RECRUITMENT OF ABORIGINAL STUDENTS
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY & NUTRITION

Successes and Highlights

(1) Participation in recruitment fairs, including Aboriginal Career Fairs, which are facilitated by NAPN/M.

(2) Participation in the Pre-Health Professions Club in Regina and Prince Albert to present and discuss programs and careers in the health sciences; the sessions have been well attended by Aboriginal students.

(3) Participation in the annual Discovery Days in Health Sciences. Jointly sponsored by the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and TD Canada, the event gives secondary school Aboriginal students and teachers the opportunity to explore a variety of career options in the Health Sciences at U of S. Our College presented on “How Medicines Are Prepared” and “The Food Factor Challenge.”

(4) Distribution of an informative new brochure “Information for Aboriginal students.”

(5) Advertising the Pharmacy and Nutrition professional programs, including in the U of S Aboriginal Students’ Handbook each year.

(6) The national Rx & D Health Research Foundation has generously worked with the College to provide two undergraduate awards annually, valued at $2,000 each, with preference to Aboriginal students. In addition, the HRF supports other initiatives, including Aboriginal student recruitment initiatives and graduate summer student research support, with preference given to Aboriginal students.

(7) Use of alternative learning strategies to offer the Basic Nutrition course online and distributed throughout the Province and inform about the Nutrition and Pharmacy programs.

Future Plans

(1) Deepen and broaden our understanding of Aboriginal engagement and best practices to recruit First Nations, Metis and Inuit students to the College, notably through seeking input directly from our Aboriginal students around recruitment.

(2) Continue to rely on the generous expertise of Aboriginal support programs in other units and campus-wide, including the newly funded Aboriginal Recruitment Officer.

(3) Develop a program similar to the College of Law model for Aboriginal students prior to beginning studies in Pharmacy or Nutrition.

(4) Build on connections with dieticians in Tribal Councils and pharmacists in First Nations and Metis communities to assist in recruiting Aboriginal students.

“As you pursue your education, you are surrounded by equally motivated and dedicated people that can help to cheer you on.”

Erin Woods, pharmacy student

Website: www.usask.ca/pharmacy-nutrition
Email: undergrad-pharmacy-nutrition@usask.ca

Aboriginal Framework

www.aboriginal.usask.ca