

# The Village

**IMPACT REPORT  
2020-2021**

# IMPACT REPORT

**The Village** is the only model of its kind in Canada, focused on collaborative inter-professional and inter-generational education and the integration of Indigenous, Eastern and Western healing and wellness practices. The Village integrates seniors' and community care with teaching, experiential skills training and applied research – all in one facility.

*Watch this video for more information*



**Thank you** for your commitment to The Village, and for embracing a shared spirit of giving, caring and focus on our student community. The students we serve play a vital role in our communities: they go on to be the frontline changemakers helping our parents, our siblings, our extended families

and our friends; and developing solutions to some of today's most pressing problems. Without the support we have received from donors the creation of The Village would still be a dream. Your support is truly changing lives - both now and for generations to come.





# INTRODUCTION

**2021 was** indeed an unusual year, with far-reaching impacts that may forever change the way postsecondary education is delivered. As we collectively look forward to moving out of the pandemic and establishing a new normal, we will continue to face many challenges. The long-term effects of the pandemic continue to unfold as we evolve to address an ever-changing world.

Canadore College and The Village exist for their students; to help them maximize their potential, acquire skills for employment, set up a basis for further education, or all three combined. As we evolve, we will attract and support a diverse community of learners in a culturally-safe environment and we will focus on their success and satisfaction. This includes linking with community support services and networks to create efficient partnerships and student opportunities.

We will continue to act as a catalyst for economic development by bringing together employers, agencies, and public and private sector partners to develop responsive and innovative programming to meet industry and community needs. We will continually seek to improve our connection to community through our employees and students being involved with local organizations, fundraising, partnerships and more.

Key activities within The Village and its School of Health, Wellness and Social Services continue to be focused on revitalizing existing academic programs and resources, advancing new programs, establishing new strategic community and industry partnerships, and developing and implementing academic and applied research. We look forward to sharing a few of the initiatives and successes The Village and our health and human services programs have enjoyed over this past year, despite the unpredictability and challenges that we encountered.

As always, if you have any questions or feedback we encourage you to reach out. Our doors are always open, and we look forward to staying in touch.



# THE VILLAGE COLLECTIVE IMPACT PROJECT

## TARGETING THE SENIOR POPULATION

**In November** 2019, The Village at Canadore College received nearly \$2 million dollars in funding through the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program. Over five years, The Village Collective Impact Project will work collaboratively with seniors and Indigenous seniors (55+), their caregivers, stakeholders, regional community organizations and agencies to focus on developing new models of healthy aging and inclusion efforts aimed at improving outcomes of seniors and Indigenous seniors living in the Nipissing-Parry Sound district.

The project team is focused on building successful, sustainable community partnerships, and has three areas of focus to achieve its mission:



Support an innovative, age-friendly and dementia-friendly community;



Increase and promote social participation and inclusion for seniors and Indigenous seniors, their caregivers and families; and



Generate meaningful, intergenerational learning experiences for students and seniors and Indigenous seniors.

In March 2021, Canadore hosted a virtual intergenerational summit to reduce the risk of social isolation for the districts of Nipissing and Parry Sound. We convened community leaders, service groups and seniors to discuss the issues and help draft the

framework for our common agenda. Over 110 people attended, representing nearly fifty organizations. This led to the identification of four Collaborating Organizations, one Indigenous Collaborating Organization (collectively referred to as The Collaborative) and seven Seed Grant Partners.

The Collaborative will initially focus on creating a seniors' toolkit and inventory of services to highlight existing services and partnerships. This toolkit will be shared across existing services, sectors and partners to create social connections. *Students from The Village will train as community connectors and will help navigate the toolkit and support agencies using the toolkit.*

In June 2021, the Village CIP distributed \$150,000 in grants to a dozen seniors' organizations for new programming across the region.

"Canadore College is pleased to see The Village leading the way to develop new models that promote healthy aging," said President and CEO George Burton. "The Village Collective Impact Project, through collaboration with organizations and agencies in Nipissing and Parry Sound, is bringing that idea to life. Seniors in our region can only benefit from this work."



# CANADORE COLLEGE'S GENOMICS LAB AND COVID-19 VARIANTS

**Canadore College** is part of an Ontario-wide coalition that is sequencing and characterizing coronavirus strains affecting the province. The world-leading research team, ONCoV Genomics Coalition (<https://www.oncov.ca/>), was brought together by Ontario Genomics, an organization funded by the Ontario government. Canadore is the only college in the coalition.

"This provides tremendous learning opportunities for the students and provides the community with

specialty trained graduates who can assist in the battle against the pandemic," said Tara McGoey, coordinator of Canadore's Biotechnology and Functional Genomics and Clinical Consultation programs.

"Not only is this experiential learning opportunity beneficial to the students but to the province of Ontario as well, in the fight against COVID-19," said Canadore College President and CEO George Burton.

Canadore's participation in the ONCoV Genomics Coalition provides tremendous exposure to the College and its partners for the investment in the Genomics Lab.

"It is phenomenal to see such quick capacity building at Canadore College to support our province-wide efforts for increased sequencing to identify COVID-19 variants of concern," said Bettina Hamelin, President and CEO at Ontario Genomics. "These training opportunities are essential for a sustainable pandemic response that reaches all parts of Ontario. Colleges, like Canadore, have a real opportunity to become the biotech training hubs we need right now and for decades to come."







## PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM RECEIVES APPROVAL FROM THE COLLEGE OF NURSES OF ONTARIO

On March 5, 2021, Canadore's School of Health Science obtained approval from the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) for the Practical Nursing Program.

The Nursing Education Program Approval is the CNO's new evaluation and monitoring process for approving all entry-level nursing education programs. It is one of the ways the CNO meets its mandate of protecting the public. This is the first year Practical Nursing programs across the province have been subjected to the new approval process.

Canadore's program has been approved under these new guidelines. Programs will be monitored on a yearly basis in addition to undergoing a comprehensive review every seven years. Each nursing education program is evaluated against three approval standards:

- **Structure** – program's ability to support student preparation to practice;
- **Curriculum** – ability to meet entry to practice nursing competencies expected for their class; and
- **Outcomes** – demonstrating outcomes of preparation to meet entry to practice competencies.

Program approval ensures graduates are prepared to practice nursing safely, competently and ethically for the nursing category and or/class for which they wish to register. Canadore College's Practical Nursing Programs met all of the evaluation expectations, demonstrating the knowledge and dedication of the faculty and staff in the program.



## CANADA LIFE INDIGENOUS HEALTH STUDIES BURSARIES

This year, Canada Life's generous donation to The Village directly supported two deserving students.

**Kerrie Coon** is a single mother who came to Canadore from a small community in northern Quebec for her first year of our Indigenous Wellness and Addictions Prevention program.

**Ariel Nakogee**, a Mushkegowuk Cree from the Attawapiskat First Nation, is graduating from the Indigenous Wellness and Addictions Prevention program with a GPA of 4.0. Ariel plans to continue her education in Psychology at Nipissing University.

## NEW STUDENT AWARD SPOTLIGHT

### Bridget Jocelyn Brown Memorial Métis Wellness Award

We were so pleased to work with the North Bay Métis Council to establish a new \$5,000 award in honour of the life and work of Bridget Brown, the Council's former Women's Representative who succumbed to cancer in October 2020. Bridget was also a board member at the Near North Palliative Care Network, where she represented Métis women's health and wellness.

In the words of a close friend; "Bridget Brown was a strong, courageous Métis woman. No matter what life threw her way, she met it head on, with her head held high and a smile on her face. Bridget never let circumstances defeat her determination and spirit. She was always honest in her words and true to her heart. No matter what challenges she was facing, Bridget looked for ways to serve others. She loved Mother Earth and all it had to offer. She loved people and was always open and kind. Bridget freely offered insight and advice when asked and was always willing to listen to others. Bridget left us with many gifts. She showed us how to handle adversity through her own actions, how to stay the course, no matter the obstacles in your path, and how to love and appreciate life itself."

In its inaugural year, the Bridget Jocelyn Brown Memorial directly supported Alexandra Boyer, a first-year student in Canadore's Practical Nursing program.

In Alex's words, "Helping people is part of who I am and I will never run out of room in my heart for anyone." She has volunteered for various organizations including the YMCA and Relay for Life, for community clean-ups, and many more initiatives. She has also worked in a pharmacy and a methadone clinic.



From left to right: Alexandra Boyer, Lindsay Hayhurst, Nicole Edworthy

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT THROUGH APPLIED RESEARCH AT THE VILLAGE

**Applied research** is an important part of engaging students in their own education and involves active reflection, an important skill for most professions. Integrating applied research in a course can look any number of ways; from integrating the steps of an applied research project, to considerations of ethics in working with vulnerable and human populations, to creating or engaging a community-based applied research project.

**Lindsay Hayhurst** teaches the course Evaluating Information to students in the human services fields. This course is aimed at developing overall student understanding and appreciation of social science research techniques, findings and evaluation in their work with clients; as well as in the development and assessment of social service interventions. Lindsay includes in her course a project in which students design an applied research proposal aimed at addressing a community problem or need. The project includes consideration of the standard components of a research proposal, including the proposal application of findings. Lindsay believes that, with the growing interest and appreciation for the value of experiential learning, and the growing connection between the College's community-based research initiatives and course learning activities, students in the Village's Health and Human Services programs will be provided with strategic opportunities to practice and enhance their knowledge and skills and, ultimately, set themselves apart from their peers when entering the workforce.

**Nicole Edworthy**, a professor in the Dental Hygiene program, helps her second-year students learn to analyze raw data collected by other student groups for the Village's Collective Impact Project for seniors' health. Students are expected to implement their own evaluation tools and plans, based on the data they analyze and their findings, thereby going through the entire research process with an active project. Nicole confirms that the experience of teasing out common themes from qualitative data and comparing those to existing research has been very well-received by her students, and effectively solidifies the connection of theoretical community research processes to real-world practice.



# RESEARCH WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, COMMUNITIES AND NATIONS

**Canadore College** recognizes that Indigenous peoples have control over data collection processes in their communities, and they own and control how this information can be stored, interpreted, used or shared.

To help guide research practices at the College, The Village's First Peoples Centre has released an innovative and culturally relevant Indigenous research framework: Transforming Indigenous Peoples Inquiry (TIPI). This framework is informed by the guiding principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) and UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), as well as instrumental policy documents such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report. This work builds on Canadore's recently adopted Indigenous Quality Assurance Standards and is supported by newly developed policies and procedures as well as an inaugural Indigenous Research Advisory Council.



*Artist: Paige Restoule, Indigenous Student Researcher: Nathalie Restoule.*

This is a multimedia piece that came from Canadore's recent Indigenous Physical Wellness Research Project. The artwork is one of five pieces that represent key themes identified by Indigenous learners as important to their physical health while studying at Canadore.



## INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AT CANADORE COLLEGE RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

**In May** 2020, Canadore College was selected as the Gold Recipient of the CIGan Indigenous Education Excellence Award. CIGan, or Colleges and Institutes Canada, is a national association formed in 1972 to represent the interests of its member institutions to government and industry.

"The national recognition Canadore received from Colleges and Institutes Canada is a testament to the talent and commitment of our First Peoples' Centre staff and our Indigenous partners," said Canadore College President George Burton. "We have a proud history of collectively moving together to accomplish the goals of our learners, partners, and communities we serve within a framework of shared values and mutual respect."

Canadore has developed several ongoing initiatives rooted in Indigenous cultural practices and values. The programs were created in Canadore's First Peoples' Centre, which provides culturally-based services and supports to students and their families. They include the Indigenous STEAM program (Science Technology Education Arts and Math), which combines modern technologies with Indigenous cultural practices and values; and The Village which was designed with culturally-appropriate spaces, and bridges Indigenous, Eastern, and Western health and wellness practices.



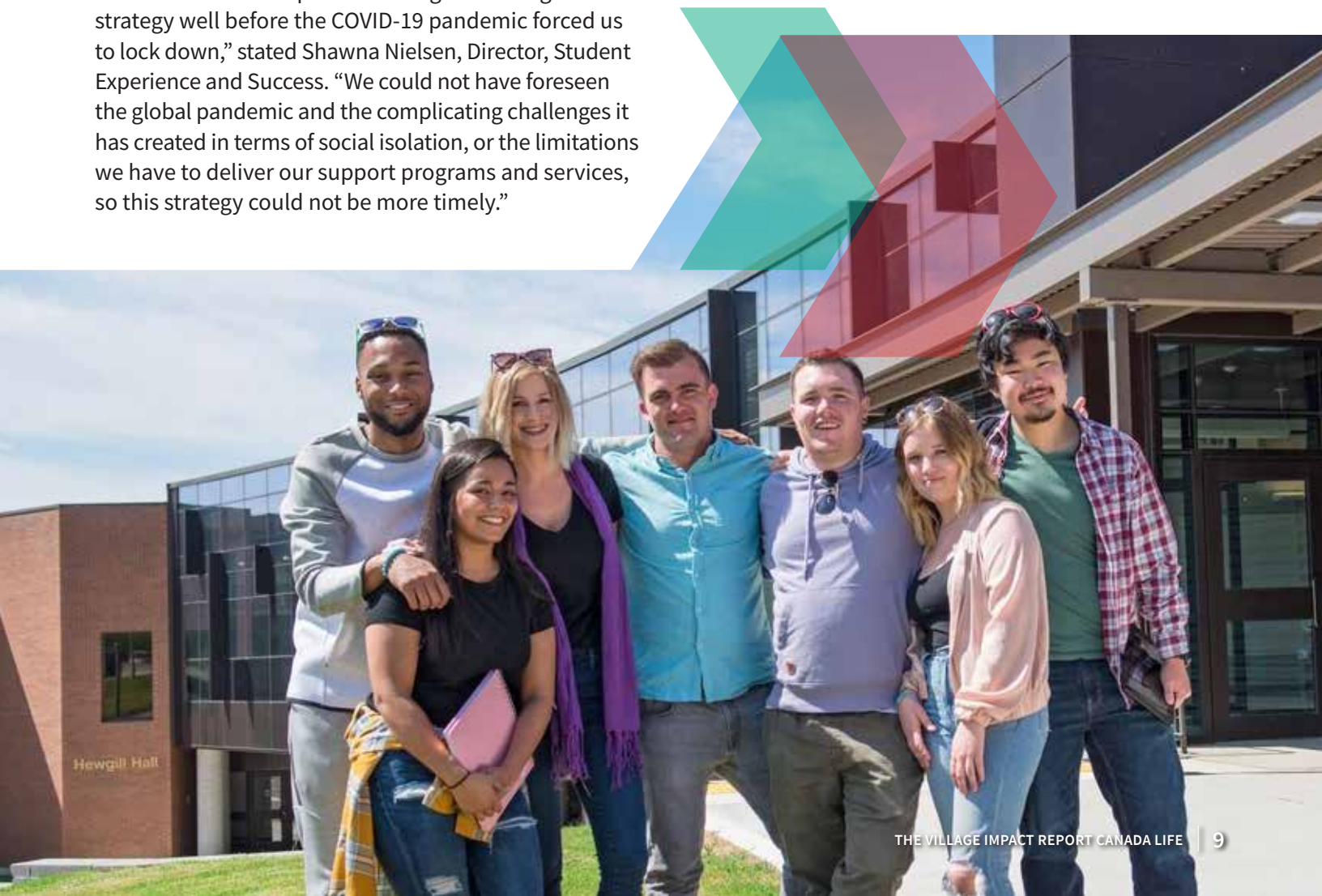
# CANADORE COLLEGE LAUNCHES STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING STRATEGY

**College might** be the first time being away from home for some, and the first real academic challenge for others. These challenges are often magnified during periods of change in personal circumstances, and with students ranging in age from 18 to 70 studying at Canadore College from around the world, the mental health environment can be complex to navigate. In October 2020, Canadore College launched its three-year Student Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy, a framework that will enhance and guide the development and evolution of student support services in the contemporary environment.

“A working group of Canadore students, faculty and staff from various departments began working on the strategy well before the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to lock down,” stated Shawna Nielsen, Director, Student Experience and Success. “We could not have foreseen the global pandemic and the complicating challenges it has created in terms of social isolation, or the limitations we have to deliver our support programs and services, so this strategy could not be more timely.”

The working group reviewed and analyzed current supports available as a foundation to be built upon in collaboration with students to assess what is working and what is not. The cross functional, pan-college team then developed a holistic approach to guide, execute and maintain the plan in support of the campus community.

The plan is focused on community partnership, measuring the efficacy of interventions and the launch of additional, proven intervention strategies. The plan can be viewed at [www.canadorecollege.ca/mentalhealth](http://www.canadorecollege.ca/mentalhealth) and community partners are invited to team up with Canadore on the implementation of the plan in support of a stronger community both on and off campus.



## CONNECTING WITH US

The Canadore College Foundation wholeheartedly supports the College's commitment to student success. This dedication to our students means that we welcome feedback from our community members as we strive to enrich the Canadore experience for all.

*To connect with us, reach out any time to:*

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