

Caring Choice

By **SAMARA CYGMAN**
Sun Advertising Writer

Stephanie Watkins always knew she wanted to help people.

But those urges became stronger after spending time in a nursing home with her grandmother during her golden years.

"My grandma was at the Bethany Care Centre for seven years and I've seen the nurses taking care of her," says Watkins, 22, adding that watching the nurses work inspired her.

"It's just something I want to do."

To pursue a path toward higher education, Watkins enrolled in Robertson College's five-month Health Care Aide program.

The Calgary native is now well on her way toward a career in health care, hoping to work in a hospital and maybe with children.

Since she started the program one month ago, Watkins has been amazed at how in-depth it has been and how much she's learned.

"We're doing anatomy and physiology, and are learning hospital procedures and how to write incident reports," says Watkins.

"The course is very good — our teacher is amazing. She's a registered nurse and I'm learning a lot of new things."

In her spare time, Watkins works for the Calgary Stampede, doing catering and enjoys spending her spare time with family and friends.

Maria MacMinn, director of Robertson



Stephanie Watkins steps onto a career path for health care.

College, says Watkins is a dedicated and committed student — perfect for the profession she's chosen.

"She goes over and above what she's learning in class and

she does more than is expected of her in the course curriculum," says MacMinn.

"She's a good role model for a lot of young men and women who might be interested in looking at this career as an option."

Watkins is looking forward to embarking on a seven-week practicum after the holidays, where she will get first-hand experience in the field — something she believes will prepare her well for the real world.

Robertson College maintains small class sizes (maximum of 15 students), which are led by experienced, trained instructors.

Founded in 1911, making it one of the oldest private colleges in Canada, Robertson College offers a broad range of practical programs in the industries of health care, business and information technology.

The Calgary campus is located at 600 900 6 Ave. S.W.

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