

CBU Statement of Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation:

We, the CBU School of Nursing in solidarity with our Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing, (CASN) wish to express our deepest regret, apologizing to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Canada for harms, historical or contemporary, related to nursing education.

CBU SON acknowledges that access to nursing education has been inequitable and unjust for Indigenous Peoples, most especially those in Mi'kma'ki, the land upon which CBU is situated. We also acknowledge that the experiences of Mi'kmaq and all Indigenous students and faculty within the CBU nursing program has not always been respectful, or culturally safe. Our actions have prevented many L'nu people from becoming nurses and from advancing in the nursing profession. Furthermore, we acknowledge that many graduates of CBU school of nursing, as with all Canadian Nursing Education Programs, deliver care to Indigenous peoples that is racist, discriminatory, and culturally harmful to Indigenous culture, directly and negatively impacting the health and well being of Mi'kmaq and Indigenous peoples.

We recognize that these injustices committed by the SON continue through systemic racism. We further acknowledge the failure to incorporate valuable Mi'kmaw and Indigenous perspectives and knowledge, as well as the impacts of colonialism and neocolonialism, into our nursing curricula. We understand as well, the importance of nursing education in shaping the future of health care, and we deeply regret all instances where CBU School of Nursing's actions and/or inactions created disparities and reinforced systemic colonial structures.

CBU SON commits to strengthening our curriculum by utilizing the approach and guiding principles of 2 Eyed-Seeing, or Etuaptmumk, developed by Mi'kmaw Elder Albert Marshall as we move toward creating solutions, education and actions that are co-led with community Mi'kmaw partners. CBU SON is dutifully committed to self-reflection, learning, and transformation in working towards measurable actions in keeping with TRC's calls to action to address and eliminate these harms. These measurable actions include but are not limited to attention to anti-racism/discrimination, curriculum revisions, co-created research, inclusive community engagement, recruitment and retention of Mi'kmaq peoples in nursing education, as well as ongoing accountability of our actions to all Mi'kmaq peoples.

We commit to the creation of a safe learning and teaching environment for students, staff, faculty and Nurse Practice Educators within our SON. We commit to the development of a safe reporting and follow through process within the SON for incidents of racism happening in CBU SON. This will inform ongoing enhancements to cultural supports available to Mi'kmaq students within SON.