



THOMPSON
RIVERS
UNIVERSITY
School of Nursing

Making a Difference:

**Scholarship and Research in
the School of Nursing at TRU**

2016-2021





Making a Difference: Scholarship and Research in the School of Nursing at TRU, 2016-2021

The Thompson Rivers University School of Nursing embarked on a collaborative process to articulate a vision and mission, seven strategic directions and four priority areas for scholarship and research for the next five years (2016-2021). This document presents key elements of the school's plan, developed through wide consultation with faculty, students and members of the practice community.

This plan has roots in the School of Nursing's legacy of scholarship, research and excellence in teaching nursing students. It builds on and extends relationships with practice and community partners. This plan for strategic action will inspire action, ongoing collaboration and efforts to make a positive difference in nursing practice and health outcomes in identified thematic areas of scholarship and research.

VISION

Innovating for excellence in health, nursing education and nursing practice through collaborative high-quality scholarship and inquiry.

MISSION

Create an environment that facilitates collaborative nursing- and health-related scholarship and research to benefit the health of individuals, families, communities and populations.

Strategic Directions

1 FOSTER ENGAGEMENT

- extend participation in scholarly activities for all faculty in collaboration with community partners
- support members in the creation of individual scholarly activity plans
- design and implement ways to recognize and celebrate successes

3 BUILD CAPACITY

- design and implement a plan for including students in scholarship- and research-related activities
- foster and deepen a culture of inquiry, curiosity, and creativity

5 INCREASE VISIBILITY

- design a communications plan and strategy related to scholarly and research activities
- profile existing faculty expertise and clarify “our story”

2 CONDUCT HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH

- develop inclusive programs of research and scholarship across a range of interests
- mobilize action regarding each theme to support faculty members in the creation of their individual research plans

4 SUPPORT COLLABORATION

- identify potential partners/ collaborators to support our vision, mission, and strategic directions
- engage the potential and relevant partners/collaborators in a phased and intentional manner as specific activity occurs

6 PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

- foster and deepen the culture around using scholarship and research results to inform practice and policy decision-making
- develop and implement an intentional approach for the translation and application of scholarly and research evidence from faculty efforts

Research and Scholarship Themes

1 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Scholarship of teaching and learning
- Nursing practice education
- Mentorship and preceptorship

THEMES IN CONTEXT:

Faculty have developed teaching practices and disseminated their work on strategies to engage students and promote critical thinking, including multimodal teaching activities, the flipped classroom, and unfolding case studies.

Faculty members partnered with Conayt Friendship Center (Merritt) and Ponderosa Lodge (Kamloops) to create two unique clinical placements with mutual benefit to student learning and agencies/communities.



2 COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING AND POPULATION HEALTH

- Community health nursing
- Seniors' health
- Chronic wound care
- Vulnerable populations
- Global health
- Palliative care
- Women's health
- Rural health
- Family, child and youth /adolescent health

THEMES IN CONTEXT:

A participatory action research team, co-led by a faculty member and a public health nursing manager, explored issues related to increasing capacity and quality in public health nursing education.

Students worked with faculty members to better understand the international female's lived experience of health care accessibility in Canada while in post-secondary education.



3 LEADERSHIP AND POLICY

- Leadership in nursing education
- Quality workplace environments
- Policy analysis in nursing and health systems

THEMES IN CONTEXT:

Collaborating with other respected nursing scholars, a faculty member is investigating the use of policy analysis methods of inquiry to develop knowledge in critical areas facing the development of the nursing profession, nursing organizations, and professional regulation.

A faculty member examined the policy landscape for consideration of nurse anesthesia practice in British Columbia.



4 INDIGENOUS HEALTH AND PEDAGOGY

- Indigenous health
- Indigenous health human resources
- Cultural competence and cultural safety in nursing education

THEMES IN CONTEXT:

Nursing and social work faculty collaborated with Interior Health Aboriginal Health and Elders from six Secwepemc communities to increase the capacity of nurses to care for Elders living with memory loss.

A faculty member studied ways Indigenous knowledge manifests in the practices of Indigenous nurses and how can it better serve students, clients and colleagues.





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