
From: Eliane Domingue <Eliane.Domingue@albertahealthservices.ca>

Sent: April 4, 2025 4:31 PM

To: Delilah Miller <Delilah.Miller@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>; Don Waldorf <Don.Waldorf@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>; Rob Siewert <Rob.Siewert@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>; Barb Castell <Barb.Castell@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>; Suzanne Oel <Suzanne.Oel@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>; Alan Alger <Alan.Alger@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>; RD McHugh <RD.McHugh@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>

Subject: University of Calgary new nursing students cohort group...in your area :-)

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Dear Reeve Miller, Deputy Reeve Waldorf and Councillors,

My name is Eliane. I'm the High River Hospital Site Manager. I have some exciting news to share. The University of Calgary (U of C) have let me know that they are going to expand their [Rural Community Route | Faculty of Nursing | University of Calgary](#) to include our communities as the next cohort group. Their program is really blazing the trail nationally enhancing access for rural students to complete their Bachelor of Nursing from their home community (students would only have to go to Calgary once every two weeks for labs; all theory classes are online, and all clinical rotations would be within our facilities). If this goes forward, they anticipate accepting applications for enrollment into our potential cohort in the Fall of 2025, with an anticipated start of Fall 2026.

In the coming weeks, U of C will do more formal media announcements and update their website to announce our new cohort group, which will consider applicants that reside in the communities of Claresholm, Stavely, Nanton, Vulcan, High River, and Diamond Valley and surrounding County/MD. They plan to open to receive applicants this fall and will review and issue acceptance letters in the Spring 2026 for a start date of Fall 2026. All theory courses will be online, and all clinical rotations will occur in Claresholm (all sites), High River Hospital, and Oilfields Hospital. Students would only need to travel within those areas for their clinical rotations and to the U of C once every two weeks for Labs.

The next step is to arrange a meeting for U of C to engage with our community partners, which includes Local Health Foundations, Town, and County/Municipal District Officials, and other members of our local community recruitment/retention committees. The goal of this community engagement meeting is for U of C to share the news of this local Grow Our Own post-secondary educational opportunity and to share some ideas that our community partners may want to consider to support and inspire their local student's ongoing commitment/service to our rural communities, such as offering scholarships/bursaries or local community incentives (fuel gift cards, recreation facility passes etc.). As our cohort group is a large geographical area impacting many communities, we are thinking that a Zoom or Microsoft Teams meeting is likely best so the U of C can share this information with all of our community partners at the same time.

I am reaching out to ask if one of you would be interested in being the Foothills County representative and attending the upcoming community engagement meeting with the University of Calgary. If you are available and willing, I will send you a survey poll to indicate your preference for meeting dates and times between April 29th and June 12th.

Your participation would be greatly appreciated in ensuring your community perspective is well represented.

We are committed to continuing our work to better serve our community and appreciate your ongoing support. If you have any questions or wish to learn more about this program, I would be happy to discuss further.

Warm regards,

Eliane Domingue
High River Continuing Care, Site and Cancer Clinic Manager

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