

# POSITION ON EXPANDING ROLE OF NURSING

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The Memorial University of Newfoundland School of Nursing is in a university which believes that community service and reaching out to all areas of the province is as important as teaching, publishing and research for faculty members. The School is in a province in which nurses have worked in an expanded role in many small or isolated communities for years. Thus we believe the baccalaureate program should prepare nurses who will be able to increasingly expand and modify their role as the needs of the health care delivery system change. We further believe that a nurse with appropriate preparation can work in an expanded role in all settings, i.e., what a nurse can do safely and effectively in Jackson's Arm or Mary's Harbour, the nurse could do in urban settings. We believe this can only improve health care and help the health care team to meet the health needs of citizens better.

We are just finishing the pilot project of the Family Practice Nurse Program. Next year some of the content of this curriculum will be integrated into the basic baccalaureate curriculum. When our curriculum revision is complete it is expected that the graduate will have a better foundation of knowledge and skills to expand her practice as the needs of the people and the health care team require.