

ANNUAL REPORT

2025 - 2026



Celebrating 10 years 2015 - 2025

Centre for Transformative Nursing and Health Research



CTNHR is a Dalhousie Senate-approved research centre which is nursing-led and interprofessional and the first of its kind in Atlantic Canada. We aim to develop a new vision for health care based on high quality transformational research as a platform to promote health and wellbeing. Our focus is on collaboration, capacity building, networking and knowledge translation.

Our Mission

To support the conduct of research to generate innovations and knowledge that are, transformative, actionable and dedicated to improving health, health equity and social outcomes.

Our Research Foci

The CTNHR has four intersecting research foci that encompass our areas of scholarship:

- Health Needs of People Foci**
- Health Workforce and Health Systems Foci**
- Priority Populations and Health Equity Foci**
- Knowledge Translation and Implementation Science Foci**

Organizational Structure



CTNHR is located in the School of Nursing, Faculty of Health and intersects with 2 other Centres; Aligning Health Needs and Evidence for Transformative Change: (AH-NET-C): A JBI Centre of Excellence and the WHO/PAHO Collaborating Centre on Health Workforce Planning & Research.

The head of CTNHR is the Dean of the Faculty of Health. The Executive Committee reports to the Dean and is comprised of the Director of CTNHR (chair), Director of the School of Nursing, faculty experts related to the core foci areas of the CTNHR, faculty members from Faculty of Health outside of Nursing, undergraduate and graduate students. The Executive meets monthly.

An advisory group chaired by the Dean of Faculty of Health is comprised of representatives from BRIC NS, Dalhousie University, IWK Health, MSSU, and NS Health. They provide advice and strategic direction and meet twice per year. The Centre shares the Advisory Group with the JBI Centre (AH-NET-C).

Executive



Dr. Ruth Martin-Misener, Director, School of Nursing

Dr. Megan Aston, Director, CTNHR

Dr. Margot Latimer, Foci Lead for Priority Populations & Health Equity

Dr. Sheri Price, Foci Lead for Health Systems & Health Workforce Planning

Dr. Janet Curran, Foci Lead for Knowledge Translation & Implementation Science

Dr. Rebecca Affoo, School of Communication Sciences & Disorders

Lindsay Van Dam, PhD Health student, Graduate Student representative

Noah Doucette, PhD Nursing student, Graduate Student representative

Hailey Hancock, BScN student, Undergraduate Student representative

Julie Barry, Research Manager, CTNHR

Governing Council

Chair:

Dr. Brenda Merritt, Dean, Faculty of Health

Members:

Dr. Kerry Goralski, ADR Faculty of Health

Dr. Eileen Denovan-Wright, ADR Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Jeannie Shoveller, VP Research & Innovation, NSH

Dr. Frank MacMaster, VP Research & Innovation, IWK

Marina Hamilton, Director, MSSU

Dr. Sachin Seth, Chair, Senate, Dalhousie



EDIA

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

The CTNHR is committed to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIA). Members are from of a variety of equity seeking groups and presenters have shared research and scholarship representing of a diversity of EDIA topics. Dr. Margot Latimer, Chair of Indigenous Health Research is an embedded member of the Centre and Executive and provides support and consultation regarding the inclusion of Indigenous partners and ways of knowing.

Research and Scholarly Activities

Wednesdays @ Noon

Presenters included MScN students, PhD Nursing students, Faculty, research staff, and a team from IWK Health. The sessions were well attended from across the Faculty of Health, IWK Health, and NSH. All presentations were video recorded and are available [here](#)



Fall Semester

19 November 2025

Maddie Gallant, PhD Nursing candidate

Exploring the Implementation Process of the Eat, Sleep, Console Model of Care: An Interpretive Description Study

Ivan Beck, PhD Health candidate

Re-Creating the Self: Post-Qualitative Worldbuilding as Surviving Gendered and Sexualized Violence

Winter Semester

28 January 2026

Meaghan Sim, Gabby Fera and Shauna Best

Digital health transformation at IWK Health: An implementation evaluation study

11 February 2026

Sarah Keeping, PhD Nursing (c) and Chloe Flynn, MScN Student, RN

Characterizing Nursing Medication Management Practices:

A Safety II Mixed-Methods Observation Study

25 February 2026

Dr. Jennifer Lane, Faculty, School of Nursing.

Advancing Health Equity in NS by Exploring Gaps in Healthcare Delivery (ADDING HEAT)

Ali Hammoud, Research Associate & Crenda Marfo, Program Manager, MBRACe

The Pamoja Nursing Program: An Evidence-Informed Initiative Advancing Nursing Education

11 March 2026

Lisa Bland, MScN student

Challenging Taboo: Menstrual Equity and Lived Experiences for African Nova Scotian Young Adults

25 March 2026

Kelly Lackie, Faculty, School of Nursing

When Every Voice Counts: Narrative-Based Recommendations for Psychological Safety in Interprofessional Education

Research and Scholarly Activities



10th Anniversary Poster Session March 2026

Fourteen peer reviewed posters were included in this year's poster presentation and were presented by students, faculty, and clinicians. Faculty and student judges were from across the Faculty of Health and prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

The event was held in CHEB in person and attended by students, faculty, and knowledge users.

First Place:

Title: Addressing Intellectual Disability Care in Nursing Curricula: An Integrative Literature Review

Author and Presenter: Imogen Quinn, BScN Student

Joint Second Place:

Title: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Air Pollution and Increased Risk of Frailty

Presenters: Loulou El-Chater and Sara Tabatabaei, Masters Students, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Authors: Zahra Jafari^{1,2}, Melissa K. Andrew², Kenneth J. Rockwood²

¹School of Communication Sciences and Disorders (SCSD), Dalhousie University. ²Division of Geriatric Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University.

Joint Second Place:

Title: Building Research Capacity in APNs: Developing a Research Community of Practice through the NP Clinician Scientist Role

Presenters: Sarah Colgan MN-NP, PhD(c), Dr. Breanna Lloy & Melanie Dunlop MN-NP, PhD(c)

Research and Scholarly Activities

Writing Course for Graduate Students

Summer 2025 5-week Intensive Course



This course was offered free of charge to graduate students across the Faculty of Health with priority given to PhD students ahead of their comprehensive exams. Participants were invited to bring a piece of writing to be worked on consistently across the duration of the workshop. Students were taught about the mechanics of academic writing and how to communicate what they really mean. The course professor was Dr. Simonne Collins, Post Doctoral Fellow. Evaluations were very positive showing how much the students learned from the course and their appreciation for taking it.

Research and Scholarly Activities



Student Mentorship & Training Program September 2025 to May 2026

To support the transition from undergraduate to graduate studies and graduate studies, and post doctoral fellowship to working life, we established a pilot Student Mentorship and Training Program (SMTP) which was a structured initiative that bridges knowledge gaps, enhances academic preparedness, and provides insights into graduate education and future career pathways to ultimately, help current and future students successfully complete a graduate program in the Faculty of Health.

The SMTP gave the opportunity for students to mentor and be mentored and there were monthly learning modules, workshops, and networking opportunities. A PhD Health student Faramarz Jalili was hired to coordinate the program and carry out the evaluation upon completion. The monthly sessions were presented by faculty and students from across the Faculty of Health and a PDF from Geriatric Medicine.

Topics

- **Applying to Graduate School**
- **Scholarship applications**
- **Oral & Poster Presentations**
- **How to publish**
- **Peer review**
- **Life after graduation**
- **Work life balance**
- **Principles of AI**

Research and Scholarly Activities



LETTERS OF SUPPORT AND MORE

Letters of Support were provided to members for grant applications to SSHRC, CIHR and other funders. The Centre has also been able to offer in-kind funding consisting of equipment, space and support from the School of Nursing Research Manager. Additionally, the Centre supported the process of grant applications with direct support for researchers from the Research Manager with budgeting, Common CVs, and requirements for specific grant applications.

TESTIMONIALS

Some of our members have shared how the CTNHR has supported their research and scholarship.

You can view these videos [here](#)

GROWING MEMBERSHIP



We currently have 122 members consisting of 47 Research Scholars, 54 Trainees, and 21 Knowledge Users from across the Faculty of Health and Dalhousie University as well as other universities in Nova Scotia. We have members from organizations such as MSSU, BRIC NS, HPI, NS Health and IWK Health, some as research scholars and others as knowledge users and we communicate with them regularly sending notices of events and opportunities.

COMMUNITY, LEARNING, SUPPORT, NETWORKING, SPACE, TECHNOLOGY, EQUIPMENT, EVENTS, AWARDS, MENTORING, FINANCIAL BENEFITS, RESOURCES, MORE.

Join our diverse membership of scholars, students, trainees, knowledge users and more and collaborate on transformative health

Join Us!