

MAKING THE LINKS

Northern Saskatchewan Experience

Students spend 6 weeks during the summer in the **Keewatin-Yathe Health Region** in Northern Saskatchewan. In the communities of **Ile-a-la-Crosse** and the nearby reserve of **Buffalo River Dene First Nation**.

Examples of student involvement may include helping to organize the South Bay Youth Conference, participating in a community-led participatory action research project or being involved in the Healthy Choices for Youth project. Being housed within the community, students spend their afternoons and evenings getting to know the local people on a more informal basis. They participate in the cultural and recreational life of the community through such events as sweat lodges and canoe trips.

SWITCH Community Clinic

Another important component of this program is the students' regular involvement at SWITCH, a community health clinic in Saskatoon's core neighborhood. SWITCH is a student-managed interdisciplinary wellness project that provides after-hours health care at West Side Community Clinic in Saskatoon. First Nations and Metis leaders, advisors or elders are also present at every shift. In the clinical and program setting, students, staff and mentors learn from working together and from clients.

Global Health 1 CHEP 402 Course

This comprehensive course offers content focusing on traditional health practice and aboriginal health issues, aboriginal health theories and models, and introduction to aboriginal history and the principles of community based primary health care.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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"Throughout the two years I've been involved in 'Making the Links', the most profound aspect for me is the people we encountered in Northern Saskatchewan, at SWITCH and in Mozambique. The people have made each experience that we have had unique and rewarding. The project gives medical students a unique learning opportunity that they don't get anywhere else in their medical education".

Jacelyn Hanson (Making the Links 2004-2006)

