University of Lethbridge

Media Advisory

For immediate release — Tuesday, November 17, 2026

Mass casualty simulation to prepare University of Lethbridge nursing students for real-life scenarios

The Faculty of Nursing will be staging a mass casualty exercise on Wednesday — an important component of nursing preparation that cannot be replicated in the classroom.

The scenario, taking place on campus, will involve approximately 100 participants including fourth-year nursing students and volunteer victims. The exercise provides an opportunity to apply the simple triage and rapid treatment (START) system — designed for speed and efficiency during a mass casualty event — while experiencing the challenges of a large-scale, dynamic environment before entering professional practice.

“Participating in a mass casualty simulation allows students to gain first-hand experience of what these situations may look like and how complex the emergency response is,” says Cyrena Quinn (BN ’12), an instructor in the Faculty of Health Sciences. “The recent tragedy in Wainwright reminds us that these are not simply hypothetical situations, they are real events that these students may encounter.”

For the simulation exercises there will be visible casualty actors, realistic moulage makeup, triage activities and emergency-response style interactions.

WHAT: Media availability and photo opportunity with simulation participants

WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1:45 p.m.

WHERE: Science Commons Atrium

*****The first simulation exercise will begin at approximately 2:45 p.m. Faculty staff will be available for interviews at 1:45 and participating students to follow around 2:30. There will be an additional opportunity to interview students after the first simulation exercise at approximately 3 p.m.*****

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Contact:

Tom Roulston
Public Affairs Advisor
403-394-3975 (office)

403-332-1768 (cell)
tom.roulston@uleth.ca
@ULethbridge

Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing in caring for this land, as well as all Indigenous Peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.