

High school student from Kugluktuk, Nunavut participates in the Aboriginal Health Initiative's **Healers of Tomorrow Gathering** at Grenfell Campus.



Ashley Newman participating in the simulation activities (photo provided by Ashley)

One of the goals of the NunaFam family medicine residency project was to form the basis of a more extensive collaboration between Memorial University and Nunavut to promote and improve access to medical education and other health careers to indigenous students in Nunavut. This has been initiated with the participation of the first student from Kugluktuk, Nunavut in this summer's **Healers of Tomorrow Gathering**. The camp was held from August 13th – 20th, 2017, at Grenfell Campus in Corner Brook and was offered through Memorial's Aboriginal Health Initiative. Participant Ashley Newman will be starting Grade 12 in the fall and is interested in becoming a surgeon. In her application Ashley expressed how this type of opportunity is normally not available to someone living in a rural, remote community in the Arctic. She sees the camp as an opportunity to learn the steps she needs to take to achieve her goal, and to connect with other like-minded indigenous students in an environment where both Western and Aboriginal views of health and well-being are explored. The camp, which includes students and elders/healers from various First Nation/Inuit and Metis communities, offers a variety of experiences including sessions with hands-on activities such as simulated health care procedures.

For more information, please contact [Lisa Grant](#), Nunavut Liaison/Coordinator or [Dr. Carolyn Sturge-Sparkes](#), Coordinator, Aboriginal Health Initiative.