

Policy 8705: Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans

A. PURPOSE

This policy complies with the Tri-Council Policy Statement 2 on Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans (TCPS2, 2018) which is comprised of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Each excerpt from / reference to the Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS2) Article Number.

Research involving human participants must be conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the inherent worth of all human beings. Respect for human dignity is expressed through the three core ethical principles of respect for persons, concern for welfare, and justice. Selkirk College requires and supports the highest ethical standards in conducting research involving human participants to ensure their rights are respected and protected. Researchers at or associated with the College are required to follow research ethics protocols to ensure their research protects human participants. The purpose of this policy is to ensure an ethical approach to research involving human participants in accordance with the three core principles of the Tri-Council Policy Statement 2.

TCPS2 Article 2.1 (a); Article 6.11

All research that involves human participants requires review and approval by the Research Ethics Board (REB) in accordance with the Tri-Council Policy Statement 2, before the research is started, except as stipulated below in section 1.A.1.3 of Procedures. The College expects all researchers to adhere to this policy and its related procedures.

B. SCOPE / LIMITS

Primary institutional responsibility for research involving human participants at the College is vested in the Selkirk College Research Ethics Board and with the individual researchers. The policy applied to all College employees, students and other research personnel associated with the College. Researchers must be aware that research involving human participants may also be governed by federal, provincial, and local laws, and by the standards and obligations of particular disciplines.

C. PRINCIPLES

1. **Respect for Persons:** This principle requires the recognition of the intrinsic value of human beings and also requires that all participants give their free, informed, and ongoing consent as Human Participants in a research study.
2. **Concern for Welfare:** This principle requires that the welfare of Human Participants in research be protected and promoted.
3. **Justice:** This principle requires that all Human Participants in research be treated fairly and equitably so that individuals or groups are not inappropriately included in or excluded from participation in research.

Policies and Procedures

D. Definitions

Human Research Participant

An individual whose data or responses to interventions, stimuli, or questions by a researcher are relevant to answering a research question; also referred to as a “participant”, a “subject”, or a “research subject”.

Indigenous Peoples

Persons of Indian, Inuit or Métis descent, regardless of where they reside and whether their names appear on an official register. Self-identification is a fundamental criterion for defining Indigenous peoples.

Indigenous Research

Research in any field or discipline that is conducted by, grounded in or engaged with First Nations, Inuit, Métis or other Indigenous nations, communities, societies or individuals, and their wisdom, cultures, experiences or knowledge systems, as expressed in their dynamic forms, past and present. Indigenous research can embrace the intellectual, physical, emotional and/or spiritual dimensions of knowledge in creative and interconnected relationships with people, places and the natural environment.

Minimal Risk Research

Research in which the probability and magnitude of probable harms implied by participation in the research is no greater than those encountered by participants in the aspects of their everyday life that relate to the research.

Naturalistic Observation

Data collection in a field setting, without laboratory controls or manipulation of variables. These procedures are usually carried out by a trained observer, who watches and records the everyday behavior of participants in their natural environments. Examples of naturalistic observation include an ethologist’s study of the behavior of chimpanzees and a developmental psychologist’s observation of playing children.

Non-therapeutic Research

Research performed regarding a treatment that involves participants who will not benefit from the treatment.

Principal Investigator

The researcher who has primary responsibility for a given research project.

Research

An undertaking intended to extend knowledge through a disciplined inquiry or systematic investigation.

Researcher

Any person associated with the College who conduct research. This includes employees and students as well as persons from the community who are associated with a College-generated research project.

Therapeutic Research

Research regarding a treatment involving participants who could benefit from the treatment.

Traditional Knowledge

The knowledge held by First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, the Indigenous peoples of Canada. Traditional knowledge is specific to place, usually transmitted orally, and rooted in the experience of multiple generations. It is determined by an Indigenous community’s land, environment, region, culture and language.

Policies and Procedures

Responsibility, Recommendation and Approval Dates

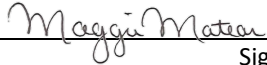
Executive Responsibility: Vice-President Education

Administrative Responsibility: Director Applied Research and Innovation

Recommended by Administrative Policy Review Committee: October 3, 2022

Recommended/Approved by Education Council: N/A

Approved by President: November 3, 2022



Signature

November 22, 2022

Date

Linkage to Board Policy: EL100 Applied Research; E30 Value Statements and Commitments; E40 Strategic Directions.