



MOUNT ROYAL
UNIVERSITY
1910

Advanced Studies in Critical Care Nursing

2022-2026



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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Oki (Blackfoot), Aba wattech (Îyârhe Nakoda), Danit'ada (Tsuut'ina), Tawnshi (Métis). I welcome you with the Treaty 7 languages.

Thank you for your interest in Mount Royal University's School of Nursing and Midwifery (SoNM).

At no time in our history has midwifery and nursing been more important to sustaining healthy, functioning societies. We are working to decolonize our programs and address structural considerations in our teaching and learning space.

To ensure we practice these considerations, we developed the School of Nursing and Midwifery strategic plan to embed equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility into the vision, mission and goals, weaving it directly through the core of our work with students, faculty and staff.

As we prepare midwives and nurses that embody our vision, we look to Espoom Tah (helper) and Siksika Elder Roy Bear Chief's words to guide us — "to go forward, we must look back." We endeavour to learn from our history as we create a future that advances health and well-being and values equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility in our teaching and learning spaces.

To learn more about our programs and practices, please explore our website and reach out if you have ideas you would like to share.

Sokapîi (all is well),

Elizabeth (Liz) Van Den Kerkhof, RN DrPH
Director, School of Nursing and Midwifery



MESSAGE FROM ESPOOM TAH

Oki (hello), Nikso ko waiksi (all my relations)

As the Faculty of Health, Community and Education's (HCE) Espoom Tah (helper), I was happy to contribute to the School of Nursing and Midwifery Strategic Plan.

Early in my career, I was a Nursing Assistant and practiced for about 15 years before I changed careers. I enjoyed my time in the healthcare field. As a bedside nurse, I helped people go from surgery to recovery, to being discharged.

Embedded in healthcare practice is the Blackfoot word Kimma pi pitsin, which means kindness/compassion. The notion being that providing kindness and compassion will help speed up the recovery process. Kindness and compassion will do wonders for people in recovery, and it helps them get home sooner to family and friends.

Kimma pi pitsin is free to give out and doesn't cost anything.

Thank you,

Roy Bear Chief
Espoom Tah (Helper)



STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE



ROY BEAR CHIEF

Elder Guidance, Espoom Tah (helper), Faculty of HCE

DR. ELIZABETH VAN DEN KERKHOF

Director, School of Nursing and Midwifery (SoNM)

DR. MURRAY HOLTBY

Chair, SoNM

DR. CATHY CARTER-SNELL

Committee Chair, Professor, Bachelor of Nursing (BN),
Scholar in Teaching

MS. BRENDA BLACK

Assistant to the Chair, SoNM

MS. DASHA BOSYY

BN Class of 2021

MS. JOANNE BOUMA

Associate Professor, BN

MS. ASHLEY EMERY

Assistant to the Director, SoNM

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

MS. JOAN HARRIS

Associate Professor, Advanced Studies in Critical Care
Nursing (ACCN)

DR. PATTIE PRYMA

Associate Professor, BN

MS. SABRINA REED

Professor, English

MS. JOCELYN REMPEL

Associate Professor, Chair in Older Adult Health

MS. ROBYN STEWART

Associate Professor, Bridge to Canadian Nursing (BCN)

MS. DANAIET TEAME

Manager, Health Simulation Learning Centre (HSLC)

DR. DEEPALI UPADHAYA

Interim Academic Director, Associate Professor,
Bachelor of Midwifery (BMid)

Thank you to the program Advisory Committees and community members, as well as the staff, students and faculty who provided input to the plan.

ABOUT US

Thank you for your interest in and curiosity about this very unique and special nursing certificate offered to registered nurses who would like to pursue a career in critical care nursing or deepen their knowledge and skills in their critical care career path.

Our program faculty and staff strive to honor and acknowledge the diverse previous life and work experiences of our students and support them in acquiring the knowledge and skills to provide safe, compassionate, culturally sensitive and ethically practiced care to critically ill patients. Our goal is to provide the foundations for successful transitioning into the critical care environment, or, if currently working in this environment, to strengthen and deepen their knowledge and confidence.

To guide our key purpose of preparing RNs for critical care environments we have developed a strategic plan that has at its foundations the core principles of engaged learning, evidenced-based curriculum, community partnering and equity, diversity, inclusion.

To learn more about our program, please explore our website and reach out if you have questions or concerns.

We look forward to learning with you!

Take care,
ACCN Team



ABOUT US

Advanced Studies in Critical Care Nursing (ACCN)

The ACCN program is highly experiential and includes clinical experience. The program undergoes regular internal review guided by the Campus Alberta Quality Council. The ACCN strategic plan aligns with the SoNM and HCE strategic plans.



Mission

Use evidence-informed and inclusive curricula to assist students in developing foundational ethically-informed knowledge, skills and abilities to incorporate clinical judgement into the care of individuals, families and communities requiring critical care.

Vision

Creating leaders in critical care and emergency nursing who are compassionate, engaged and capable of adapting and thriving within changing healthcare environments.

THE FRAMEWORK

The SoNM Strategic plan is rooted in the Blackfoot story of the spiderweb (Ani to pisi) gifted to us by Elder Roy Bear Chief. Like the spiderweb, we are all connected, and vibrations affect all other strands on the web. It is our duty to respond to the vibrations. Our Faculty of Health, Community and Education website shares the story.

Our five goal areas align with the Faculty strategic plan — engaged learners, scholarship, changemaking, healthy communities and community collaboration.

Program objectives were developed to align with the SoNM goals.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls To Action for education and anti-racism are integral and embedded at multiple levels throughout our strategic plan



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HCE GOAL: INSPIRE ENGAGED LEARNERS

We focus on relevant and future-looking curricula that use pedagogical and disciplinary research to inform our professional practices and use of high-impact teaching practices. We seek to honour the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action (TRC) in our programs so our graduates are prepared to enact these calls in their future professions.

SoNM Objectives	ACCN Objectives
Respond to TRC Calls To Action and create or update curricula to integrate decolonization, Indigenization and inclusive language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align curriculum with Calls to Action from TRC and the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People, including addition of the mandatory content on Indigenous Health and History and promoting cultural safety and humility
Assess and address curricular and program changes necessary to move towards the goal for equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate and implement curriculum from an anti-oppressive, anti-racist, equitable, diverse, and inclusive lens using techniques such as, anti-racism audits and engagement with diverse stakeholders
Increase high impact teaching practices, including universal design, differentiated teaching, meta-cognition and simulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build engaging and evidence based curriculum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Development of program learning resources • Integrate high impact teaching practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Incorporation of virtual simulation into program ◦ Unfolding case study written assignments and exam strategies to increase critical thinking

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HCE GOAL: INSPIRE ENGAGED LEARNERS CONT.

SoNM Objectives	ACCN Objectives
<p>Monitor student selection, retention and success to optimize admission and support strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update admission information and processes • Meet with admissions to see if processes can be adapted to ease admission of post Registered Nurse (RN) students • Develop process to support RNs in bridging to acute care
<p>Explore strategies to increase access to scholarships and bursaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Office of Advancement to identify potential sources of funds for Internationally Educated Nursing (IEN) students, with a particular focus on equity-seeking groups and students in financial need
<p>Meet or exceed health professions practice competencies and accreditation standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey students and employers in alignment with the Program Evaluation Committee plan and ad hoc as needed



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HCE GOAL: STRENGTHEN SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH

We support the scholarship of faculty and students to inspire intellectual curiosity, elevate evidence-based teaching, and inform professional practice and community partnerships.

SoNM Objectives	ACCN Objectives
Identify and implement ways to increase student involvement in scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite ACCN students (current and former) to participate as co-authors for article submission
Increase the number of research and scholarship activities that inform teaching, professional practice and community partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create method to collect publications and external grants over past three years • Scholarship of teaching and learning application with a focus on supporting ACCN student population: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete unfolding case study Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) projects and scaffold across the curriculum to prepare students for high acuity clinical practice.
Encourage the increase in external funding received for scholarship through training and creating connections with stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek support from the HCE Associate Dean, Research Scholarship and Community Engagement to provide training and create connections with internal and external stakeholders



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HCE GOAL: ENGAGE WITH CHANGEMAKING

We respect equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility to support the flourishing of all people. We contribute to Mount Royal's Ashoka designation, connecting and partnering with other Mount Royal teams.

SoNM Objectives	ACCN Objectives
Expand opportunities to promote and support equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote use of anti-racism audits in all courses and include information on course outlines that specific courses have been audited
Expand opportunities to integrate Indigenization and decolonization, anti-racism and SOGIE (sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression) into curricula	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify strategies for the inclusion of cultural norms and practices within the ACCN curriculum.



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HCE GOAL: PROMOTE HEALTHY LEARNING COMMUNITY

We value and prioritize the well-being of our faculty, staff and students.

SoNM Objectives	ACCN Objectives
<p>Foster a safe and healthy environment that empowers our SoNM community to fulfil our mission and vision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote health and wellness / self-care for the ACCN student community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify assignments where students can reflect on attitudes and bias in high acuity practice • Audit the current courses to understand where the gaps are in relation to self care content
<p>Analyse and adjust employee and student recruitment, mentorship, and engagement plans as needed to ensure practices are socially accountable and build sustainable and relevant programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze and adjust strategies to foster equity, diversity and inclusion in student and employee recruitment strategies and opportunities • Meet or exceed MRU Indigenous admissions targets • Work with marketing to update the advertising strategy



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HCE GOALS: CONNECT WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

We build meaningful connections with our future employers, practica and clinical agencies, and the communities that support our students.

SoNM Objectives	ACCN Objectives
<p>Be socially accountable to the communities we serve through meaningful and inclusive engagement with internal and external stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadening of advisory board membership to include partners outside of AHS • Engage partners in Indigenization, decolonization, EDI (equity diversity & inclusion), SOGIE • Select topic for, and invite guest speakers to, advisory committee meeting re: Indigenization, EDI, decolonization, SOGIE
<p>Maintain and enhance the reputation of our programs through a comprehensive program evaluation process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Program Evaluation Committee to develop innovative ways to increase participation in student, faculty and stakeholder data collection • Review with the advisory committee minimum requirements for successful admission into the clinical course (goal – student success). • Reintroduce site visits to the clinical sites by the Course Coordinators to maintain relationships with clinical instructors who are dispersed across the province and country, meeting an important need in delivering the program beyond the geographical region where Mount Royal University is situated



A STEP TOWARDS...



**ENVISIONING THE
FUTURE**

