

# 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 2022-23 a program review was scheduled for BA and BSc in Psychology. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> program review for this program. The timeline of the review was as follows.

## PROGRAM UNDER REVIEW

PROGRAM	SENATE APPROVAL DATE	PREPARED BY
Psychology	October 11, 2024	Provost and Vice-President

## A. REVIEW TIMELINE

SELF-STUDY REVIEW TIMELINE	DATE
1. Self-Study Presented to AQAPC	November 23, 2023
2. Site Visit Conducted	March 26 – 28, 2024
3. Reviewer's Report Received	May 28, 2024
4. Department's Response Received	August 26, 2024
5. Dean's Response Received	September 12, 2024

## 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

Dean and Associate Dean of Arts and Science

Registrar and Associate Registrars

Internal Review Committee

Members of Psychology Department

Current Students

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

Bachelor of Science – Psychology

Bachelor of Arts – Psychology

**The following program strengths were noted:**

Faculty demonstrated exceptional dedication to student engagement, including personalized support and involvement in research collaborations with undergraduates. This commitment was highly valued by students.

**Summary of review team recommendations:**

The reviewers advised the department to hold a facilitated retreat focusing on strategic planning, curriculum review, and program development including graduate programming. They recommended hiring at least two tenure-track faculty to replace retirees and strongly suggested a third position for program diversification, such as incorporating Indigenous content. The department should consider alternative advanced statistics courses to retain students, explore interdisciplinary programming, continue major modifications to the BSc degree, and increase special topics offerings at the 4000 level. Collaboration with recruitment efforts to attract students was also emphasized.

**Status:**

**Due date for 2 Year Follow-up Report:** 2026

**Date of next Cyclical Review:** 2029

## 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
Recommendation #1 Retreat	Chair and Dean with Manager, QAPI	December 1, 2024
Recommendation #4 statistics course	Chair and Director T&L	December 1, 2024