

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Under Nipissing University's Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Universities Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), all programs are subject to a comprehensive review at least/at minimum every eight years to ensure that they continue to meet provincial quality assurance requirements and to support their ongoing rigour and coherence. This review was conducted under the terms and conditions of the IQAP approved by Senate on June 29, 2023 and ratified by the Quality Council on May 5, 2023

In academic years 2024-25 a program review was scheduled for Master of Science - Kinesiology. This was the 2nd program review for this program. The timeline of the review was as follows.

### PROGRAM UNDER REVIEW

PROGRAM	SENATE APPROVAL DATE	PREPARED BY
Master of Science Kinesiology	January 16, 2026	Provost and Vice-President

### A. REVIEW TIMELINE

SELF-STUDY REVIEW TIMELINE	DATE
1. Self-Study Presented to AQAPC	December 15, 2024
2. Site Visit Conducted	March 20-April 1, 2025
3. Reviewer's Report Received	June 10, 2025
4. Department's Response Received	August 22, 2025
5. Dean's Response Received	November 4, 2025

### A. REVIEW SUMMARY

**Two external reviewers conducted the review. During the in-person site visit, the reviewers met with the following groups and individuals:**

Provost and Vice President, Academic

Current Students and Alumni

Internal Review Committee

Department Representatives

Library Executive Director and Librarians

Registrar and Associate Registrars

Dean of Education and Professional Studies

Associate Vice President Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies

**The academic programs offered by the Department which were examined as part of the review included:**

Master of Science – Kinesiology

**The follow program strengths were noted:**

The faculty demonstrated dedication and success in securing Tri-council funding. The program is cohesive and meets graduate learning outcomes, though opportunities exist to enhance research methods diversity and elective course planning. Suggestions include co-locating graduate and undergraduate electives and ensuring technical preparation for research.

**Summary of review team recommendations:**

Reviewers advised flexible options for core courses, including collaboration with other departments for joint offerings, and a 5-7 year course mapping plan to optimize elective delivery and timing. Digital content and co-sitting electives were suggested to address scheduling challenges.

Challenges due to faculty workloads, sabbaticals, and secondments impact elective scheduling and supervision capacity. Creative solutions such as rolling sabbatical plans and adjusted funding distribution were recommended to support student funding and course delivery.

The reviewers emphasized hiring faculty in Indigenous Health to support Truth and Reconciliation responsibilities, considering online/hybrid course delivery, updating learning outcomes to higher Bloom's taxonomy levels, holding regular faculty retreats, and conducting annual surveys for students and alumni.

Finally, the review highlighted the need for a model recognizing graduate supervision workload to enhance faculty capacity and ensure timely degree completion amid high teaching and service demands.

**Status:**

**Due date for 2 Year Follow-up Report:** 2028

**Date of next Cyclical Review:** 2031

## B. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Below are the recommendations that require specific action as a result of the Review, along with the identification of the position or unit responsible for the action in question. Notwithstanding the position or unit identified as being responsible for specific recommendations, the Dean of the Faculty has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the recommended actions are undertaken

RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/UNIT	PROJECTED COMPLETION
Develop plan to offer option of quantitative and qualitative data analyses courses.	MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, Assoc Dean GS, Dean E&PS, Dean A&S	March 2026
Develop a plan to formalize Indigenous research methodologies (e.g. relationality, holism, and community accountability), and ethical engagement with Indigenous communities (e.g. OCAP principles).	MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, and consultation with community, NUICE, Director OII.	May 2026
Explore co-sitting of 4000-level and 5000-level electives; Explore OVGS for electives that can not be offered by the academic unit	MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, Assoc Dean GS, Dean E&PS	May 2026
Explore models of funding distribution	MSc Kin program, MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, AVP-RIGS	May 2026
Faculty Hire in Indigenous Health	MSc Kin program, MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, Dean E&PS	June 2026
Update Program and Course Learning Outcomes	MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, working with Centre for Teaching and Learning and Manager Quality Assurance	December 2026
Initiate MSc Kin Program Retreats	MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, Dean E&PS	June 2026
Create and Conduct Annual Student Surveys	MSc Kin Coordinator, Director SPHE, Alumni and Marketing	June 2027

