

Year In Review

Thematic Network on Northern Nursing Education

PÄIVI JUUSO
LEAH MACADEN
VERA CAINE

October 2026

Advancing Collaboration and Innovation in Northern Nursing Education

Over the past year, NNEN has strengthened its role as a platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange in nursing education across northern and Arctic regions. At the UArctic Congress in the Faroe Islands, NNEN brought together perspectives from across the North under the theme Navigating Uncertainties, addressing challenges and opportunities related to nursing workforce development, rural and Indigenous nursing education, technology-enabled education, public health and trauma-informed care. Network members have also contributed to new knowledge through research publications, development of Massive Open Online Courses [MOOCs] and scholarly activities addressing rural clinical education, Indigenous contexts, trauma-informed care, pedagogical innovations for dementia workforce development, dignity education using a human rights-based approach, end of life care and pharmaceutical care for older people with sensory impairments. NNEN members representing Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Greenland, Iceland and Scotland also met in Torshavn, Faroe Islands to discuss priorities and strategies for networking both within NNEN and other thematic networks.



Everyone is Welcome!

The Northern Nursing Education Network of the UArctic is pleased to invite you to our 2026/2027 webinar series.

October 22nd, 2026 | 16:00 CET

UArctic Northern Nursing Education – Opportunities for students and faculty: Making networks work across Arctic and Northern Regions.
| Dr. Bente Norbye, Professor of Nursing and Health Care Education, Arctic University of Norway

January 20th, 2027 | 16:00 CET

Sami reindeers' wellbeing: Exploring One Health.
| Dr. Ulla Timlin, Research Unit of Biomedicine and Internal Medicine, University of Oulu, Finland

March 23rd, 2027 | 16:00 CET

Indigenous Nurse Wellness and the Experience of Intergenerational Mentorship in Northern Canada.
| Dr. Christina Chakayuka, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria, Canada

May 6th, 2027 | 16:00 CET

The Experiences of Family Caregivers in Arctic Norway.
| Dr. Bodil Blix, Professor, Arctic University of Norway

All webinars will be hosted at 16:00 CET for an hour. Please join us at:

<https://uvic.zoom.us/j/9045628600?pwd=Ynl6R2tyWlVDSDM1ZzdmemppcEYvUT09>

For further information, please contact vcaine@uvic.ca

Selected activities and outputs

- UArctic Congress, Faroe Islands: Panel Discussion on Navigating Uncertainties, bringing together perspectives from Greenland, Norway, Scotland, Sweden and Iceland.
- Webinar series 2026–2027
- Cross-network collaboration: Development of opportunities for joint activities and partnerships with other UArctic thematic networks.
- Recognition of network expertise: NNEN members received international recognition for their contributions to nursing education, research and professional development during 2025.

Impact

Northern Nursing Education network provides a cross-border platform for nurse educators and researchers to share experiences, approaches and knowledge from diverse northern and Arctic contexts.

Its activities increase opportunities for collaboration and strengthen the visibility of nursing perspectives in discussions on rural and Indigenous health, workforce development, education, technology and public health.

The network also creates opportunities to connect local and regional experiences across countries, supporting learning and the development of approaches relevant to northern communities and healthcare systems and workforce development.

Research and publications

- New knowledge on rural clinical placements and nursing education in Indigenous contexts, including a publication in the International Journal of Circumpolar Health.
- Trauma-informed care: Knowledge dissemination through research and educational activities addressing trauma and trauma-informed care.

Looking ahead

NNEN will continue its webinar series, launched in 2026, during 2027 and further develop collaboration within UArctic and with related networks. The network aims to strengthen opportunities for joint education, research and knowledge exchange, contributing to the development of a sustainable and competent nursing workforce and to health and wellbeing in northern and Arctic communities. The network is also actively seeking funding opportunities to host a summer Field School to bring students and faculty from the network for cultural immersion and shared learning across diverse / innovative perspectives on nurse education and research as an investment for a sustainable future northern and Arctic nursing workforce. We will continue to expand our membership.

FIND OUT MORE !

<https://www.uarctic.org/activities/thematic-networks/northern-nursing-education/>

