The 2017 Impact Report gives us the opportunity to pause and reflect on the many successful partnerships and accomplishments the College of Nursing has achieved over the past year.

I began with the College of Nursing in September 2017, taking over from Interim Dean Beth Horsburgh. I wish to express my thanks to the previous leadership of the College of Nursing. Their great effort built a strong foundation. I have been very appreciative of the strong support from central administration, notably President Peter Stoicheff and Provost/Vice-President for Academic Affairs Anthony Vannelli. I gratefully acknowledge and contribute our great achievements to hardworking, caring and talented faculty and staff colleagues. I am very proud of our amazing students and alumni, and the wonderful communities who partner with our College. It is evident our initiatives indeed have a positive impact and ultimately improve health care and quality of life.

New to Canada, I have enjoyed opportunities to travel and meet faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members at each of our sites. This opportunity has allowed me to enjoy the unique beauty of the prairies and the boreal forest, which make up Saskatchewan.

Spending time in our rural and remote communities of this vast province gives me pride in knowing the College is committed to delivering a high-quality baccalaureate nursing program with our Learn Where You Live model. The feedback provided by communities and stakeholders inspire this College to continually improve.

The stories featured in this Impact Report are a snapshot of happenings within the College of Nursing over the past year. I encourage you to view our website nursing.usask.ca for more inspiring feature stories on an ongoing basis.

Dr. Huey-Ming Tzeng
Dean and Professor, College of Nursing
Nursing is a respected and caring human endeavor; a distinct health profession; and an applied discipline based on nursing and related theories. Nursing is dedicated to the purposeful, collaborative relationship with individuals, families and communities that enables the acquisition, organization and use of nursing and other related resources that people need to optimize their health experiences within complex, diverse, and dynamic environments.

Embedded in a research-intensive Canadian university, the College of Nursing is situated on the territory of Treaties 4, 6, 10, and the homeland of the Métis. The College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan, believes the discovery, advancement, and transmission of nursing knowledge is achieved through the integration of teaching, research/scholarship, evidence informed practice and service. Learning is the process of co-creating meaning that transforms experiences into shared knowledge. We value diversity, social justice and ethical practice. We foster collaboration through primary healthcare, practical innovations and technology mediated solutions, with specific consideration of the needs of rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.

The College of Nursing and our graduates are leaders in engaging individuals, families, communities, policy makers, other health professions and disciplines, and other stakeholders to provide safe, competent care that maximizes the potential of people and health systems. Through these combined efforts, we create, support, and share equitable and sustainable solutions that improve health experiences and measurable outcomes. Solutions have local, national, and international relevance.

Approved by College of Nursing Faculty Council, April 10, 2017
The College of Nursing offers the following programs:

UNDERGRADUATE
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
- Post-Degree BSN

GRADUATE
- Master of Nursing (Professional Practice Course-Based and Thesis-Based) (MN)
- Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate (NP)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing

LOCATIONS
The College of Nursing has campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert. We also distribute our undergraduate BSN program to students in Île-à-la-Crosse, La Ronge and Yorkton.
Recognizing Students and Donors at Annual Awards Ceremony

Undergraduate and graduate nursing students are recognized annually with more than 100 scholarships and awards at the College of Nursing awards ceremony. In November, at the German Cultural Centre in Saskatoon, we celebrated with our donors, students and their families, as we presented scholarships and awards totaling just over $220,000.

“Every gift in support of nursing education is a gift towards better health care,” said College Relations Officer Anna Pacik. “University of Saskatchewan nursing graduates are employed as leaders throughout the province of Saskatchewan and around the globe. Supporting nursing education is a win on so many levels. I cannot thank our donors enough.”

Donor gifts truly help our students shine brightly, and they are very grateful to receive an award. Kyla Richardson, a second-year nursing student, received the Shirley Hewko-Parkinson Award in Community Health and had this to say: “Thank you to this award donor for truly helping to lighten my stress load.”

Nicole Marshal, recipient of the Entrance Scholarship for Aboriginal Graduate Students, had this to say about receiving the award: “With my Master in the Nurse Practitioner program, I hope to use my skills to close the gap on accessible health care and improve the lives and health of Aboriginal people through education and health promotion.”

Congratulations to all our students who received awards this year and thank you once again to our donors, whose generosity has a very real and meaningful impact on our students.

Student-led Mentorship Program at Regina Campus a Huge Success

An innovative student-led mentorship program was successfully implemented at the Regina campus in 2017. The purpose of the mentorship program is to help nursing students adjust to new ways of learning, thinking and studying to prepare for professional practice. The unknown expectations of clinical experiences, exams, papers and other tasks can be overwhelming for students. The mentorship program pairs senior-year students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program with students from the year below, ultimately helping undergraduates through the unfamiliar expectations of nursing school.

The mentors and mentees submit a confidentiality and privacy agreement to the volunteer directors indicating what they are looking for in the partnership and the best way to reach them. The volunteer directors then randomly pair the students based on the submissions. After the pairing is complete, it is up to the mentor and mentee to initiate contact with one another.

“Being able to provide another student with advice and guidance on what to expect, and what my experience has been like, has allowed me to grow my mentorship skills, which is crucial for my future career in nursing,” said third-year nursing student and mentor Karlee Devine.

The mentorship program has had a positive impact in building the community within the Regina campus. Since February 2017, the student directors of the program have enrolled 30 mentor and mentee pairings and the program is continuing to expand.

News of success of the program is spreading. Students at both the Saskatoon and Prince Albert campuses have expressed interest in starting a similar program. Sarah Leippi, one of the student volunteer directors, will be showcasing the program at the Canadian Nurses Student Association annual conference in early 2018. As well, fellow BSN student Paul Grolman and Leippi will be presenting about the program at the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses’ Association annual conference in May 2018 and have also submitted abstracts to present at the Canadian Nurses Association and Community Health Nurses of Canada conferences.
Celebrating the First Yorkton BSN Program Graduates

On January 27, 2014, the College of Nursing announced plans to deliver the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in Yorkton, in partnership with Parkland College and Sunrise Health Region. Fast forward to convocation on June 8, 2017 and the results of that partnership are realized in the form of the first four BSN graduates from the Yorkton site. Congratulations Jessica Funk, Jesslyn Schigol, Eric McDowell and Shelby Hershmiller!

The College of Nursing truly believes students should have the opportunity to “learn where they live” and until September 2014, students in the Yorkton area completed their pre-professional year at Parkland College, but then had to relocate to Saskatoon, Regina or Prince Albert to complete years two through four in the College of Nursing. By offering the complete undergraduate nursing program in Yorkton, students are able to remain in the community, be with their families and continue working during their studies. It almost goes without saying what a tremendous impact this stability can have on the life of a student.

“I offer my sincerest congratulations to our Yorkton graduates, as they make history today being the first students to complete the entire Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in Yorkton,” said Dr. Lynn Jansen, Associate Dean Southern Saskatchewan Campus, who oversees the Yorkton site. “We acknowledge the leadership of these students in charting new directions at a distributed education site, and we thank them for their patience and perseverance that has got them here today.”

Graduate Eric McDowell had this to say about being in Yorkton. “Taking the program at the Yorkton site with small class sizes was very beneficial to my learning. Being from Yorkton, I did not have to move or rent a home in another city, and best of all, I got to see my family each and every day when I got home. Another benefit of completing my program in Yorkton was not having to look for a new job to help pay bills in a different city. I was able to keep my current job, and fortunately I had a very supportive employer who allowed me to work when I could.”

Representatives from the College of Nursing, Parkland College, Sunrise Health Region, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses’ Association and the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses gathered together to celebrate this historical achievement with graduates and their families at a luncheon in April in Yorkton.

Congratulations once again Jessica, Jesslyn, Eric and Shelby – as you enter the nursing profession, we look forward to hearing great things about the Yorkton BSN Class of 2017!

La Ronge Nursing Student Claims Third Prize in Northern Visionaries Video Essay Contest

The Northlands College Northern Visionaries Video Essay Contest is a unique opportunity for postsecondary students in northern Saskatchewan to creatively focus on concepts including Indigenization of their chosen field, education, leadership and innovation. The College of Nursing is proud to announce second-year nursing student from the La Ronge site, Tina Shaw, claimed third prize in the 2017 contest for her submission, Nurse Practitioners in the North.

Former College of Nursing Acting Assistant Dean for Prince Albert and Northern campus Dr. Janet McCabe was a judge in the contest. “Through her video, Tina demonstrated an understanding of the need for robust health care professionals, specifically nursing, in northern Saskatchewan. She linked the contribution that Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners can make to the health of individuals and the health care team, by looking at the bigger picture, through providing holistic care. Impressively, as a second-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing student, Tina was able to identify the need for nurses to impact social determinants of health and address more than the acute issues that arise.”

Over 60 students submitted video essays outlining the ways in which they want to contribute to northern communities and better northern Saskatchewan. Congratulations Tina on a project very well done!
Four Students Receive Indigenous Student Achievement Awards

The University of Saskatchewan celebrated Indigenous Achievement Week 2017 with a range of cultural events, activities and celebrations, including the annual Indigenous Student Achievement awards ceremony. The College of Nursing is proud to announce we had four students receive awards this year.

RENE LERAT
From: Cowessess First Nation
Award for Research Excellence

Rene Lerat was an accomplished Licensed Practical Nurse, who completed her fourth year of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in 2017. Lerat has worked as a research assistant with nursing professor Dr. Sandra Bassendowski and with Rhonda Kayseas from Treaty 4 Education Alliance for The Literacy Project. She worked with families, single mothers and fathers from the Cowessess First Nation to teach them about baby brain development, nutrition and traditional knowledge. Lerat, with the help of the community, will develop and create an ebook unique to the community that will tell the community’s stories.

JORDYN PARENTEAU
From: Prince Albert
Award for Leadership

Jordyn Parenteau, who is originally from Prince Albert, but completing her program at the Saskatoon campus, has shown excellent leadership on behalf of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students through her representation on the Saskatchewan Nursing Student Association of Saskatoon. Parenteau has organized student orientation sessions for incoming students, stress-reduction days for classmates, a peer-led mentoring program and mentored many students over multiple years. She helped organize mock Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) and a pre-OSCE question-and-answer session to help alleviate stress around these challenging exams. She is a member of the Nursing Graduation committee and a student member of the Undergraduate Education committee. Parenteau has volunteered for the Graduation Powwow, Discovery Days and multiple Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing accreditation meetings to provide student feedback.

MEGAN NAYTOWHOW
From: Prince Albert
Award for Academic Achievement

Megan Naytowhow is a student who has shown great perseverance in her journey to become a nurse. Naytowhow was originally admitted to the nursing program in 2010; however, due to other commitments, had to leave the program shortly after. She was re-admitted to the program in 2015 and has been excelling ever since. Naytowhow is currently in her third year and has a 77.2 per cent average. The faculty member who nominated Naytowhow affirms that not only is she strong academically, but she is also a leader, mentor and example to her fellow classmates.

KRISTY MIRASTY
From: Stanley Mission
Award for Leadership

Kristy Mirasty completed her final term of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the La Ronge site in 2017. She is not only strong academically, but also shows outstanding leadership qualities. Mirasty is a strong advocate for both herself, as well as her fellow classmates on topics such as personal and academic supports. She was chosen to participate in the 2016 Innovative Learning Institute for Circumpolar Health, where she represented herself, the College of Nursing and her community of Stanley Mission very well. Mirasty was crucial in making sure she and three other northern nursing students were in attendance at the Indigenous Nurses Celebration Gala in Saskatoon in November. She also introduced the keynote speaker at the gala and assisted in presenting her with a star blanket.

“These students demonstrate many of the values that the College of Nursing strives to uphold: leadership, a sense of community and being empowered to address the challenges that one encounters,” said College of Nursing Strategist for Outreach and Indigenous Engagement Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot. “We are proud of the contributions that Rene, Jordyn, Megan and Kristy have made to their respective campuses and communities, and the impact that they have had on the College. We’re happy to have this opportunity to celebrate their achievements.”
Recognizing a Volunteer Extraordinaire

In celebration of National Volunteer Week, the College of Nursing put out a call for nominations to recognize volunteers who support our college, our beliefs and our priorities. Volunteers are philanthropists of time; their investment of hours provides a great and immeasurable impact on our capacity to develop the profession of nursing. This year we are proud to celebrate Aliya Abbasi, second year nursing student at the Saskatoon campus, as the College of Nursing 2017 Volunteer Extraordinaire.

Abbasi is a class representative on the Saskatchewan Nursing Student Association (SNSA) of Saskatoon and the nursing representative on the University of Saskatchewan student union. She is not only busy volunteering her time for University of Saskatchewan activities, but she is also very active in the community. She volunteers at Canadian Blood Services, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada, Saskatoon City Hospital, the Saskatchewan Association for the Rehabilitation of the Brain Injured and previously with Autism Services of Saskatoon, where she is now employed.

Abby Simpson, a third-year nursing student and president of the SNSA, nominated Abbasi for this award. “Aliya is an incredible leader who continually inspires her peers to get involved and make a change. Through the programs Aliya has organized, she has provided the opportunity for her classmates to become involved both within the College of Nursing and the community. Her passion is contagious and truly an admirable quality that radiates among those surrounding her.”

“I started volunteering because it gives me numerous opportunities to create a positive impact both locally and globally,” said Abbasi. “I often felt helpless when reading about social justice issues; however, volunteering has provided me with the tools and resources necessary to help those in need. I would strongly encourage our student leaders to serve their communities, as volunteering not only allows you to see the world, but also to make a difference in it.”

Northern Students Participate in Learning Institute in Norway

Nursing students from Canada, Norway, Greenland, Iceland, Finland and Russia gathered together in Tromso, Norway for the 2017 Innovative Learning Institute for Circumpolar Health. Among the attendees were College of Nursing’s Randa Jawad-Trudel and Shania Petit from the La Ronge site, as well as Dr. Lorna Butler.

The second annual Innovative Learning Institute, hosted by The Arctic University of Norway (UiT), builds on the success of the inaugural Institute that was hosted by the University of Saskatchewan in August 2016 and the pilot program hosted by North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk, Russia in 2015.

Jawad-Trudel feels grateful she was able to participate in the Institute. “It was very useful to have the opportunity to discuss the health care difficulties experienced in other isolated Indigenous communities in the circumpolar North. It gave Shania and me the chance to find out what challenges we have in common with the other students, but also how issues there have been remedied, with the hope that we can adapt the same solutions to northern Saskatchewan. It was a great way to form partnerships with future nurses from around the world who share a common goal of providing better health care to their Indigenous populations.”

“It is important for students to realize the similarities in how health care is delivered in remote regions of the circumpolar world,” said Dr. Butler. “Students from northern Saskatchewan have much to offer, as well to learn, as together best practices are created with colleagues who experience the same challenges regardless of geography.”

Shania Petit echoes what Jawad-Trudel had to say about the experience and its impact, and adds, “Norway was an absolute dream. Getting the chance to learn, share and grow with a group of like-minded individuals from different countries, provinces and territories was unbelievable.”
Prince Albert Researchers Host One-Day Forum on Substance Use and Addiction

College of Nursing researchers from the Prince Albert campus have positioned themselves to take a lead on research that will have an impact on clinical outcomes for people who use substances or suffer from substance abuse in Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan. Drs. Geoffrey Maina, Brenda Mishak and Anthony de Padua teamed up to host a one-day stakeholder community engagement and knowledge exchange forum for substance use and addiction in Prince Albert in June 2017.

Service providers, policy makers, administrators, patients and family members, community leaders, law enforcement, school board representatives and scholars were among the over 50 attendees concerned about the state of substance use and addiction in Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan. This event became a forum for a diverse group of stakeholders to share their experiences and to explore ways to prevent and respond to the addiction crisis.

The morning kicked off with an opening prayer by an Elder, followed by presentations on the addiction landscape in Prince Albert. During a panel discussion with participants that included a client in recovery, a family member of a person living with addiction and an addiction counselor, a mother spoke about the impact that her son’s decade-plus struggle with substance misuse has had on her family. A young woman who had lived with addiction since she was 12 years old brought tears to the eyes of many in the audience as she talked about her fall into addiction, her diagnosis of Hepatitis C and HIV and her ongoing path to recovery.

Small group discussions dominated the rest of the day. Stakeholders identified current strengths and opportunities for change in the delivery of substance use and addiction services, and attendees identified the services they would like to see in the future. The one-day forum ended with a promise by researchers to re-engage stakeholders in the near future, to explore opportunities for collaboration in developing community-based, client-led interventions that would improve the well-being of clients and families living with addiction in Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan.

“I was extremely pleased with the turnout of this event, and overall, I consider it to be a major success in bringing together key players in substance use and addiction to reinvigorate us to devise culturally-appropriate and client-centered interventions,” said Maina.

To learn more about this project, please visit our community nursing website nursinginthecommunity.usask.ca.

Undergraduate Student Claims Top Spot in Poster Competition

The College of Nursing would like to congratulate one of our undergraduate students on claiming top spot in a poster competition. Jillian Henry-Wilkinson, a fourth-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing student from the Yorkton site, was awarded the best student poster for her abstract, *Getting to the point: The need for HIV/HCV prevention programs within forensic environments*, at the 15th biennial international Custody and Caring Conference on the Nurse’s Role in the Criminal Justice System in 2017.

“There were a number of student posters submitted for the competition, but the fact that Jillian is an undergraduate student and hers was recognized as the best, alongside a PhD student from the University of Calgary, is a big accomplishment for Jillian, one she should be very proud of,” said conference chair Cindy Peternelj-Taylor.

Henry-Wilkinson has had the opportunity to work with HIV and hepatitis support groups in both Yorkton and Kamsack, Saskatchewan. She has also been involved with harm reduction programs within her community. These experiences have furthered her desire to advocate for these special populations and make an impact. She hopes to inspire health-care providers and policy-makers to continue to eliminate the stigma surrounding blood-borne diseases and to provide support for harm reduction and mental health programs.
A collaboration between the College of Nursing and Correctional Service Canada, the biennial international Custody and Caring Conference held October 2017 in Saskatoon, brought together around 140 participants to highlight innovations in practice, education, research and policy development in the field of forensic mental health and correctional health care in Canada and throughout the world.

“Bringing together a group of like-minded individuals to talk about clinical concerns and work-life issues unique to nurses, health-care professionals and other professionals working within forensic mental health and correctional environments is a real honour,” said conference chairperson and College of Nursing Professor Cindy Peternelj-Taylor. “It’s a specialized group of professionals who practise at the interface of the health and criminal justice systems. No one understands the daily challenges unique to their roles, the clientele they work with and the environments in which they practise, more than the professionals themselves. Giving them an opportunity to come together in one room and learn from one and another has a great impact in ensuring that best practices are promoted.”

The conference featured five keynote sessions, including former NHL All-Star, Stanley Cup winner, Olympic Gold medalist and two-time bestselling author Theo Fleury, who spoke to a crowded room about the power of the short phrase, “Me Too,” and four-time Emmy Award winner John Kastner, one of Canada’s most acclaimed documentary-makers, who presented his film, NCR: Not Criminally Responsible. Conference attendees also participated in two workshops and over 35 concurrent sessions, as well as a welcome reception, a banquet and tours of the Western Development Museum and the Regional Psychiatric Centre.

The College of Nursing was proud to celebrate the official grand opening of the new Nursing Clinical Skills Lab in Yorkton in March. The lab, which is a partnership between the College of Nursing, Sunrise Health Region* and Parkland College, is located in the Yorkton Regional Health Centre.

The Nursing Clinical Skills Lab provides a consolidated and standardized practice space to host nursing labs in the second and third year of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. “The investment in this health education infrastructure in Yorkton will not only provide a quality learning experience for our undergrad BSN students, but will also serve as an excellent venue for collaboration among health-care educators and providers in the Sunrise Health Region,” said Mark Tomtene, Director of Operations and Strategic Planning.

The Nursing Clinical Skills Lab has all the resources students and instructors need, including four patient beds, simulation mannequins and various medical devices. This lab and its equipment has a huge impact on students, as this experience gives them the confidence to complete the practical skills they will need during their clinical placements throughout the program.

Adjacent to the lab is a new meeting room for students to use during their debriefing sessions, with full video conferencing capabilities available for distributed teaching, research and administrative purposes. Creating an academic learning lab within the hospital allows for the shared use of “Seymour”, the remote presence communication robot that was introduced in Sunrise Health Region in 2015.

“The video conference and remote presence technology in the new lab can connect professionals together from around the world, creating an opportunity to bring additional expertise into the Sunrise Health Region, as well as, share with the rest of the world the talent and leadership in rural health delivery already located in Yorkton,” said Tomtene.

*Sunrise Health Region transitioned to become part of the Saskatchewan Health Authority in December 2017.
Experience Nursing: Highlighting the Activities of our Academic Advisors

The College of Nursing values academic advising and understands its importance both in guiding current learners through their studies and in recruiting prospective students to our programs. The work our Academic Advisors do truly enhances the student experience and has a lasting impact on the students they work with. Throughout the year, our academic advisors across the province give presentations at schools, meet with students who visit College of Nursing campuses and arrange a variety of activities for current students. Profiled below are just a few examples of activities our advisors participated in during 2017.

**Working Together Career Fair**
The Yorkton Tribal Council hosts their Working Together Career Fair annually in May for over 1,000 students from First Nations and non-First Nations communities and high schools around the Yorkton area. College of Nursing Aboriginal Nursing Advisor Heather Cote-Soop, Professor Emerita Dr. Karen Semchuk and Clinical Associate Tracy Gabriel attended the career fair in 2017.

**Health Links**
The Health Links event targets grade 10 and 11 students keen on health-care careers, in the Public, Catholic and Prairie Spirit School divisions. At the College of Nursing stations, students participated in hands-on nursing activities that demonstrate daily tasks in the occupation of a Registered Nurse. Following the visits to the hands-on stations, students attended a mini career fair.

**University of Saskatchewan Open House**
Every fall the University of Saskatchewan hosts an open house on campus in Saskatoon for prospective students from across the province. Those who attend Open House have the opportunity to experience life as a U of S student—explore the campus and facilities, take part in hands-on activities, meet university staff and faculty, and speak with current students about the uSask experience.

**La Ronge & Area Career Fair and Hands-on Career Day**
The annual Career Day event is held in May on Lac La Ronge First Nation. In 2017, over 550 students attended from the communities of La Ronge, Stanley Mission, Southend, Pinehouse, Sucker River, Hall Lake and Pelican Narrows. College of Nursing advisors Tracy Gobeil and Pat Taciuk hosted a recruitment table at the event.

**Flying Athabasca Career and Hands-on Fair**
Over the period of six days in May, Aboriginal Nursing Advisor Tracy Gobeil participated in the Keewatin Career Development Corporation’s Flying Athabasca Career and Hands-on Fair. The northern remote communities of Wollaston Lake, Black Lake, Stony Rapids and Fond-du-Lac were all part of the tour. Approximately 50 senior-year students and another 150 middle-year students took part in this event. Hands-on activities focused on vital signs and students worked together and independently to find their temperatures, heart rates and respiration rates. Student feedback forms indicated a large number of students found the nursing table to be informative and a career they may consider in the future.
The History of Rural and Remote Hospitals in Western Canada

Assistant Professor Dr. Helen Vandenberg from the Regina campus authored and published two books in 2017 looking at the history of rural and remote hospitals in Western Canada.

“I’ve always been keen on history and given the current debates about the future of Canadian health care, my team believes that it is important to look back at the history of Canadian health care, prior to the creation of Medicare,” said Vandenberg. “Examining health care history provides the opportunity to understand what past generations envisioned, and to ask new questions about the challenges that have occurred.”

Her first book, Guide to Archival Resources for Outpost Nursing and Remote Hospital History in Northwestern Canada, 1880-1960, looks at the archives from rural and remote hospitals in northern British Columbia, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories prior to 1960, but also includes sources from rural southern British Columbia hospitals. Her second book, Guide to Archival Resources for Saskatchewan Hospital History, 1873-1960, focuses on archives of rural and remote hospitals in Saskatchewan prior to 1960, but also includes sources from larger, urban hospitals.

Vandenberg hopes the books will have an impact on future researchers. “Our goal was to create a resource for historians and scholars that would facilitate the analysis of smaller hospital development, and demonstrate the diverse array of nursing and hospital services which existed prior to the establishment of Canada’s nationally-funded health-care system in 1966.”

Both books are available at several local libraries and archives. For further information or to purchase the book, please email Dr. Vandenberg (helen.vandenberg@usask.ca).

Community 4 Connection Event Helps Those Less Fortunate

One of the most important qualities of a nurse is the desire to serve others. When students in their fourth year of nursing take part in their NURS 431 community clinical placement, they often get a sense of what exactly this means. Two community clinical groups, led by Clinical Associates Megan Weiss, Barb Geran and April Mackey, came together in Regina in November to help people impacted by the affordable housing crisis.

The Community 4 Connection (C4C) event is a one-day event where people can access a variety of free services. The mission of C4C is to address the four basic human needs - physical, spiritual, mental and social - in one location, on one day, for anyone who has need, by creating a space to build face-to-face relationships among the community of Regina. During the C4C event, nursing students provided education on hypothermia and frostbite for those in attendance. As well, they were able to partner with local businesses to collect items such as hats, mitts, scarves and socks, as well as hot chocolate to hand out.

“The students had a wonderful time collecting items for this important event and preparing for their presentations,” said Geran. “With over 300 people in attendance, it was a great opportunity for our nursing students to showcase their skills and share their nursing knowledge with the community of Regina.”

One of two nursing history books published by Dr. Helen Vandenberg in 2017

(l to r) Sarah McDermit, Chelsey Friske, Joanna Klein, Ashley Radons and Roger Bouch

(l to r) Puneet Uppal, Natalie Kazymyra, McKayla Wagner, Kelsey Comeault, Ryan Demers and April Mackey
Forum Looks at Telehealth in Northern and Indigenous Communities

Telehealth, a means of delivering medical information and health care through the use of telecommunication technologies, has been proven to be an accessible and affordable manner of providing high quality health care that makes an impact. In October 2017, stakeholders gathered in Saskatoon for a one-day forum to discuss and explore opportunities to promote the use of telehealth in northern and Indigenous communities.

“Given Saskatchewan’s proportionately high rural and remote population, and under-served Indigenous communities, there is incredible unfulfilled potential in applying the benefits of telehealth to our health care system,” said forum co-organizer and College of Nursing’s Strategist for Outreach and Indigenous Engagement Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot. “When we started planning this forum, our end goal was to work with the stakeholders in attendance to collaboratively develop a vision and a plan to maximize the use and benefits of telecommunications technologies for Indigenous and northern health-care services.”

Attendees at the forum discussed current developments in Saskatchewan with regards to telehealth, shared varying perspectives, looked at opportunities for use in rural, remote and Indigenous communities and talked about possible legislative and jurisdictional issues. The day ended with group discussions around barriers to telehealth uptake and implementation and strategies for more accessible and effective telehealth services in northern and Indigenous communities.

Coming Full Circle From Graduate to Instructor

Virginia Deobald graduated from the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) in 2012 at the Prince Albert campus. In 2017, a special experience, or call it coincidence, occurred when Deobald began working as a Clinical Associate for the College of Nursing, and was placed in Shellbrook, Saskatchewan to instruct a group of NURS 431 students in their community clinical rotation.

Five years prior, Deobald herself was a student in the exact same location, with some of the same nurses who currently still work there. “To come back to Shellbrook as the Clinical Associate with my own group of nursing students was such a proud, special experience,” said Deobald. “It was as if my journey in nursing and love for education had come full circle. What an amazing special experience to have your first experience as a Clinical Associate be at the same site that your final clinical placement as a student had been – and with the same nurses too!” It seems that the universe aligned, as Deobald took her place as an instructor, able to make an impact right in the same rural community she had last done her clinical placement, alongside the same nurses who so passionately mentored her. Proof that the journey of learning never ends, and all things are possible!

In addition to being a Clinical Associate with the College of Nursing, Deobald is also currently working on her Master of Nursing through the University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing. “The best part about doing my graduate nursing education has been the amazing expansion of knowledge I’ve received, and the knowledge seekers I’ve met along the way,” said Deobald. “I look forward to finishing the program and focusing on my teaching and research, once my own graduate work is complete.”
Yorkton Nursing Students Organize HIV Awareness Activities

Nursing students truly do make a difference in the communities where they study and practice. Example? The effort of Yorkton nursing students, who came together to offer a variety of activities in Yorkton and Kamsack during HIV Awareness Week 2017. Collaborating with Sunrise Health Region and Parkland College, fourth-year nursing students, led by Jillian Henry-Wilkinson, organized and hosted wonderful events that will have an impact on the health of the entire community.

Inspired by an initiative that was previously organized by the Sunrise Health Region, nursing students Presley DeCock, Jillian Henry-Wilkinson, Courtney Severson, Dara Yacishyn and Taylor Trost were able to bring back the availability of a condom dispensary at the main Parkland College campus in Yorkton. The students hosted a pizza luncheon as a fundraiser and partnered with LifeStyles Condoms to get the pilot project off the ground.

The same fourth-year nursing students were given the opportunity to work alongside the New Beginnings Outreach Centre in Kamsack during a clinical placement. On December 1, World AIDS Day, the nursing students, with help from representatives from the University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing, Sunrise Health Region and New Beginnings, hosted a hot lunch for clients at New Beginnings. The lunch gave the nursing students the opportunity to provide food for the individuals, but also to present HIV-awareness information to the community.

Hearts in the Park Raises Awareness of Domestic Violence

The College of Nursing Regina campus participated in the second annual Hearts in the Park event hosted by The Circle Project Association Inc. Regina Police Service and SOFIA House Shelter for Women and Children, with support from the Department of Justice Canada. The event, held May 31st in Regina’s Victoria Park, took place during National Victims and Survivors of Crime Week with a focus on community engagement through sharing the impacts of violence.

A recent Statistics Canada report found that Saskatchewan has the highest family violence rates among all Canadian provinces. The Hearts in the Park event is an opportunity for people to learn how to access resources, to recognize the signs of violence, to understand the cycle of violence and to learn ways to move beyond victimization and create positive change. The theme of the 2017 event, “It takes HEART to talk about it”, supported the goal of raising awareness about the issue and impacts of violence in the community. The organizing partners all believe that as a society we need to let others know it’s okay to talk openly about violence, share how it affects all of us and break the stigma.

The College of Nursing believes in building meaningful relationships that are mutually beneficial to organizations and communities. In preparing health care professionals who in the near future will be working with those affected by domestic violence, the College is committed to working with community partners on the prevention of domestic violence for individuals and families.

To learn more about how the College of Nursing and The Circle Project work together to reduce the impact of domestic violence in the community, please visit nursinginthecommunity.usask.ca.

Hearts in the Park college of Nursing participants

Hearts in the Park college of Nursing participants
CEDN Expands Educational Offerings to Further Lifelong Learning

The year 2017 was very productive for Continuing Education and Development for Nurses (CEDN). They offered over 40 events and reached out to over 1,200 participants through face-to-face workshops, conferences and online courses. They recently expanded their online course offerings to support their learners with their new take on the “learn where you live” vision, to “learning without borders.” All of these activities have a profound impact on those involved.

Former Director of CEDN, Dr. Cathy Jeffery, departed from CEDN in February 2017 and Dr. Tony Tung, joined the team shortly after. Under his leadership, CEDN is becoming more responsive and forward thinking in regards to how they deliver learning opportunities and content. As an example, CEDN delivered two new intrauterine device and pessary workshops for nurse practitioners and family physicians in 2017. Another development in 2017 was the creation of a partnership with Continuing Physical Therapy Education for a pilot project by using robotic technology to deliver education and assessment in remote and isolated northern Saskatchewan communities.

CEDN continues to maintain strong support and collaboration with the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, a department of Indigenous Services Canada, to provide continuing education workshops for home and community-care nurses in Saskatchewan. It is just one example of CEDN’s ongoing effort to support nursing colleagues, as part of their lifelong journey in professional development and learning.

Future Health Care Professionals Learning From Each Other

What do nursing, medicine, social work, pharmacy and nutrition, physiotherapy and respiratory therapy all have in common? They are all health-care professionals working together to provide the best patient care and make an impact on their communities. The assumption is that all health-care professionals work together on patient cases; however, this is not always the case. College of Nursing’s Kathy Rodger and Karen Juckes are trying to change this by bringing together students in all health science professions in Regina to learn together before they actually practice together – interprofessional collaboration at its finest!

Through the use of high-fidelity simulation (think mannequins who breathe, cough and vomit) health science students are able to practice on “real patients”, working alongside not just fellow nursing students, but students from all health sciences. “Karen and I facilitate a number of sessions throughout the year, ranging from pediatrics to surgical to a new ‘Code Blue’ simulation, to give students the opportunity to take part in at least one collaborative simulation experience,” said Rodger. “The goal of the interprofessional simulation is to have students learn about one another’s roles, as they evolve during the exercise.”

Rodger explains how an interprofessional simulation experience is organized. “We use a variety of patient cases, making sure there are scenarios for all participating health-science professions, so students have the opportunity to practice their own approach and have others learn from their actions.”

Juckes has been organizing the pediatric simulation, which involves students from nursing and medicine who are doing their pediatric clinical rotations. “A teaching pediatrician and pediatric clinical instructor facilitate the sessions and we have parent and grandparent actors who play a role in the scenario and also participate in the debrief afterwards to provide feedback to the students. The simulation experience allows students to become actively involved in situations where they tend to become observers in the real clinical setting.”

When one of the participating medical students was asked about the experience, the student replied, “We get to work with real nursing students rather than having someone play the role of the nurse – it is much more realistic and fun!”.

The newest simulation experience offered to students was “Code Blue”, which was piloted for the first time in December 2017 with fourth-year nursing students, medical residents and respiratory students. “This simulation experience was created based on feedback from students,” said Juckes. “Students in these disciplines often reported that they feel anxious when involved in a Code Blue and that they would like to feel more comfortable in these situations upon graduation. We are very pleased with how the pilot simulation turned out and look forward to doing it again.”
Getting Creative in the Classroom

In 2016 as a fun experiment, Assistant Professor Dr. Wanda Martin challenged her fourth-year students to think outside the box and do a creative art project, instead of writing a paper. About half the class took up the project. Based on the feedback from students and the impact that it had on the learning, Martin decided to bring the art project idea back for a second time in 2017.

“The focus of NURS 430 is health promotion, as it is a community nursing class,” said Martin. “We cover topics such as community program development, social marketing and community assessment, and look at issues that are unique to Saskatchewan’s Indigenous, rural and remote populations.” If the students choose to complete the art project, they are asked to identify an issue that a community health nurse might encounter and to plan an alternative, creative approach to addressing the issue.

“When I received the proposals for the art projects this year, I was thrilled with the topics the students wanted to work on,” said Martin. “I find this to be a really great opportunity for students to step back from the norm and use the creative part of their brains.” Some of the projects completed in 2017 included posters on childhood immunization, the stigma surrounding mental health, a series of short stories on improving quality of life through community centres and a teaching cartoon about life-threatening allergic reactions.

Educating Teens with Developmental Disabilities About Healthy Relationships

Dr. Lee Murray has been working with Saskatoon community partners for over 10 years to educate teens with developmental disabilities about safe environments and healthy peer relationships. The overall goal of her project, Creating Safe Environments for Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities, is to promote sexual health education, with the goal of preventing sexual abuse.

Using storyboards, interactive educational resources and puppets, Dr. Murray is able to connect with teens to comfortably discuss sexual health. The storyboards and puppet shows are used to give teens information about emotional health, healthy sexuality, personal rights and the establishment of personal boundaries. “We teach the students assertive communication, expression of personal feelings, sensitivity to others’ feelings and attitudes, and provide knowledge about inappropriate behaviours and where to get help,” said Dr. Murray.

The project impacts more than the teens and also provides education, awareness, tools and supports for parents and teachers, enabling them to further educate and support teens with developmental disabilities. Parents and teachers learn about the myths and misconceptions regarding sexuality of teens with developmental disabilities and they develop the skills to promote healthy sexuality, prevent abuse and work with the teens to develop risk-management strategies.

Dr. Murray couldn’t do this project alone. She has worked in partnership over the years with Canadian Red Cross, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and the Saskatoon Sexual Assault and Information Centre. Dr. Murray and the current partners have been meeting with other community agencies to explore the possibility of providing sexual health education for all people with developmental disabilities in schools, communities and other settings. These community agencies include Saskatoon Sexual Health, Saskatchewan Prevention Institute, Saskatchewan Alternative Initiatives, OUTSaskatoon, Saskatoon Public Schools, Creative Options Regina, Saskatchewan Association for Community Living, Community Living Service Delivery Ministry of Social Services, STEPS (Strategies to Engage and Promote Success), and SARC (Saskatchewan Association for Rehabilitation Centers).

To learn more about this project, please visit our community nursing website nursinginthecommunity.usask.ca.
A Commitment to Reconciliation

The College of Nursing, separately and as a part of the University of Saskatchewan community, has made Indigenous engagement and success one of its core objectives. Reconciliation libraries, a Fort Qu’Appelle Valley Exchange, an ebook launch and a collaborative art project on the medicine wheel were just a few of the reconciliation activities to have an impact on College of Nursing sites during 2017.

Reading for Reconciliation Corners

Inspired by the Saskatoon Public Library, students, staff and faculty can now visit Reading for Reconciliation corners at all six College of Nursing sites, where they will find a collection of books. Everyone is invited to borrow the books to learn more about residential schools, Canada’s colonial history and Indigenous health and wellness.

Fort Qu’Appelle Valley Exchange

In partnership with Canadian Roots Exchange and the College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan Health Science students took part in a student exchange to Fort Qu’Appelle in October 2017. The exchange took leaders and participants to the heart of Treaty 4 territory to learn about the region’s history, land and traditional healing practices. Activities included a team-building activity at Elk Dog Equine Assisted Therapy, a visit to the White Raven Healing Centre and All Nations’ Healing Hospital, presentations on natural medicine and much more. Four students from the College of Nursing took part in the exchange.

Ebook Launch

As part of the Fort Qu’Appelle Valley Exchange, nursing student Sydney Lerat and recent nursing graduate Rene Lerat officially launched two ebooks they have been working on with Treaty 4 Literacy Director Rhonda Kayseas, College of Nursing’s Associate Dean Southern Saskatchewan Regina Campus Dr. Lynn Jansen, Professor Dr. Sandra Bassendowski and Aboriginal Nursing Advisor Heather Cote-Soop. Using a combination of First Nations teachings, including the Seven Sacred Teachings and a variety of stories, the ebooks are interactive, easily accessed and available for families to use on a variety of mobile devices. The books, Seven Sacred Teachings for Kids and The Seven Sacred Teachings-RPS, are designed to promote an increase in early literacy and a love for learning and reading for children and families.

Parkland College Lunch and Learn for Reconciliation

Parkland College, in partnership with the College of Nursing in Yorkton, hosted a lunch and learn for students, staff and faculty to learn about First Nation and Métis culture and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action. At an information kiosk, guests were able to learn about the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, the Medicine Wheel and background on First Nations and Métis people in Saskatchewan. An Elder from Cote First Nation talked about local Indigenous culture and everyone shared a traditional meal of soup and bannock. During the event, students, staff and faculty took part in an interactive art project: using red, yellow, black and white paint, participants dipped their hands in paint and applied it to the outline of a medicine wheel.
Students Present Strategies to Prevent Lateral Violence in Health Care Work Settings

Students at the Regina campus and Yorkton site studying NURS 422 worked in small groups over the 2017 fall semester, to prepare a term paper and poster focusing on a current health care leadership/management topic of their choice.

The students held poster viewing events on November 23 at the Yorkton Regional Health Centre and November 30 at the College of Nursing Regina campus. The sessions were well attended by nursing and other leaders from a variety of local health care and professional organizations. Through discussion of their posters, the students engaged attendees in rich dialogue about real-life issues currently being experienced by health-care leaders.

One issue of particular interest was captured in the poster entitled, Preventing Workplace Violence in Health Care, by Yorkton nursing students, Jillian Henry-Wilkinson, Paige Fogg, Emily Ksyniuk and Presley DeCock. The poster provided an overview of workplace violence, including a definition and statistics pertaining to nurse-to-nurse or lateral violence. It also discussed the role of nursing leaders and managers in promoting a violence-free workplace, and in preventing violence through workplace design, administrative practices and work practices.

The students concluded that workplace violence can have a significant impact, including an increased risk of job dissatisfaction and nurse burn-out. They predicted that if the issue is not effectively addressed by nursing leaders and managers, fewer students will choose nursing as a profession.

A Look at the Health Science Academy at Bishop James Mahoney High School

As part of the Safe School Health Improvement Project, a strategic, community-based partnership between the University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, nursing students spend time at a number of high schools in Saskatoon. In particular, nursing students in their fourth-year clinical placements are on-site at a number of schools on a regular basis throughout the school year. At Bishop James Mahoney High School (BJM) in Saskatoon, nursing students help deliver health programming to the Health Science Academy (HSA) at the school, a unique high school experience that allows students to gain both high school and post-secondary credits, while having a positive impact on their awareness of health topics.

In fall 2017, the NURS 431 clinical team provided four, 50-minute lessons to a grade 10 mental health and addictions class at BJM. The students learned about personal stressors and personal coping, positive and negative coping mechanisms and negative/maladaptive coping mechanisms. Each student in the class also created a mental health toolkit. Tish King, Clinical Associate from the College of Nursing works alongside the nursing students. “Overall, the experience of delivering health education at BJM was beneficial for both the nursing students and the students in the Health Science Academy. Students felt that having the chance to address sensitive issues like mental health, substance abuse and risk-taking behaviours from a health-care perspective was valuable for the high school cohort. The HSA learners were exposed to a nurse’s role in mental health care,” says King.

Also, in fall 2017, in a grade 9 class, students were learning about cancer, and, at the school’s request, the NURS 431 clinical group visited the school and delivered health education and health promotion related to cancer. “Nursing students used interactive presentations to dispel myths, talk about the various types of cancer and much more,” said King. “They then organized a mini health fair where approximately 50 high school students rotated through six stations. At each station, a nursing student discussed a different topic related to cancer. Feedback from the project partners at BJM has been extremely positive.”
The College of Nursing, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, St. Luke School in Saskatoon, Fourth-year nursing students. Grade 7 and 8 girls. Schools in Uganda. What’s the common factor between these groups? The Safe School Health Improvement Project and the Ya Ya Sisterhood. The Safe School Health Improvement Project (Safe SHIP) is a strategic, community-based partnership between the University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. The partnership allows nursing students in their fourth-year community practicum to apply the lessons they’ve learned in class in a real-life setting, while the students at St. Luke learn about overall health and wellness from the nursing students.

One of the most visible outcomes of the Safe SHIP program at St. Luke has been creation of the Ya Ya Sisterhood, a group for girls in grades 7 and 8. The group is facilitated by the nursing students and is focused on building capacity and empowering young women to be change agents in their community and in the world. The nursing students work alongside the sisterhood to help the girls begin acquiring the personal skills they’ll need to move from childhood to adulthood.

One of the biggest accomplishments of the Ya Ya Sisterhood is the publishing of their own book, “Celebrate Changes: Girls’ Voices Matter”, about giving young women a voice and a purpose. The book was successfully published a number of years ago, but it’s a project that keeps on giving. Since 2007, the young women at St. Luke have donated over $50,000 for breast cancer research raised through book sales and other grassroots fundraising initiatives. Again in October 2017, the girls from St. Luke donated to the C95 Radio Marathon for Breast Cancer Research, demonstrating local stewardship and citizenship.

The young women at St. Luke look up to the nursing students, and the nursing students learn hands-on lessons that just can’t be taught in a classroom, a real win-win for everyone involved."

In 2017, two nursing students, Tye Buettner and Philomena Ojukwu, worked with the Ya Ya Sisterhood to show the girls that not only could they help out locally, but their efforts can help to transform the world. Buettner and Ojukwu, who were travelling to Uganda in spring 2017 with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship program, wanted to bring something along for girls in Uganda from girls here in Canada.

The Ya Ya Sisterhood organized a bake sale and did some additional fundraising with the help of the St. Luke school community, and were able to raise enough money for Buettner and Ojukwu to purchase 352 reusable menstrual pad kits from a Ugandan organization that assists in local community development. Buettner and Ojukwu distributed these kits to girls in five Ugandan elementary schools and also provided two hours of health instruction at each school.

“The nursing students were comfortable delivering the health instruction to the students in Uganda, as it was the same teaching they had used during their placement at St. Luke School only months before,” said King. “During their clinical rotations, the students develop confidence in creating, delivering and evaluating effective health teaching. But not only do the nursing students learn a lot, having the opportunity to take part in a project like this one truly helps our local, school-aged young women to develop a social conscience and self-efficacy.”

Upon return to Canada from Uganda, Buettner and Ojukwu met with the Ya Ya girls to explain the impact their “small” bake sale had on girls their age halfway around the world. Each Ya Ya girl was presented with a hand-crafted thank-you card for their contribution to the health and wellness of young women in Uganda.
Nurses and Physicians Learning Together

Nurses and physicians work together on a daily basis, but how much time do they spend learning together before they actually practise together? College of Nursing’s Dr. Kristen Haase, alongside team members Drs. Trustin Domes (College of Medicine) and Noelle Rohatinsky (College of Nursing), is creating opportunities for medical and nursing undergraduate students to learn together during simulated clinical activities, with the expected impact that each group learns more about the other’s practice.

“Although the Colleges of Nursing and Medicine have made interprofessional education a key priority for practice, research and education, I noticed there were few opportunities for nursing students and medical students in Saskatoon to actually learn together in simulated environments,” said Haase. “Our project marks an important step towards engaging nursing and medical students in a clinical simulation learning activity.”

Haase and her team piloted two post-operative surgical simulations with a small group of medical and surgical undergraduate students in 2017. “This opportunity gives students a chance to work together in a scenario that simulates real-life clinical practice. We’re hoping to use our observations during the experience and the feedback we receive from the students to evaluate the pilot project, make any necessary changes and ultimately attempt to introduce this approach into the broader medical and nursing curriculums at the University of Saskatchewan. As health care professionals, our ability to provide excellent patient care is about working collaboratively with our professional partners. We feel that having an understanding of each other’s roles prior to entering practice is an essential part of providing patient-centered care.”

Strong Partnership Recognized With Premier’s Board of Education Award

What does nursing have in common with the College of Education, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, the Saskatoon Tribal Council and Sask Sport Inc.? A passion for an innovative learning program that supports Indigenous student belonging and success. Together, these partners bring to life the St. Frances Cree Bilingual Program, a program that makes an impact on students from kindergarten to grade 8 at St. Frances School in Saskatoon.

“The goal of the Nêhiyawetân Cree Bilingual program is to bring nêhiyaw ways and history into a faith-based Catholic education program,” said College of Nursing’s Dr. Marcella Ogenchuk, who has been a partner on the project for 10 years. “The program allows educators to deliver a standard curriculum, while providing an opportunity for students to connect to their roots and speak their own language, ultimately improving First Nations and Métis student learning outcomes.”

You might be asking yourself, so what part does nursing play? Students and faculty from the College of Nursing have been working with students at St. Frances on preventative health care for nearly a decade. “This collaboration ensures that health and education work together to make sure students are ready to learn,” said Ogenchuk. “During their community practicums, our nursing students work at St. Frances to teach the students about health-related topics, ranging from proper oral hygiene to the importance of drinking water. The nursing students work with the teachers at the school, as well as an Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP) teacher candidate to ensure students are getting daily physical education. The partnership is win-win: not only are the students at St. Frances learning about healthy lifestyles, but the nursing students are learning invaluable skills as well.”

At the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Fall General Assembly held in November 2017, the ni ahkwatonâmonâ:n: An Indigenous Language Pathway to Improved Student Learning Outcomes at St. Frances Cree Bilingual School partnership project, was recognized with a very prestigious award. The Premier’s Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education recognizes educational innovations and improvements focused on student achievement, which have been advanced or directed by boards of education.

Congratulations to Dr. Ogenchuk for being part of this great program that is making a difference for First Nations and Métis children and youth.
Before Dr. Gerri Dickson passed away in 2016, she and her husband Dr. Murray Dickson wanted to make sure the University of Saskatchewan Community of Aboriginal Nursing (UCAN) program had funds to continue support for Indigenous nursing students. As part of their $25,000 donation, a five-year award was created called the Dr. Gerri Dickson Leadership in Reconciliation Award. This $2,500 annual award will continue to have a positive impact on nursing education and the Indigenous community by supporting student leadership in furthering reconciliation initiatives in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

The Dr. Gerri Dickson Leadership in Reconciliation Award is open to continuing students in the College of Nursing. Students applying for the award must be in good academic standing and submit a letter describing their leadership activities and contributions to the area of reconciliation. We are proud to announce that undergraduate student Jennifer McGillivary from the Saskatoon campus was selected as the 2017 award recipient.

McGillivary, a Plains Cree First Nation woman and mother, chose to study nursing to challenge the stereotypes that First Nations people often face, and to actively work towards changing some of the social determinants of health for herself and her family. “I never expected that during my time so far at the University of Saskatchewan I would become ignited with such passion for First Nations health and working towards reconciliation,” said McGillivary.

“When I started as a nursing student, I was aware of the disparities in health between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, and I wanted to change this by role modeling a healthy, active, drug, smoke and alcohol-free lifestyle to challenge the stereotypes. I am the first in my family to work towards a health care degree; therefore, I have no role models or mentors to look up to. So, I am trailblazing a new path for other Indigenous youth and family to follow. This was my way of taking personal responsibility to help create an interdependent and fair society.”

McGillivary has served as the Indigenous Health Advocacy Committee Chair on the Canadian Nursing Students Association, is the Vice-President of the Indigenous Students’ Council at the University of Saskatchewan and a member of the College of Nursing’s Reconciliation working group. She has helped to drive the creation of Christmas food hampers for students in need and organized a domestic violence workshop on the Saskatoon campus. At the Truth and Reconciliation event the University of Saskatchewan held in 2017, McGillivary performed a women’s fancy shawl dance and spoke briefly on behalf of the Indigenous Students Council.

One of the best ways to raise awareness regarding reconciliation is to speak about it. McGillivary has presented at national nursing conferences over the past year on the impacts of colonization and residential schools on First Nations, Métis and Inuit people, as well as the importance of including cultural safety and cultural competency in the curriculum for nursing students.

Transcultural Nursing Society Inducts Dr. Louise Racine

People often say nurses make a difference in the world. But how does your work make an impact if you are not familiar with a culture other than your own? Often nurses and nurse researchers make an effort to immerse themselves in different cultures – working abroad, doing international research, attending traditional ceremonies and more. It’s this kind of work that allows them to make not only a difference at home, but also around the world. Being knowledgeable about a variety of cultures helps nurses provide culturally competent and equitable care to all those they serve.

As a nurse, researcher and educator, Dr. Louise Racine has proven she is committed to transcultural nursing practice, research and education at the College of Nursing and beyond. In New Orleans in October 2017, Dr. Racine was officially inducted by the Transcultural Nursing Society as a Transcultural Nursing Scholar. Nominated by two nursing colleagues, Dr. Dula Pacquiao from the Rutgers School of Nursing and Dr. Carol Holtz, WellStar School of Nursing at Kennesaw State University, Dr. Racine is only one of three Canadians to have received this honour.

“This is a very important acknowledgement from an international nursing society, one I am very pleased to have received,” said Dr. Racine. “I have worked on transcultural nursing through my research in my master’s program, as well as my doctoral studies, and continue to today as an academic nurse researcher. I am very passionate about researching immigrant and refugee health, specifically applying my research to the context of family caregiving among non-Western immigrants and refugees and francophone communities living in the Canadian prairie provinces.”
Did you know you can take continuing nursing education online?

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For more information and to register today, visit nursing.usask.ca/CEDN or call toll-free 1-844-966-6269 (ext. 4).
Dr. Huey-Ming Tzeng was appointed Dean of the College of Nursing for a five-year term effective September 15, 2017. Dr. Tzeng is originally from Taiwan. She earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. She worked at the University of Michigan as a Professor and Associate Nursing Director, at the Washington State University-Spokane as a Professor and Associate Dean, and comes to us from her most recent position as the Dean of the Tennessee Technological University Whitson-Hester School of Nursing.

As part of Dr. Tzeng’s introduction to the University of Saskatchewan, she visited all College of Nursing sites across the province to get acquainted with students, staff, faculty, alumni and stakeholders. She completed her tour in the last week of October 2017.

**LA RONGE**

The visit to La Ronge started off with a tour of the nursing skills lab in Air Ronge, followed by lunch with nursing students at Northlands College. The afternoon saw Dean Tzeng meeting with representatives from Northlands College, Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region*, Lac La Ronge Indian Band and the Jeannie Bird Clinic. A lovely reception was hosted in the evening at the La Ronge Hotel and Suites where College of Nursing staff, alumni, friends of the college, community members, Government of Saskatchewan representatives, city leaders and stakeholders had the opportunity to meet Dr. Tzeng.

**ÎLE-À-LA-CROSSE**

Following the day in La Ronge, Dean Tzeng travelled to Île-à-la-Crosse to visit our second College of Nursing site in northern Saskatchewan. At the St. Joseph’s Hospital and Health Centre, home to the College of Nursing classroom and skills lab, Dr. Tzeng had lunch with nursing students and alumni, toured the facility and met with representatives from the Keewatin Yatithe Regional Health Authority*, La Loche Family Facility and Mayor of Île-à-la-Crosse, Duane Favel.

**PRINCE ALBERT**

Returning from northern Saskatchewan, Dr. Tzeng spent the following morning at the College of Nursing Prince Albert campus. Here she toured the classrooms, lab and office space, then had lunch with faculty, staff and nursing student association leaders. Dean Tzeng will be returning to Prince Albert to meet with representatives from the Prince Albert Parkland Health Region*, community members, city leaders, stakeholders and College of Nursing alumni in 2018.
From north to south, Dean Tzeng continued her week-long provincial tour with a stop in Regina at the University of Saskatchewan Regina campus, home to the College of Nursing. Here she enjoyed lunch with faculty, staff and students, followed by afternoon meetings with faculty, staff and clinical associates. In the evening, a wonderful reception took place at Hotel Saskatchewan where Dr. Tzeng had the opportunity to spend time with alumni, colleagues from the Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program, representatives from the Government of Saskatchewan, Regina Qu’Appelle Health Region*, Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association and Saskatchewan Union of Nurses. Faculty and staff from the Regina campus were also in attendance.

The final destination on Dr. Tzeng’s trip was a visit to the College of Nursing Yorkton site. On her way from Regina to Yorkton, she stopped at the All Nations’ Healing Hospital in Fort Qu’Appelle. Here she toured the newest addition to the hospital, the Pasikow Muskwa Rising Bear Healing Centre, where she learned about traditional and holistic healing, followed by a tour of the hospital.

When she arrived in Yorkton, Dean Tzeng made her way to Parkland College, home to the College of Nursing, where she had lunch with Yorkton nursing students, College of Nursing clinical associates, the Yorkton lab coordinator and representatives from Parkland College. After lunch, Dr. Tzeng continued meetings with representatives from Parkland College, then made her way to the Yorkton Regional Health Centre, where she met with Sunrise Health Region* representatives and toured the Yorkton Nursing Clinical Skills Lab.

“I would like to thank everyone for the great hospitality shown to me during my inaugural provincial tour,” said Dean Tzeng. “I loved visiting our campuses and sites throughout Saskatchewan and truly enjoyed meeting each and every one of you – hearing about your unique perspectives, experiences and ideas. I look forward to working with all of you to shape the future of health care in Saskatchewan.”

* These health regions and authorities transitioned to become part of the Saskatchewan Health Authority in December 2017.
We are so proud of our hardworking College of Nursing faculty and staff that it gives us great pleasure to showcase their accomplishments! Three cheers for these deserving 2017 winners of internal and external awards. It is an honour to work alongside you.

Deputy Minister’s Award for Excellence

Dr. Tony Tung, Director of Continuing Education and Development for Nurses
Category: Contribution to the Improvement of the Health of Canadians

University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association Peter T. Millard Award

Dr. Lee Murray, Associate Professor, Saskatoon campus

University of Saskatchewan’s Provost’s Prize for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning

Dr. Hope Bilinski, Associate Dean Central Saskatchewan, Saskatoon campus
Team: Arlis McQuarrie, Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk and Dr. Tom Smith-Windsor
Project: Rural Partnerships for Interprofessional Clinical Experiences

Saskatchewan Registered Nurses’ Association (SRNA) Awards

SRNA Life Membership Award

Dr. Karen Semchuk, Professor Emerita

SRNA Life Membership Award

Dr. Norma Stewart, Professor Emerita

SRNA Centennial Diamond Award: Past Category

Joan Sawatzky, Professor Emerita
No photo available

College of Nursing Years of Service Awards

5 Years
Jill Brown, Graduate Program Coordinator
Roxanne Cossette, Assistant to the College Relations Office
Heather Helt, College Affairs Coordinator
Kylie Kelso, Marketing and Communications Specialist
Dr. Don Leidl, Assistant Professor
Donna Ludwar, Undergraduate Programs Coordinator
Janet Luimes, Assistant Professor - Academic Programming
Evan Rust, Senior Support Specialist
Robin Thurmeier, Research Facilitator
Sheila Watts, Professional Academic Advisor

Celebrate Us!

(1 to 7) Drs. Tom Smith-Windsor, Yvonne Shevchuk, Hope Bilinski and Arlis McQuarrie

Dr. Tony Tung

Dr. Lee Murray

Dr. Karen Semchuk

Dr. Norma Stewart

Dr. Tony Tung

Dr. Lee Murray

Dr. Karen Semchuk

Dr. Norma Stewart
SRNA Centennial Diamond Award: Present Category

Dr. June Anonson, Professor, Prince Albert campus

SRNA Jean Browne Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice Leadership

Dr. Arlene Kent-Wilkinson, Associate Professor, Saskatoon campus

SRNA Granger Campbell Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice

Leah Thorp, Clinical Instructor
No photo available

SRNA Nora Armstrong Award for Excellence in Mentorship

Jared Dyrland, Lab Instructor
No photo available

Western and North-Western Region Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (WNRCASN) Awards

WNRCASN Education Innovation Award

Dr. Helen Vandenberg, Assistant Professor, Regina campus
Project: Innovating the History of Nursing in Canadian Undergraduate Nursing Education

WNRCASN Graduate Student Research Award

Laura Vogelsang, Limited-Term Lecturer, Saskatoon campus
Project: The Influence of Mobile Technology on Clinical Reasoning for Nursing Students

(1 to r) Dr. Phil Woods, Kylie Kelsa, Heather Helt, Dr. Marcella Ogenchuk, Donna Ludwar, Dr. Arlene Kent-Wilkinson, Robin Thurmeier, Dr. Don Leidl, Jill Brown, Trudy Unger, Dr. Lorraine Holtslander and Dr. Mary Ellen Andrews. Missing: Roxanne Cossette, Janet Luimes, Evan Rust, Sheila Watts, Dr. Lorna Butler and Cindy Peternelj-Taylor
College of Nursing researchers have made significant strides forward in their programs of research during 2017. In addition to the projects that are led (and co-led) by nursing faculty and staff listed here, a number of our researchers are also engaged as co-investigators and collaborators in numerous health research projects with other research units. Congratulations to all our faculty and staff!

**Bold denotes College of Nursing faculty, staff and students. Italics denote College of Nursing Principal Investigators.**

### The Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD)

- International Aboriginal Youth Internship: Travel Award; Dr. P. Petrucka

### Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

- Insight Development Grant: An innovative approach to examine the dark side of interprofessional collaboration; Drs. H. Bilinski, T. Risling, Paslawski (University of Alberta)

### Western & North-Western Region – Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (WNRCASN)

- Education Innovation Award: Innovating the History of Nursing in Canadian Undergraduate Nursing Education; Drs. H. Vandenbarg, L. Wytenbroek (University of Lethbridge)

### Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM)

- Stakeholder consultation/knowledge forum for Indigenous substance abuse and addiction in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan; Drs. G. Maina, B. Mishak, A. de Padua, G. Strudwick (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Ontario)

### The Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology

- Research Grant: Examining Parents’ Online Accounts of Caring for a Child with Cancer; Dr. J. Bally

### McMaster University

- A Comparison of Functional Status in Rural and Urban Community Dwelling Older Adults; Drs. M. E. Andrews, S. Peacock, M. Szafron (School of Public Health, University of Saskatchewan), D. Goodridge (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)

### Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF)

#### Establishment Grant:

- Investing in Future Healthcare Solutions: Collaborating with Saskatchewan Patients to Measure Empowerment and Improve eHealth Engagement; Drs. T. Risling, D. Goodridge (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), L. Hellsten (College of Education, University of Saskatchewan), Mr. J. Moss

#### Collaborative Innovation Development Grant:

- Exploring Oral Health With Indigenous Communities: Collaborative Pathways for Early Intervention; Drs. M. Ogunchuk, H. Graham, G. Uswak (College of Dentistry, University of Saskatchewan), V. Ramsden (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), R. Weiler (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)

- Developing a Mobile Application to Support Healthcare Transition Success for Adolescents with Inflammatory Bowel Disease; Drs. T. Risling, N. Rohatinsky, S. Fowler (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), Mr. D. Risling (University of Fredericton)

- Improving Emergency Department Care Provider and Patient Outcomes using a Synergy Tool; Drs. L. Berry, S. Udod, J. Wagner (University of Regina), Ms. A. Alecxe, Mr. G. Perchie

#### Research Connections Grant:

- Kidney Health and Wellness Day; Drs. C. Bullin, J. Kappel (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)

- Telehealth in Northern and Indigenous Communities: Improving Access through Innovation & Collaboration; Dr. L. Butler

- Gathering for miyo mahcihowin (physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing); Drs. H. Graham, L. Berry, A. Bowen, J. Swidrovich (College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan), M. Szafron (School of Public Health, University of Saskatchewan), Ms. C. Maslin

#### Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship Grant:

- Asthma Diagnosis and Severity among Children in Saskatchewan; Drs. D. Rennie, O. Oluwole (Post-Doctoral Fellow, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)

### Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan

- Indigenous Women’s Perspectives for Culturally Secure Birth Practices; Drs. A. Bowen, H. Graham, V. McKinney (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), Ms. G. Abbott (Saskatoon Mother’s Centre), Dr. R. Marriott (Murdoch University, Australia)
Ms. S. Woods (Prince Albert Grand Council), S. Clarke (Saskatoon Health Region), Ms. D. Sparks (College of Nursing, Master of Nursing Student)

- Lactation Expression: Mothers’ Experiences, Information Needs and Recommendations; Drs. M. Dietrich Leurer, J. McCabe, Ms. J. Bigalky, Ms. A. Mackey

- Connected to Care: Uniting Patients, Families, and Practitioners through a Plan of Care Portal for the Children’s Hospital of SK; Drs. T. Risling, K. Baerg (Department of Pediatrics, University of Saskatchewan), Ms. L. Chartier (Saskatoon Health Region), Ms. S. Tupper (Saskatoon Health Region)

Saskatchewan Academic Health Sciences Network

- Professional development tools for clinical teachers; Ms. K. Rodger

University of Saskatchewan

- Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies Research Grants:
  - Participant Experience in the Mental Health Strategy (MHS) Court in Saskatoon; Dr. A. Kent-Wilkinson
  - A Literature Review to Develop Nurse Practitioner Associated Outcome Metrics within Correctional Settings in Canada; Drs. B. Mishak, A. Kent-Wilkinson, Ms. C. Pollock (College of Nursing, Master of Nursing Student)

- Publication Fund:
  - Narrative Descriptions of miyo mahcihowin (physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being) from a Contemporary nêhiyawak (Plains Cree) Perspective; Dr. H. Graham
  - Defining Empowerment and Supporting Patient Engagement: Saskatchewan Patients and the eHealth Saskatchewan Citizen Health Portal; Dr. T. Risling

- International Travel Award:
  - International Travel to Malawi, Ethiopia and Tanzania - February 2018; Dr. W. Martin

- President’s SSHRC Research Fund – Insight Grant:
  - Factors Influencing Interpersonal Violence among Women in Northern Saskatchewan; Drs. S. Maposa, L. Racine
  - Ruffled Feathers: Case Study on Urban Hens in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Drs. W. Martin, R. Engler-Stringer (Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, University of Saskatchewan)

  - Developing a Personalized Youth Alcohol Self-Assessment Tool; Drs. M. Ogenchuk, L. Hellsten (Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education/Education, University of Saskatchewan)

  - A Postcolonial Analysis of Cultural Competency and Cultural Safety in Study Abroad Programs among Undergraduate Students in International Placements; Drs. L. Racine, S. Fowler-Kerry, L. Wason-Elam (College of Education, University of Saskatchewan)

- Faculty Recruitment and Retention Program:
  - Exploring Health and Social Outcomes for Newcomers to Saskatoon; Dr. S. Belton
  - Older Adults Living with Complex Healthcare Needs in Community: Supporting Aging in Choice of Place; Dr. R. Compton
  - Optimizing the Patient Experience in Cancer; Dr. D. Leidl
  - Exploring Prevention and Risk Reduction Utilization in Access Place, Prince Albert; Dr. G. Maina

  - Improving HIV Care for Indigenous People with a History of Incarceration; Dr. A. de Padua

University of Regina

- The Indigenous Peoples’ Health Research Centre (IPHRC) and the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) Research Fellows Program:
  - Exploring the Experiences of Aboriginal Family Caregivers of Children with Life-Threatening and Life-Limiting Illness in Saskatchewan; Drs. J. Bally, M. Burles (Post-Doctoral Fellow)
Ever Wondered?

Have you ever wondered how many students graduate from the College of Nursing annually? Or how many students we have at each campus? How about enrolment statistics or the dollar amount of student awards that have been given out?

These are the types of questions we are asked frequently, so we thought it would be fun to share some interesting facts that provide a snapshot of the College of Nursing.

401 new undergraduate and graduate students joined the College in 2017/2018
1126 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in 2017/2018
24 graduate students completed their programs in June 2017
99 Staff
46 Faculty

Undergraduate student (BSN and PDBSN) distribution per campus in 2017/2018

- 512 Saskatoon
- 289 Regina
- 121 Prince Albert
- 27 Yorkton
- 15 Île-à-la-Crosse

18.8% of undergraduate students are Indigenous (2017/2018)

297 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students graduated in June 2017
622 students were in a Clinical Placement heading into the 2018 winter term.

4,287 Facebook friends end of 2017.

2,251 Twitter followers end of 2017.

539 website updates completed in 2017.

$220,000 worth of student scholarships and awards were given out in 2017.

From May 2016 to April 2017, Continuing Education and Development for Nurses (CEDN) organized:

- 5 conferences with 604 participants and 36 workshops with 571 participants.

622 students

500+ self-declared Indigenous nursing alumni

103 travel claims submitted in September and October 2017.

110 contracts were created for employment in the 2017 fall term.

915 course builds, including labs, from August 2016 – July 2017.

215 video conference meetings were organized in 2017.

110 contracts were created for employment in the 2017 fall term.
The best part of graduate education is meeting other students, in all sorts of disciplines, who are really passionate about making improvements in so many different areas, and to see how our various passions are interrelated. Graduate education really allows a person to think more broadly about health and wellness, and a nurse’s role in society, not just in health care. I am looking forward to seeing where these conversations take us 5, 10 or 20 years from now.

The flexibility of the graduate program, especially in comparison to my undergraduate education, is amazing. The MN program allows me to complete my work around my family’s schedule and at times when I learn best. Most of my school work is completed once my children are in bed! What I am most excited about in regards to finishing the program is to have my evenings back to myself! All joking aside, I have seen a tremendous amount of growth since starting the program. It has contributed to me being a better nurse, employee, mother and wife.

The faculty, fellow students and my supervisor have really challenged me to develop a deeper understanding of different perspectives and philosophies that influence the nursing profession and my own practice. Definitely the best part of my graduate studies so far has been the people I have met. I have valued the ability to network with nursing leaders and taken advantage of opportunities to cultivate my own leadership skills. I’m especially grateful for some close friendships that I have made along the way! After I finish the program, I want to utilize my research in remote presence technology and take a leadership role to champion the use of innovation and technology to improve access to healthcare for people living in Saskatchewan and beyond.

The best part of graduate education is the exploration of health and well-being beyond the constructs of acute care. Graduate education is a pathway for nurses to challenge the status quo and provides opportunities for interdisciplinary teamwork that help develop a greater understanding of local and global health challenges which span professions. I believe graduate-level education and research enables a person to further expand their interests and benefit their work as a clinician, academic and researcher.
The best part about taking graduate nursing education is the options available to complete the NP program to best suit the needs of each student. Following completion of my program, I am most looking forward to beginning my practice as a novice Nurse Practitioner and strengthening primary health-care services in Saskatchewan. I am very grateful for the opportunities in the College of Nursing at the U of S. I wish all graduate students entering the program success in their studies.

As a Nurse Practitioner, I am very passionate about women’s health, and with that, creating programs to support mothers in rural Saskatchewan. The best part about taking my graduate education was opening so many doors in my career at a young age. Being only 25 at graduation, I am excited to enter the work force as an NP and have the time to put my ‘stamp on things’.

The best part of taking my doctorate program is working under the mentorship of seasoned scholars who are approachable and passionate about sharing their knowledge and insights, and who are committed to the discipline of nursing. I’m really looking forward to being involved in global research and using the skills I’ve acquired to influence significant change and give back to my community. I am happy to be a part of the U of S community. Truly feels like home away from home.

What I’ve enjoyed most about graduate nursing education is being exposed to all the various types of research taking place within the College of Nursing and the university as a whole. I am really looking forward to pursuing a career in academia when I complete my program.
A Look at Our Alumni

Alumna Jo-Ann Hnatiuk Receives Alumni Achievement Award

The Alumni Association Achievement Award program recognizes graduates of the University of Saskatchewan for excellence, leadership and innovation in their achievements and in their contributions to the social, cultural and economic well-being of society, which positively reflect on the University of Saskatchewan and the Alumni Association. The College of Nursing is proud to announce alumna Jo-Ann Hnatiuk (BSN’95) was selected as a recipient of a 2017 University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Achievement Award for her outstanding public service.

In 2003, Hnatiuk was deployed to Afghanistan as a Critical Care Nursing Officer for the Canadian Forces. She served in the intensive care unit and emergency room, and provided clinical education, on-air transport and pediatric care. In 2007, Hnatiuk was redeployed as an air medevac nurse with the Task Force Afghanistan Corsair Medevac Unit in an effort to increase the U.S. Blackhawks’ medevac.

“It is a true honour to receive this award for doing something I really love,” said Hnatiuk. “I am grateful for the education I received from the University of Saskatchewan and am thankful every day that I became a nurse.”

On October 26, Hnatiuk was celebrated at the annual University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Honouring Our Alumni event, alongside fellow recipients, College of Nursing Dean Dr. Huey-Ming Tzeng and College Relations Officer Anna Pacik. “Every time I meet one of our alumni, I am humbled by the extraordinary stories they tell me of the work they do each and every day,” said Pacik. “When our students graduate and become nurses, they really have no idea the doors that will open for them. The fact Jo-Ann went on to work as a nursing officer for the Canadian Forces and serve in Afghanistan not once, but twice, is a true reflection of the difference nurses make in the world.”

Congratulations once again Jo-Ann from everyone at the College of Nursing!
Diploma Nursing Class of 1957 Celebrates With 60-Year Reunion

1957: It was the year bubble wrap was invented, Gunsmoke was the most popular television show and Pat Boone's Love Letters in the Sand could be heard playing on radios everywhere. 2017: Everyone awaits the introduction of a new Apple product, reality television is the norm and the “romper” is back in fashion.

So, what’s the connection between 1957 and 2017? It’s the moment the Diploma Nursing Class of 1957 came back to the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) to celebrate their 60-year reunion.

Twenty-five Diploma Class of 1957 graduates, along with a few of their spouses, travelled from across Canada and the United States, to join together in Saskatoon from June 16 to 18. The weekend festivities kicked off Friday afternoon with a tour of the Health Sciences building, followed by an evening reception hosted by the College of Nursing at the Park Town Hotel. To celebrate this incredible anniversary, all alumni received a 60th anniversary certificate signed by U of S President Peter Stoicheff and Chancellor Roy Romanow, a College of Nursing alumni pin and a U of S 60th anniversary pin. Guests were welcomed by the College of Nursing’s Interim Dean Dr. Beth Horsburgh, and enjoyed wonderful music throughout the evening by violinist Nate Bomans.

Calling it their “Octogenarian Celebration” as most are in their early 80s, the graduates spent the majority of their weekend simply enjoying each other’s company, as well as participating in scheduled activities like a visit to one of Saskatoon’s premier attractions, The Berry Barn, and an evening gala on Saturday. Reunion organizing committee members Anne Cholod, Darlene Vick, Mary Matiko and Louise Barbonoff were grateful to see so many classmates come out to celebrate and look forward to when they can all get together again.

Where Did Our Composites Go?

With many alumni returning to the College of Nursing as part of their reunion celebrations, we often get asked about where their class graduation picture is hanging. With the move to the Health Sciences building a few years ago, there simply wasn’t enough wall space for all health sciences colleges and schools to hang their class graduation composites. The solution was to store the originals at the University of Saskatchewan archives department, and then digitize the pictures. Once the pictures were digitized, the College was happy to make them accessible online, so that anyone anywhere can view their graduation photo and their class picture.

If you graduated between 1938 and 2007, you can view your graduation picture on the College of Nursing website under the “Alumni” section. Due to photographer copyrights, not all composites are able to be viewed online. The 10 most recent years of framed composites are hanging at U of S nursing campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert. Visit our website to find your grad photo today!
Philanthropy is said to be the practice of giving money and time to make life better for other people, often involving some personal sacrifice. With gratitude, the College of Nursing recognizes our philanthropists who have given accumulated gifts of $1,000 and more, as of December 31, 2017.

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For more information, please contact:
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