

# ADVENTURES IN HEALTH CARE

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the program is to support the continued development of the health care sector in rural British Columbia by designing a youth-focused event that creates youth awareness of educational and career opportunities across the health care spectrum.

To accomplish this goal, Rotary has been able to provide a forum for health care delivery agencies and educational providers to collaborate and build partnerships that are linked with, but go beyond ADVENTURES IN HEALTH CARE.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The annual surveys from the program participants and their families over the years continue to confirm the positive results of the program. This suggests that the program is meeting its objectives and providing valuable experiences for those involved.

In addition, the feedback has been instrumental in maintaining and improving the program, as it highlights what aspects are working well and what areas may benefit from further attention or development. The addition of new agencies has also helped to broaden the program offerings.

The hard data collected tells us that those who continue through high school and choose the health care field enter the workforce **three to four years** earlier than the norm for most professions.

#### **BY THE NUMBERS**



Since its inception in 2017, the program has delivered a hands-on one-to-one program to two hundred students and online to three hundred high school students across British Columbia.

# "When we got to use electric tabs to stimulate muscles was incredible"

#### GROWTH

It's a testament to the program's success and the value it brings to the participants that the program has been recognized as valuable and duplicated not once but twice with the launch of sister programs in the Northwest in Terrace in 2023 and in the Peace Region in Dawson Creek and Fort St. John in 2024.

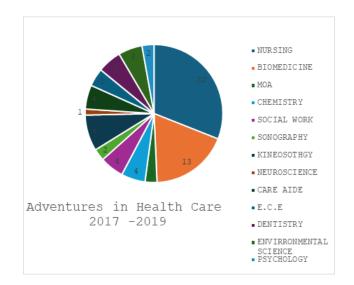


# "What impacted me most was getting to do CPR on the sims"

## A CLOSER LOOK - A REALITY CHECK

Data and interviews collected since the program's inception in 2017 have been overwhelmingly positive. The data began with the exit interviews after each program completion.

The original cohort of 111 high school students who attended, between 2017 and 2019, have been monitored through their high school years until 2024. Of that cohort, **70** % have continued undergraduate studies in health sciences As of the spring of 2024, over **50%** have graduated with either a degree, diploma, or certificate and are working in their chosen field or are pursuing further health science opportunities.



# "Being introduced to a professional environment was something that motivated me to be better in my schooling"

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The overriding feedback from the Adventures in Health Care students(Alumni) leads us to believe that by participating in hands-on experiences in the right settings, the students have gained practical knowledge and skills that complemented their formal high school education.

This practical aspect has enhanced their understanding and provided a tangible connection between theory and real-world application, fostering a deeper engagement and motivation.

Consequently, students seem to become more driven to excel in their studies and complete their educational programs more efficiently. This underscores the importance of incorporating **experiential** *learning opportunities*, particularly in fields like healthcare, to optimize student learning outcomes and overall academic success.

Ron Davis, Chair

ROTARY Adventures in Health Care - Prince George

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