

School of Nursing and Midwifery

COVID-19 outreach and initiatives

Mount Royal's School of Nursing and Midwifery faculty have gone above and beyond with their efforts during COVID-19. Not only have they created new and innovative ways to deliver courses and interact with students, they have also volunteered their valuable time.

Bachelor of Midwifery (B.Mid.)

- [Susan Jacoby](#), DNP, has joined the call team for In-house Midwifery Services at Foothills Medical Centre due to the centralization of midwifery-led births in the Calgary Zone. This is the designated COVID-19 maternity unit for all of Calgary. Jacoby works 12-hour shifts, providing triage and backup services for community midwives whose clients want a hospital birth. All B.Mid. faculty must practice as registered midwives in order to stay current with their teaching. This is one way Jacoby fulfills her obligations to Mount Royal while helping with pandemic relief as well.
- Carly Moore, a sessional clinical instructor, has joined the In-house Midwifery Services at Foothills Medical Centre, as well. Both have completed some shifts already. This initiative is to minimize the number of midwifery second attendants in Calgary Hospitals.
- [Megan Lalonde](#) is a member of the provincial [Maternal Newborn Child & Youth SCN](#), which informs the peripartum provincial initiatives regarding COVID-19. Here is the [Care Pathway](#) developed by this group.
- [Deepa Upadhyaya](#) is a board member of [CAM-Ed](#) — they are navigating guidelines around substitutions for in-person clinical training due to the real and potential impacts of COVID-19 on midwifery education in Canada.

Bachelor of Nursing (BN)

- BN students are screening and tracing in Tsuut'ina, acting as health-care aids (HCA), greeters and providing health screening for various agencies. They are HCA's at the temporary hospital being set up at the Peter Lougheed Centre — they also hired new grads for their float pool. Students are also working at Kids Help Phone, and several are volunteering at the Food Bank and with the Kerby Centre.

- [Helena Myllykoski](#) has made a number of non-medical masks for food/grocery service workers. She is also participating in developing part of (now online) Wildsmart's Bear Awareness.
- [Joyce Woods](#), PhD, has made over 300 masks and donated them to essential service workers in grocery stores and banks as well as to every family in her condo building and the [Mustard Seed](#). She is planning to deliver the next batch to [CUPS](#) or another service agency.
- Jennifer Hopper is volunteering with the [Kerby Centre](#), [Thrive](#) and [Adult Day Programs](#) (meal preparation deliveries).
- [Andrea Kennedy](#), PhD, is facilitating weekly virtual Connection Circles with Grandmother Doreen Spence and Elder Evelyn Goodstriker to support students, researchers and community members with the [AIM-HI Network](#).
- [Sonya Jakubec](#), PhD, and Jenell Rempel, co-researcher, Alberta Parks presented in the [SHIFT Health and Nature Webinar Series](#). They had 300 registrants who accessed the presentation and 192 live attendees on April 14 — and the YouTube video has seen a lot of traffic. Here are the links to the recording, and the slide deck and citation for the webinar.
 Video of the webinar: https://youtu.be/EQ_QKNrBmTI
 Slide deck & webinar citation: Jakubec, Sonya; Rempel, Jannell; Beckwith, Christian; Virapongse, Arika; SHIFT (2020): Nature, Grief and Covid-19: Connecting People to Parks During Times of Loss. Figshare. Presentation. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.12126888.v1>
- Jennell Rempel, Alberta Parks, and [Sonya Jakubec](#), PhD, have a follow-up article forthcoming in the May issue of the *Colorado Parks & Recreation Association Byline* (Spring 2020 issue), titled: "Worth the wait: Lessons for navigating barriers to park access during the pandemic from disability, palliative care and grief/loss research."
- [Lu-Ann West](#) has been busy sewing staff scrub bags and dropping them off to units she has taught in the past with nursing students. To date, she has sewn and delivered almost 90 bags to both the Peter Lougheed Centre and Rockyview General Hospital (RGH). She donated 17 to the respiratory staff at RGH, and will be sewing more bags in the coming week as she knows the staff have so appreciated them.
- [Michelle Breigel](#) (BCST) and [Pattie Pryma](#) (BN) are involved with a student initiative during COVID. They have completed a research initiative that they started with second-year students from the HCE focusing on Creative Art Journaling and Self-Care. They moved their meetings online due to the pandemic and once the research ended the students expressed a desire to continue with the group as a way of staying

connected and using art as self-care. They launched an initiative to continue weekly casual CreARTivity sessions with interested students from the Faculty of Health, Community and Education.

- [Kerri Alderson](#) is volunteering with the [Calgary Seniors Resource Centre](#) by calling seniors who are isolated/lonely. She is also volunteering at the [Calgary Food Bank](#) once a week helping to sort food into hampers. Alderson is doing all this with her 13-year-old son and husband.
- Tammy Sherrow and Karen Lasby, authors of [Premie Care: A Guide to Navigating the First Year with Your Premature Baby](#), are busy supporting parents either still in the NICU or recently discharged home. Parents have many questions about either visiting the NICU or being discharged home during a pandemic and not having the same follow up appointments. Tammy and Karen are using their [Premie Care website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to share information and guidance to parents. They are also partnering with the [Canadian Premature Baby Foundation](#) and setting up Facebook “Live” meetings with the foundation to better support parents.

Advanced Studies in Critical Nursing Post-diploma Certificate

- [Heather McLellan](#) has been sewing washable scrub caps, headbands and scrub bags for her Foothills Medical Centre colleagues to help limit what they may take home out of the hospital accidentally.
- ACCN faculty — [Holly Feist](#), [Joan Harris](#) and [Heather McLellan](#) — are working on the frontlines at the ER at Foothills Medical Centre and ICU at Alberta Children's Hospital PICU, in addition to their Mount Royal work. They have also released some of our teaching materials (free of use) to help nurses unfamiliar with advanced nursing principles such as mechanical ventilation and the use of certain medications who may be called upon to work in higher acuity settings.
- The ACCN team have been working to expedite established RNs through their certificate program in ER or ICU. As locations, such as British Columbia, require a special certificate in order to practice in specialty areas.