

## COUNCIL NAME: IH ETHICS COUNCIL (IHEC)

PURPOSE	To promote the integration of the ethics framework into practice. The IH Ethics Council also plays a pivotal role in enabling health programs and services to be planned in an integrated manner, aligned with <a href="#">Interior Health (IH)'s Strategic Objective 3.2</a> .
DEFINITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethics:</b> The discipline that examines who we ought to be and what we ought to do in light of who we say we are.</li> <li>• <b>IH Ethics Framework:</b> A guide to assist staff with making decisions when faced with challenging ethical issues in any area of health care: clinical, business, health technology, human resources, public health, quality improvement, evaluation, or research.</li> </ul>
SPONSOR	Vice President Clinical Operations, IH North
ACCOUNTABLE TO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council is accountable to the Vice President Clinical Operations, IH North for the activities and outcomes assigned to it.</li> <li>• IH members are accountable to report to the Vice President for the portfolio they represent on any relevant ethical issues that arise at the Council.</li> <li>• The Council reports to the IH Board of Directors through the Senior Executive Team.</li> </ul>
AUTHORITY	The Council will advise on, maintain and advance the core functions within the IH Ethics Framework.
APPOINTMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All appointments are for two year terms with the opportunities for re-appointment.</li> <li>• Nomination of at least one representative by each Vice President for their portfolio for approval by the Council.</li> <li>• Appointment of two community members, recruited through Patient Voices Network, by the Council.</li> <li>• Appointment of one ethicist if available, by the Council.</li> <li>• Appointment of the Co-chair is by the Sponsor, reviewed every two years.</li> </ul>
MEMBERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum one representative from each of the IH Senior Executive Team portfolios*, inclusive of the six Ethics streams**</li> <li>• One representative from Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Two community representatives from Patient Voices Network</li> <li>• Corporate Director, Internal Audit (Ex-officio)</li> </ul> <p>*IH Senior Executive Team portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications &amp; Culture</li> <li>• Clinical Operations, IH North</li> <li>• Clinical Operations, IH South</li> <li>• Human Resources</li> <li>• Medicine &amp; Quality</li> <li>• Population Health &amp; Chief Medical Health Officer</li> <li>• Planning &amp; Research</li> <li>• Support Services &amp; Chief Financial Officer</li> <li>• Clinical Support Services &amp; Chief Information Officer</li> </ul> <p>**Six Ethics streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Ethics (Employee &amp; Labour Relations, Business Support, and Internal Audit)</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical Ethics</li> <li>• Health Technology Ethics</li> <li>• Project Ethics (ARECCI)</li> <li>• Public Health Ethics</li> <li>• Research Ethics</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Members may assign a consistent delegate to attend on their behalf.</li> <li>2. Ad Hoc members may be invited to join a meeting as guests.</li> </ol>
QUORUM & VOTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quorum is 50% plus one member required for any recommendation forwarded to the Sponsor.</li> <li>• Wherever possible a consensus decision-making model shall be utilized.</li> </ul>
MEETINGS	Bi-monthly meetings or as convened by the Co-chairs.
ADMINISTRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agendas and minutes will be prepared and circulated by the Co-chairs.</li> <li>• Meeting minutes will be circulated to all members prior to the next meeting.</li> </ul>
SPECIFIC AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Champion ongoing development of an environment and culture within IH that reflects our values.</li> <li>• Promote an IH wide approach to ethics quality.</li> <li>• Foster collaboration with key internal and external stakeholders to ensure quality improvements to the practice of ethical health care delivery.</li> <li>• Provide leadership on the ethical components of the leadership standards of Accreditation Canada.</li> <li>• Establish annual reporting from each ethics stream to oversee the function of ethics framework through each stream.</li> </ul>
DATE APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SET Approved: November 17, 2017</li> <li>• Revisions by VP &amp; COO Hospitals and Communities: April 2017 (no major content changes)</li> <li>• Revisions approved by SET October 22, 2019 (for the IH Board of Directors approval December 3, 2019)</li> </ul>
REVIEW DATE	The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually at the discretion of the Sponsor.
DIRECT AND INDIRECT LINKAGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Support</li> <li>• Clinical Ethics Committees</li> <li>• Health System Evaluation Team</li> <li>• Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Health Technology and Assessment Committee</li> <li>• Human Resources</li> <li>• Internal Audit</li> <li>• Medical Health Officers</li> <li>• Quality and Patient Safety</li> <li>• Research Ethics Board</li> <li>• Safe Reporting</li> </ul>