

# PRESS RELEASE



CÉGEP  
VANIER COLLEGE

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## ***From The Heart - Vanier College Nursing Students Share their experiences and inspire one another***

Vanier College is pleased to announce the publication of “*From The Heart*”, a collection of testimonials from students in the Vanier College Nursing Program. The booklet is the creation of Rivka Guttman, Academic Coordinator of the Nursing program. “This is something that I felt compelled to do because I thought it was important for our students to share their experiences with others,” she explains.

The booklet contains short essays written by students at all levels of their training and studies in the Vanier College Nursing Program. Some wrote about why they chose to go into nursing, some about their first experiences of dealing with patients, and some about the impact of working in particular specialties.

Vanier College offers a six-semester professional Cegep program in Nursing. Already by the second semester students begin guided internships in a variety of settings: acute care, long-term or rehabilitation hospitals, or ambulatory care units with adults, infants and children. All nursing students must spend from one to four days a week every semester in local hospitals and other healthcare institutions working in different specialties: obstetrics, pediatrics, psychiatry and emergency. Vanier Nursing is leading the way in nursing education through the use of simulated patient learning mannequins, CPR certification, French language course for nurses and opportunities for specialized clinical fieldwork in Sainte- Agathe-des-Monts and the Eastern Townships.

“This booklet can respond to the need to better articulate the nursing profession to students interested in a health care field,” explains Rivka Guttman. “There is no better way to describe a nursing program than through first hand stories written by students, for students, about their learning experiences and accomplishments during their clinical placements. Nursing is often seen as a technical profession. But when nursing students speak out about their thoughts and feelings as they care for patients and their families, it helps to humanize our profession as well as to demonstrate the daily challenges and critical role we play in health care.”

Designed both for men and women, Vanier Nursing provides the foundation for graduates to practice nursing immediately upon graduation, or to go directly into the Integrated Nursing Program at McGill University to complete a Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing in two years. Vanier College has also developed the Extended Nursing Program that offers the regular Nursing Program spread over four years rather than three.

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