

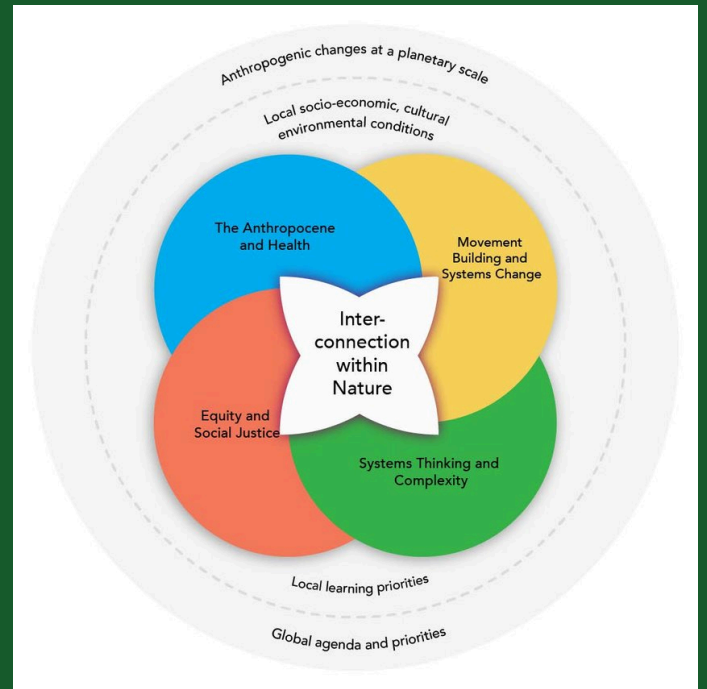
INTEGRATING PLANETARY HEALTH IN CANADIAN NURSING CURRICULUM: SURVEY INSIGHTS

This infographic highlights the results of a national survey (Astle, et al.¹) that explored how planetary health is being integrated into nursing programs across Canada, including barriers and facilitators. The findings reveal how nursing education is responding to the urgent call to prepare nurse leaders in planetary health.

Planetary health is a field that explores the interconnections between human health and the natural systems that support all of life². Planetary health is now recognized as essential knowledge for nursing research, education, advocacy, policy, and practice³. Planetary health has also been identified as a priority in national nursing frameworks^{4, 5}.



75 SCHOOLS OF NURSING SURVEYED
16 RESPONDENTS
(23% RESPONSE RATE)



What Is Being Taught

- Indigenous land-informed ways of knowing (81%)
- Human health impacts of climate change (50%)
- Ecological determinants of health (44%)
- Health benefits of connecting with nature (44%)
- Environmental racism and environmental justice (31%)
- Mitigating environmental impacts of health systems (31%)
- Human health impacts of exceeding planetary boundaries (25%)
- None of the above (13%)

How It Is Taught

- One or more Planetary Health concepts addressed in undergraduate curricula
- Minimally addressed at the graduate level
- Plans for future integration of more concepts
- Few programs utilized the Planetary Health Education Framework⁶

PLANETARY HEALTH EDUCATION FRAMEWORK⁶

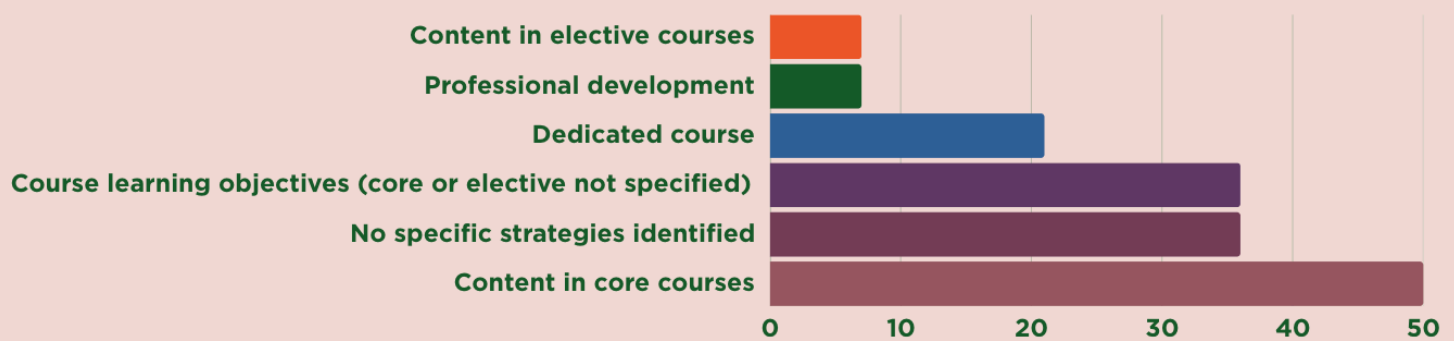
Facilitators for the integration of planetary health content identified as:

- Strong institutional direction (93%)
- Faculty interest (86%)
- Accreditation requirements (79%)
- Faculty with expertise in Planetary Health (71%)
- Student interest (64%)

Barriers to the inclusion of planetary health content identified as:

- An overloaded curriculum (93%)
- Gap in faculty expertise (79%)
- Not a priority at this time (14%)
- Lack of institutional strategic direction (7%)

Percentage of Respondents Who Used the Following Strategies



Recommendations for Integration

- Build faculty capacity
- Identify and support planetary health champions
- Facilitate resource-sharing
- Strengthen institutional commitment
- Leverage the Planetary Health Education Framework
- Incorporate case studies and experiential learning.
- Center Indigenous land-informed ways of knowing
- Amplify integration in graduate nursing programs and develop leaders

Summary

Despite challenges, there is a clear opportunity to drive curricular transformation, and doing so will equip nurses to become influential advocates of planetary health.

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3. POTTER T. M. (2021). PLANETARY HEALTH: AN ESSENTIAL FRAMEWORK FOR NURSING EDUCATION AND PRACTICE. CREATIVE NURSING, 27(4), 226-230. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1891/CN-2021-0017](https://doi.org/10.1891/CN-2021-0017)
4. CASN. (2022). NATIONAL NURSING EDUCATION FRAMEWORK. [HTTPS://WWW.CASN.CA/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/04/NATIONAL-NURSING-EDUCATION-FRAMEWORK_2022_EN_FINAL.PDF](https://www.casn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/NATIONAL-NURSING-EDUCATION-FRAMEWORK_2022_EN_FINAL.PDF)
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6. FAERRON GUZMÁN C. A., & POTTER T. (EDS.). (2021). THE PLANETARY HEALTH EDUCATION FRAMEWORK. PLANETARY HEALTH ALLIANCE. [HTTPS://PLANETARYHEALTHALLIANCE.ORG/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2025/02/THE-PLANETARY-HEALTH-EDUCATION-FRAMEWORK.PDF](https://planetaryhealthalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/THE-PLANETARY-HEALTH-EDUCATION-FRAMEWORK.PDF)