

Successes and Highlights

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition has worked hard to integrate Indigenous knowledge and experiences into the Pharmacy curriculum. Examples include:

- (1) Focus on communications with diverse audiences and enhancing students' knowledge and skills that recognize cultural personal variability.
- (2) Drug therapies for populations at risk, tailored to the Saskatchewan population.
- (3) Determinants of health, including discussion of socioeconomic factors, and historical factors that impact on health of Aboriginal people.
- (4) Problem-based learning module on Aboriginal Health and Healing, involving students in Pharmacy, Nutrition, Medicine, Physical Therapy and Social Work.
- (5) Service learning experiences provide opportunities for individual students to be involved with Aboriginal communities and agencies.
- (6) All Pharmacy students have opportunities to provide counseling and patient-centered care to Aboriginal peoples through community and hospital structured practice experiences (SPEP), which is a required component of the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree.

Future Plans

- (1) Through a curriculum redesign and mapping process, which is underway, ensure full understanding of Aboriginal content and service/experiential learning and how best to increase content of culture and health throughout the curriculum.
- (2) Ensure sufficient cultural competency training for students needs, framed as professional and client-centered.
- (3) Provide students with "Help Become Leader" and Health Sciences Role Models' video.
- (4) Pursue interprofessional clinical placements in Aboriginal communities.
- (5) Build connections to the Institute for Northern Governance and Development, and pursue development of an SPEP specialty rotation for the North, by the North, from the north, and involve Tribal Councils and Elders in the process of planning this.
- (6) For students, faculty and staff together, provide more opportunities to acquire knowledge and understanding about the educational, research and service needs of Aboriginal communities.

From our College Strategic Plan 2012-2016:

"Through understanding of First Nations, Metis and Inuit cultures, the College will enhance the student experience for all students" and develop essential cultural competence in future Pharmacy practitioners.



From our Pharmacy students:

Much positive feedback is received from our students regarding Aboriginal culture and health in their program, but they stress that more is needed, and needs to be continuous through all four years of the curriculum!

