

ENHANCING NURSING EDUCATION THROUGH HUMAN PATIENT SIMULATION

AT ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE PROJECT

Assiniboine Community College (Assiniboine) is about to embark on the next phase of student education in our Practical Nursing program.

In the fall of 2016, we opened our HOLO (Hands On Learning Opportunity) Suites at our Brandon and Winnipeg campuses. These state-of-the-art suites are equipped with the latest models of high fidelity simulation mannequins: one female that gives birth and one male adult at each location.

Now the college is adding to the high-tech family with pediatric mannequins.

IMPACT

Advantages of High Fidelity Patient Simulation for Assiniboine Nursing students

- Provides opportunity for interactive and authentic learning without risk to a patient
- Students are able to witness the results of their actions in real time
- Supports critical thinking and enhances clinical decision making skills
- Scenarios can apply classroom theory into “real life” situations
- Students learn to work as a team in a variety of roles
- Boosts students’ self-confidence and helps reduce anxiety

The need for Pediatric Simulation Mannequins

The main pediatrics unit for the province lives at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, while the Brandon Regional Health Centre houses a smaller pediatrics unit to support Westman. This makes it exceedingly difficult for our students to receive the practicum training required to gain experience with children.

In rural health care, nurses must be equipped with pediatric skills to properly and responsibly provide care, since they are often the first point of contact before a child can be sent to a larger centre.

We graduate the vast majority of Practical Nurses in Manitoba

Our college welcomes 215 new students every year at five locations across Manitoba.

- Our intake of students in Brandon includes 70 first year and 70 second year students
- Assiniboine's Winnipeg Campus welcomes 70 first year and 70 second year students
- Two rural rotating sites plus one contract site each year have an intake of 25 students per site

Assiniboine has been delivering Practical Nurse education for over 35 years

Preparing For Real-Life Situations

When a patient suffering from a severe heart attack arrived at the emergency room of the Neepawa Health Centre, Christal Nicholson knew just what to do. The Practical Nursing student from Assiniboine Community College was taking her senior practicum at the hospital.

"I was the first to respond and, with skills that I learned from Assiniboine, I was able to identify the symptoms and act quickly," Nicholson recalled.

That's because Nicholson had been trained in one of the college's two simulation labs, practicing on high-fidelity simulation mannequins that were programmed to mimic the symptoms of a severe heart attack

"The simulation lab prepared me to take on a leadership role that was not expected of me. I was able to go through the procedures practised in the sim lab, such as, identify that a patient is in cardiac arrest, what drugs to use, and most importantly, communicate with your fellow staff members," Nicholson said.

IMPLEMENTATION

Assiniboine is looking at a funding model of public/industry support for the \$200,000 addition of pediatric mannequins.

CONCLUSION

No matter which location our students choose for their learning, Assiniboine is committed to providing the best possible classroom experience. We want our students graduating with the confidence that they can work with all members of the healthcare team and play a vital role. We are looking to complement our high tech mannequin family with pediatric mannequins, ensuring our students can fully support communities across Manitoba.

Our graduate nurses are working in hospitals in communities such as Boissevain, Brandon, Dauphin, Deloraine, Glenboro, Killarney, Minnedosa, Neepawa, Russell, Souris, Virden and Winnipeg.

DONOR RECOGNITION

Your gift to Assiniboine Community College Foundation is tax deductible, and multi-year pledges are gladly accepted. We simply invoice you every year for the duration agreed upon.

Supporters of \$1,000 and over will have their name on a donor plaque at the HOLO Suite and listed with ACColade, the Assiniboine Community College recognition structure that acknowledges individuals and organizations that support us over the years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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