

# Going Beyond the One and Only Purpose: Resistance in Northern Nursing

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## Outline

- Purpose of Research
- Data
- Findings
- Implications of findings



## The Setting: Northern Saskatchewan



## Findings

- Rifts caused by jurisdictional, gender, professional, differences...but also resistance and advocacy that helped mitigate the worst of the effects



## Resistance

- "...I do not think we can give service in here and not include the treaty Indians. While I am not doing public health among them I make sick calls and office calls whenever they ask me" (Myrtle Pierce)



Margaret Schindler and patient  
1949

## Advocacy

- "...the medical superintendent is coming along the lake next month, because he at last realizes that Indian Health services will have to do more..."



Nurse and Baby –  
Valley Echo

## Going Beyond the One and Only Purpose

"...we are not always able to stick to our one and only purpose in a place like this. I know I've done a great many things here for this hospital that I don't think exactly comes under the nursing profession...I did them gladly and will continue to do so..." (I. Scriver).



Cumberland House



Irene Sutherland - Saskatchewan Air Ambulance Plane (1957)

## Implications



Fond du Lac



Pelican Narrows



Lac La Ronge

## Questions?

- Thank you to:
  - SSHRC
  - Geography Department, U of S

