

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**AURORA COLLEGE (AC)**

and

**YUKON UNIVERSITY (YukonU)**

concerning

## **Appeals to the AC Research Ethics Committee and YukonU Research Ethics Board**

### **1. Objective**

The objective of this MOU is to continue with this framework for cooperation between the Aurora College Research Ethics Committee (REC) and Yukon University Research Ethics Board (REB) to provide support on appeals.

In support of their institutional commitments to SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR, Aurora College and Yukon University have both developed policies that follow the requirements of the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans TCPS2 - 2018.

Aurora College and Yukon University each recognize that they have sole responsibility for implementing the policy in adherence to the requirements in the TCPS2 at their respective institutions. The TCPS2 will serve as the basis for the ethical review and conduct of all research involving humans conducted under the auspices and within the jurisdiction of each institution.

Both Aurora College and Yukon University have established an REC/REB that operate in compliance with the TCPS2.

Under the policy, researchers have the right to request an appeal on a decision. The REC/REB has the obligation to provide prompt reconsideration of decisions affecting research projects.

Researchers and the REC/REB should make every effort to resolve disagreements through deliberation, consultation or advice. If a disagreement between the researcher and the REC/REB cannot be resolved through reconsideration, the researcher will have the option of appealing the REC/REB decision through the established appeal mechanism.

### **2. Forms of Cooperation**

Aurora College and Yukon University agree to act as the designated external appeals committee for one another on any appeals of their internal Research Ethics Committee/Board decisions.

The Aurora College Research Ethics Committee appeals process is managed through the Vice-President, Research. The Yukon University Research Ethics Board appeals process is managed through the Vice-Provost, Academic & Research.

In the case of an appeal, one institution will send the application and all relevant documents to the other institution. This exchange of information shall occur between the offices of the VPR at Aurora College and the AVPR at Yukon University. This information will include notes from the original review and a copy of the Research Ethics review body decision. The Research Ethics offices at both institutions will provide all necessary information.

A review will then be conducted by the designated external Research Ethics Committee/Board. The appeals review process of YukonU will follow Standard Operating Procedure 409.

The institutions will respect the determination of the external review committee except in the exceptional provisions noted in policy (Aurora College Policy I; Yukon University Policy AR-03, item 6.6.1).

### **3. Associated Costs of Cooperative Activities**

No cost incurred by one Participant shall be assumed by the other Participant unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

### **4. Term and Annual Review**

This MOU will become effective upon signing by both Participants and remain in effect for (5) years, unless extended or terminated. It may be amended or extended by mutual written agreement, and may be terminated immediately upon the written consent of both Participants or by either Participant upon three (3) months written notice to the other Participant.

Termination of this MOU does not affect the implementation of any existing agreements between the Participants. Termination or amendment of the specific agreements will be in accordance with the provisions of each specific agreement.

### **5. Not Legally Binding**

This MOU does not create any legally binding obligations between the Participants.

### **6. Signing Authorities**

This MOU becomes effective upon the signing by both Participants.

Accepted on Behalf of Aurora College by:

Accepted on Behalf of Yukon University by:



President, Aurora College



President, Yukon University

Date: Nov 21, 2022

Date: November 18, 2022