

September 2017

RE: Community Health Promotion in Aboriginal Communities Certificate Program @ VIU

Greetings!

The Community Health Promotion for Aboriginal Communities (CHPA) program is now entering its third year. One class has graduated and another is very close to completing. We are now looking forward to October 2017 and bringing together a new group of students from across BC and Western Canada to work together through the program.

There are many new opportunities and initiatives included for this next intake. One-time funding has made it possible to not only reduce tuition but introduce improvements to support our students.

Program Overview

Graduates from the CHPA program have the skills to assess community and client health education needs and will be well prepared to work within the community on improving health and wellbeing through health promotion.

- 21 university credits, part time, certificate program;
- Starts October 20, 2017. Ends June 24, 2018;
- Practicum experience is included;
- Short stay seminars in Nanaimo, Cowichan and Quadra Island;
- Tuition reduced by half (\$3,551); includes travel to/from VIU's Nanaimo campus for seminars, accommodation and most meals.

Students

Students should be well prepared for learning and participation within classroom and online environments. Short-stay seminars will include additional program activities.

Please see the program brochure for more information on the Admission Requirements for the program.

What our grads say

"I originally chose this program because I thought it would help me with my position as a CHR (Community Health Representative). It turned out to be more valuable because it helped me to understand what our older clients went through. I recommend people who work with Aboriginal clients of different ages to take this

program so they know how to take care of their clients because they'll have knowledge of the many hardships First Nations People have gone through as well as finding themselves."

"I chose this program so that I could further my education in a field of work that is in need, and also because I have a keen interest in Aboriginal culture and history. I also liked the program's flexibility, which allowed me to live on the Mainland, attend to my family and work full-time while furthering my education."

What our instructors say

"I was drawn to the Community Health Promotion for Aboriginal Communities certificate program (CHPA) as it contains core Indigenous issues that relate directly to the health and wellness of Indigenous people and the relationships between historical and contemporary "Canadian cultures" and the resurgence of Indigenous community cultures."

"Instructors have the lived-experience and knowledge of the colonial and historical experiences that are important for Aboriginal people and others to learn about when working with Aboriginal people. The course content respects the diversity of Aboriginal communities and promotes the rapid development of health promotion and initiatives within the current health climate that strengthens Aboriginal focused health care delivery. "

Applications

We are actively accepting applications into the Community Health Promotion for Aboriginal Communities certificate program. For questions around the application process, please contact Alana Gaetz, Admissions Assistant, at alana.gaetz@viu.ca or 1-888-920-2221, extension 2071.

Students can [apply online](#) or complete and submit an application for admissions form. Aboriginal students can apply for reserve seats by submitting the [Access Initiative for Aboriginal Students](#) form.

More information

Program website: www.viu.ca/chpa

For further details about our programs, please contact me at deirdre.godwin@viu.ca or 1-888-920-2221 extension 6322 or Alana Gaetz, Admissions Assistant at alana.gaetz@viu.ca or 1-888-920-2221, extension 2071.

Yours truly,

Deirdre Godwin | Program Assistant | Professional Development and Training
Faculty of Health and Human Services
www.viu.ca/lifelonglearning

Enclosures: Program brochure, information sheet, application; CRC; immunization form;