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Indigenization of the Nursing Curricula

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Purpose

- To support the Indigenization of the nursing program.
- Selkirk College has committed to examine the legacy of residential schools, the United Nations declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties, and Aboriginal rights, and Indigenous teachings and practices as they are part of intercultural competency which is a integral component competent nursing care.
- Make recommendations to aid in the continued growth and expansion of the nursing curriculum at Selkirk College through the advice of Indigenous health providers.

Data Collection

We conducted an inventory with Selkirk College Nursing Faculty to gather qualitative data regarding current Indigenous concepts being taught in the nursing program. Indigenous health providers advised on expansion of the nursing curriculum.

Themes & Gaps

Cultural safety is a purposeful theme threaded throughout the nursing curricula. Indigenous concepts offer invaluable teaching and learning opportunities in the nursing curricula. This is reflected by nursing faculty, valuing the importance of and incorporating Indigenous ways of knowing and healing.

Gaps:

- Indigenous Peoples to facilitate teaching and learning
- Unintended duplication of Indigenous teaching strategies
- Disorderly flow of Indigenous concepts
- Evaluations of learning

Important Considerations

Nurses ethical responsibility of intercultural competency.

Why reconciliation matters to nurses. Partnering with Indigenous Peoples in the process of curricula development and facilitating teaching. Moving too fast puts us at risk of re-colonization.

Recommendations

Conceptual Framework for Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Healing – Levelled and Laddered throughout Nursing Program

- Year 1: Awareness of Colonization and Indigenous Rights – Canadian and International Context
- Year 2: Indigenous Healing: Exploring Indigenous maternal and early childhood development, mental health, intergenerational trauma
- Year 3: Inequity, minority, and oppression in relation to health consequences and complexity of care. Truth and Reconciliation, why it matters.
- Year 4: Roles of nurses bridging gaps in health Inequities and the role of the health care systems in reconciliation

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Leethen (2015). Over time we come together.