outcomes either through participation in the National Baby-Friendly Initiative Quality Improvement Collaborative Project or attained BFI designation from the Breastfeeding Committee for Canada in the last 5 years.

What are the six acceptance criteria?

Leading Practices Review Criterion	Decision Guidelines
People-Centred	The submission describes how: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Team/team members are engaged in the planning, design, development, implementation and/or evaluation of the practice.• Team/team members' engagement is clearly identified as an enabling factor for the practice.• Team/team members' experiences and perspectives are captured.• The strategies that are used to involve team/team members in the process.• The practice empowers team/team members as active partners in health services or education planning and delivery.
Evaluation Methodology	The submission describes how the practice was evaluated. Information provided clearly states:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The measurable objectives targeted in the evaluation. • The quantitative indicators or qualitative information collected, with a clear connection between the measurable objectives and the indicator. • The method or tool used to gather the information. • The time when the evaluation was started and completed.
Demonstrated Intended Results	The submission describes the tangible results that the practice produced and results that demonstrate a positive change related to safe and reliable care/service, accessible and appropriate care/service, and/or integrated care/service.
Spread and Sustainability	<p>The submission describes how the practice will be sustained (there is a sustainability plan) and how it is or can be replicated and/or spread to other areas of the organization and externally.</p> <p>The submission indicates that there has been or will be a spread of success and lessons learned internally and externally in the system.</p>
Adaptability to Other Organizations	<p>The submission describes how the practice may be implemented in other organizations.</p> <p>And describes, based on your experience, the potential barriers and facilitating elements that other organizations wanting to adopt the practice may need to consider. Strategies to overcome these barriers and to achieve buy-in are included.</p>
Innovative/ Transformative	<p>The submission states if the practice is innovative or transformative.</p> <p>Innovative: The practice clearly improves upon existing processes/outcomes in a meaningful way or is new and novel. The practice employed exemplifies creativity.</p> <p>Transformative: An existing practice, already implemented elsewhere, is adapted and applied in a significantly different manner by the organization.</p>

How to apply?

An applicant can use the provided application form to collect information, and then apply through the [online platform](#) and provide a description of the practice and how it meets the six acceptance criteria. Watch a [tutorial video](#) about how to submit your leading practice application.



Who will review the applications?

The Leading Practices program relies on Reviewers who are experts in the Baby-Friendly Initiative. Reviewers have the knowledge and ability to evaluate the leading practices based on the six acceptance criteria. The reviewers can be parent partners, BFI Project administrators, and/or BFI quality improvement experts.

What should I expect after I have submitted an application?

The application process will take up to 90 days to receive a final decision letter.

If the application is accepted as a Leading Practice, it will be published in [HSO's Leading Practices Library](#). Successful organizations will receive an electronic certificate recognizing this achievement. Organizations can use the electronic certificate to promote their Leading Practice online. Organizations can also receive printed Leading Practices certificates (up to 3 printed copies) upon request. Leading Practices are also promoted through HSO mediums including newsletters, webinars, conferences, education materials, and affiliated accrediting bodies. For any questions, please contact the [Leading Practices Associate](#).