COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Bella Coola

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Why IRP in Bella Coola?

- Innovative recruitment tool
- Spotlights rural health care
- Decreases fear associated with rural practice
- Encouragement for local staff when they hear how well we do things compared to larger centres
- Easier to attract a professional who is already familiar with the community post graduation

Who has been to Bella Coola?

- Senior level students (nursing, physio, OT, pharmacy, social work, medicine) with an interest in the program and in rural health care
- Self-directed, independent
- Self-assured, inquisitive, excellent communicators
- Adventurous, outdoorsy, energetic

IRP IN BELLA COOLA

What is IRP in Bella Coola?

- Energy, enthusiasm
- Challenge, opportunity to examine personal practice
- Extra pair of hands
- Making friends
- Learning new ways of doing things
- Listening to other perspectives
- Strengthening established interprofessional networks
- Changes to organization to allow for increased interprofessional communication
- Learning how to be an effective preceptor

Where is IRP in Bella Coola?

- Everywhere! New faces are immediately visible and curious people want to know why they are there
- Hospital, clinic, homes, community events, grocery stores, bank, library, restaurants, hotels, hiking trails, dock, ski hills, gas station, newspaper
- Housing unit where student live together located right across the street from the hospital

It's wonderful to have young people with lots of energy here. Their questions make us stop and think exactly why we do something a certain way: it's very stimulating.

—Lorinda Andersen, Director of Patient Care,
Bella Coola General Hospital

Bella Coola cookout

www.bcahc.ca/irpbc

IRPbc
Interprofessional Rural Program of BC
A program of the BC Academic Health Council