



## VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS

# NEWS

JULY 2025

*Lighting the Spark of Nursing*

### HISTORIC CHE ACCREDITATION VISITS TO VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS



The council on Higher Education (CHE) is an independent statutory body established in May 1998, under section 4 of the Higher Education Act and it functions as the Quality Council for Higher Education. All new nursing programmes need to be approved by South African Nursing Council (SANC), Accredited by CHE and the given an ID number by South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The Victoria Mxenge Campus (VMC), submitted curricula for 6 postgraduate diplomas to SANC and CHE and has been given full approval by SANC and CHE for the following Programmes: Adult Critical Care; Orthopaedic Nursing and Perioperative Nursing, these programmes are now waiting for a SAQA ID number before they can commence. SANC has fully approved the Postgraduate Diplomas in Emergency Nursing and Midwifery, however CHE has conditionally approved these two programmes and has asked for a site visit to the campuses prior to granting full accreditation. The site visit for the Postgraduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing was hosted at Harry Gwala Nursing Campus (HGNC) on the 18th June 2025, with all the relevant staff from KZN CN, VMC and HGNC present and interviewed by the CHE representatives. The site visit for the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery took place on the 26th June 2025 hosted by the VMC. All the relevant staff (Pictured above) from KZN CN, VMC, HGNC and Ngwelezane Campuses were present and interviewed by the CHE representatives. These two programmes are now awaiting feedback from CHE on their accreditation status. The Postgraduate Diploma in Child Nursing has been fully approved by SANC and is currently being reviewed by CHE.

# VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS

Postal Address: P/Bag X02 Congella 4013

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## VISION

Victoria Mxenge Campus strives for excellence in nursing education by producing proficient undergraduate and postgraduate nurses and midwives/ accouchers for leadership in specialised health care who will be responsive to the health needs of local and global communities

## MISSION

The mission of Victoria Mxenge Campus is to produce undergraduate and postgraduate Nurses and Midwives/ accouchers competent to provide specialised, high-quality and culturally sensitive care to enhance health needs of diverse individuals, families and communities

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME OFFERED:

Advanced Diploma in Midwifery (R1497) SAQA ID No: 121196

## PROPOSED POST GRADUATE PROGRAMMES:

Postgraduate Diploma in Adult Critical Care Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Child Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery

Postgraduate Diploma in Orthopaedic Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Perioperative Nursing

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# OFFICIAL COMMISIONING OF PREFABRICATED CLASSROOMS



As previously reported the Victoria Mxenge Campus is in the process of being revitalised into a new modern college of higher education. This process is in an advanced stage and is expected to begin soon. The campus staff offices and classrooms have been decanted and relocated to the Annex building. The ground and first floor of the annex building has staff offices, a boardroom, a clinical skills lab, two classrooms, a Library and a Computer Lab.

On the 25th April 2025, the campus officially received 5 prefabricated classrooms and one storage container to ensure that teaching and learning can continue uninterrupted during the revitalisation process. One of these classrooms has been transformed into a Clinical Skills Lab (Pictured top right). All five classrooms are fully functional since they have been customized to the needs of the students, such as air conditioning, whiteboards, notice boards and meet all the Occupational Health And safety requirements.

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# FIRST SEMESTER EXAMS FOR ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY



Congratulations to Group 1–2025 on their successful completion of the first semester. It concluded with a written examination in May 2025 in two modules, namely, Applied Fundamentals in Midwifery and Community-Oriented Midwifery. The examination results for the first semester have been officially released highlighting a remarkable academic performance by the cohort. Of the 30 students who wrote the Applied Fundamentals in Midwifery examination, 29 were successful, representing a 96.7% pass rate. This reflects the group's comprehension of core midwifery concepts and clinical reasoning. All 30 students passed the Community-Oriented Midwifery module, achieving a 100% pass rate, a clear indication of the group's understanding of midwifery in a community context and their preparedness to support maternal health beyond hospital settings. The Academic staff would like to commend the class's commitment, professionalism, and willingness to learn.

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# NURSES'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



On the 12th of May 2025, the province of KwaZulu-Natal Department of health held their annual International Nurse's Day Celebration which took place at Grey's Hospital in the UMgungundlovu Health District of Pietermaritzburg (Pictures above). Among the dignitaries were Dr SZ Mthembu (Principal of the KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing); Mrs CN Sosibo (Director of Nursing Services in KwaZulu-Natal), Dr TP Msimango (Acting HOD of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health) and Ms Nomagugu Simelane (MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal). The day was filled with sentiments from all officials who expressed their appreciation for the value of all nurses in the provincial health care sector. The Nurse's Pledge was read and a torch was lit by all attendees. The torch/oil lamp symbolizes Florence Nightingale, her dedication to nursing, and the values of the profession. It represents hope, comfort, and the healing presence that nurses provide to their sick patients. This Event was attended by academic staff of VMC. The VMC also held a small nurses day celebration with their midwifery students, where the acting campus principal Ms. C. Chetty addressed the staff on the significance of International Nurses Day and the Nurses Pledge was recited (Pictured top right). The campus wishes all nurses a very happy International Nurse's Day.

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# DAY OF THE MIDWIVES CELEBRATION 09TH MAY 2025



## International Day of the Midwife: Abaqulusi, Vryheid, KwaZulu Natal — 9 May 2025

Vryheid Town Hall was vibrant with energy as Midwives came together to honour the International Day of the Midwife, a day profoundly significant for those committed to maternal and new born health and wellbeing. This year's global theme, "Midwives: Critical in Every Crisis", emphasised the indispensable role midwives play in promoting maternal, Child and Women's health. Among the distinguished guests were representatives from the Victoria Mxenge Campus Mrs. N.N. Phakathi, Ms. B.Q. Mncube and two Midwifery students, who joined to celebrate the profession's impact on both individual lives and community wellbeing.

The highlight of the morning was the compelling keynote address delivered by the Provincial manager for MCWH, Ms. P. Phungula, who spoke about the everyday fortitude of Midwives, honouring their role as both caregivers and frontline responders. In addition, to celebrating the profession, the event served as a platform to educate and update practicing midwives on the latest updates in maternity care. One of the major clinical focuses was the prevention and management of postpartum haemorrhage, which is a leading cause of maternal mortality in South Africa. Additionally, the Midwives were also trained on the new, user-friendly Partogram, designed to better monitor the progress of labour.

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# MY LIVED EXPERIENCE OF PUBLISHING A PEER REVIEWED ARTICLE IN AN ACADEMIC JOURNAL



The Victoria Mxenge Campus (VMC) is one of the 11 campuses of the Kwazulu-Natal College of Nursing (KZNCN). KZNCN has many established sub-committees of the college senate, one such subcommittee is the Research Sub-committee which has a mandate to promote and co-ordinate research activities for KZNCN . Dr. N A Williams and Mrs M Msweli from the VMC are members of this Research subcommittee and are task on with promoting research activities at the VMC. One such activity took place on the 22 April 2025, in the VMC boardroom at 10am. Dr. N A Williams presented a lecturer on the process to follow in order to publish an article in a peer review journal. He shared his personal experience on this journey to publication and encouraged all campus staff present, to publish articles as well. The presentation was very informative and inspiring to all present .His article entitled : “ Challenges hindering family involvement in the hospital nursing care of a child with Autism” is available for free on the Health SA Gesonheid Webpage or at : <https://doi.org/10.4102/hsag.v30i0.2731>.

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## Research Presentation by Dr. S Pillay



A research study presentation was given by Dr S Pillay (PGDip in Child Nursing Lecturer and Academic Development and Support Officer at Victoria Mxenge Campus) on the 7th of July 2025. Dr S Pillay Graduated with her Doctoral Degree in Nursing from the Durban University of Technology in September 2024 with her Doctoral Thesis entitled “*A Framework to Explore Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine use for Children at Health Care Facilities in eThekweni District*”. As a Child Nursing Specialist for over 20 years, Dr Pillay prides herself with a host of knowledge and experience from being a Child Nurse at the bedside to being a Child Nurse Educator. Her knowledge and expertise is an example of the high Quality of Nursing Education at VMC. Her developed framework from the Doctoral study has since been forwarded to health officials at KZN province research division and is currently being reviewed for dissemination to healthcare institutions that are the first contact of parents and caregivers of children whose health is impacted by the use of TCAM in conjunction with mainstream treatment guidelines.

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# BASIC LIFE SUPPORT TRAINING FOR ALL ACADEMIC STAFF AT VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS



All Academic staff at VMC attended the American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) course, as well as the BLS Instructor Course. These courses took place on the 2nd, 3rd, 8th and 9th of July 2025. The courses were facilitated by the KwaZulu-Natal College of Emergency Care (KZNCOEC). The KZNCOEC is an International Training Center of the American Heart Association and has a coordinators, Instructors and facility members. The Victoria Mxenge Campus will be a training site for AHA BLS, once their instructors have been monitored and will be able to also conduct AHA BLS training. All the academic staff at the VMC are now competent in BLS and will soon be instructors as well. The AHA BLS training is the gold standard for BLS training worldwide and comprises of theoretical and practical training and assessments. The academic staff found the training very insightful and at a very high standard. The VMC wishes to sincerely thank the KZNCOEC for this important training.

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