

The University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing is always keen to celebrate our hard-working and dedicated undergraduate students, whose fresh enthusiasm for the profession reminds us all why we love working in healthcare. Here are the stories of four undergraduate students currently studying in or recently graduated from our Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Post-Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (PDBSN) programs.

Tye Anderson

Tye Anderson, a PDBSN student, has always known he wanted to run a family practice because it would help him support many people. His inspiration comes from his own challenge in finding a family physician. As a result, after completing his BSN and working for a few years, Anderson hopes to return to graduate school to become a nurse practitioner. “I want to help people. I have an empathetic soul, so I’ve always wanted to go into the medical field. One of the reasons why I wanted to become a registered nurse is because I care about people and I really want to help individuals and their families during times of need,” said Anderson.



Breanna Pochipinski.

Shyla Severight

Shyla Severight may have started her formal education when she entered the USask Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, but she’s known she wanted to become a registered nurse ever since she was a teenager. Volunteering at a local hospital and becoming close with the nurses that worked there only solidified her dream. “I watched how caring, compassionate, and involved they were with patient care.” At USask, Severight flourished as she worked with patients, and particularly enjoyed her time working in simulated patient labs. “I think making mistakes in a simulated lab environment, versus an actual setting, makes a huge difference in your learning and is something you’ll remember forever.” In November 2024, Severight walked across the convocation stage, and looks forward to next steps. “Now I have graduated, I hope to become a community nurse. I want to work with the community to make change for future rights, advantages, and support.”



Breanna Pochipinski.

Jarret Calvert

Jarret Calvert has had a wonderful time as a post-degree BSN student, highlighting that he likes how fast-paced the program is and the fact students are always learning something new. “I love working with patients and the human interaction during clinical,” he said. He’s also enjoyed getting close to his classmates and forming relationships he will have for life. “I’ve built a lot of new friendships I can take with me after I graduate.” Being in the PDBSN program has also confirmed he’s in the right place and joining the right profession. “I went into nursing because I want to help people. Nursing is so diverse and there are so many options as to what you can do once becoming licensed as a registered nurse. Having family members who have struggled with mental health, I see nursing as an opportunity to help people in similar circumstances.”



Breanna Pochipinski.

Damilola (Dammy) Stephen

For Damilola (Dammy) Stephen, a passion for helping people inspired her career in nursing. Graduating in June 2024 with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, she reflected on her journey that brought her from Lagos, Nigeria, where she was born and raised, to the University of Saskatchewan. At first, Stephen says there were ups and downs as she adjusted to life as a student, while juggling other roles, including mom and wife. With the support of the College of Nursing, her professors and her husband, she found strength during moments of doubt. In the end, she said, “it was worth every struggle.” Stephen says her favourite memory from the program will be the connections she made, with instructors, professors, and peers. “These relationships significantly enriched my overall experience, making my time at USask truly memorable,” she said. In fact, that experience is also at the core of her advice for other students. “Actively engage with the university community. Build connections with your instructors and peers, as these relationships can greatly enhance your academic and personal growth. Take advantage of the resources available, especially if you are having mental health challenges; they were put in place because the school knows you need them, and don’t hesitate to seek help when needed. Embrace the opportunities and challenges and enjoy the journey of learning and self-discovery.” Stephen plans to start working as a registered nurse and find her niche, plus do volunteer work in geriatrics.



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“ Providing care gives me a profound sense of purpose and satisfaction, and nursing allows me to achieve this in the most impactful way. ”

– DAMILOLA STEPHEN