

A career in nursing offers opportunities to make a difference in the lives of many.

For Jamie Boyer, she decided to pursue a career in nursing in order to turn a negative experience into a positive future.

“I had some experiences with health care that weren’t very good, one in particular which resulted in the death of my father in part due to racism and stereotyping,” she shared.

“This was a huge factor in choosing to pursue a career in health care as I wanted to make a difference in workplace culture and how my people are treated when they access care.”

She launched her nursing career by going back to school as an adult learner through Red River College’s Access program.

Over the years, she has provided nursing care in many different areas, including long-term care, acute care in medicine, the operating room, the emergency department, home care, primary care and public health.

It’s a career with many opportunities to make a difference, including a transition to her current role as regional manager of Indigenous Health.

“I really loved bedside nursing — having a direct positive impact on the patients’ health-care experience. I get to do that now in my role as manager through the creation of policies and procedures that support my people during their health-care journeys and also through the mentoring and leadership of the team I manage,” she said.

“I am so grateful to be knowledgeable in the various areas of clinical practice as it allows me to see where Indigenous Health can make the most meaningful impact on plans of care and discharge planning.”

The theme of the 2025 National Nursing Week is “The Power of Nurses to Transform Health,” which strikes a positive chord with Jamie.

“Oh, I love this theme as this is the essence of the work we are doing in Indigenous Health with full support of IERHA,” she said.

“We want the medicine wheel to be incorporated into health care. Spiritual, emotional and mental health are just as equally important to a person’s health and well-being — but for some reason, the overall health-care system places more importance on the physical aspect.”

For those who might be considering a career in nursing, Jamie offers some wise words based on her own experience.

“Nursing can be such a rewarding career,” she said. “Nurses touch the lives of everyone they care for — and that in itself is such a gift.”