

**Research Ethics Board member representing the community**

**Interior Health Authority, BC**

The Interior Health (IH) Research Ethics Board (REB) reviews proposals for research to be conducted within Interior Health. Our purpose is to ensure that ethical and other obligations of competent research are met. In doing so, the IH REB protects the research participants, the researchers and the organization.

As a volunteer member of the IH REB you will serve on a board with over 20 other members representing scientific, ethics, community, and legal expertise.

As a community member ideally you will have an understanding of research through education or experience (conducting or participating in research) and some knowledge of health care based on experience (personal or supporting family or friends) or training; however you should not currently be engaged in research. Your primary role is to reflect the perspective of the participant, which is particularly important for participants who are vulnerable and/or the risks to participants are high. You may not be affiliated with IH nor engaged in the legal profession.

Some key aspects as a member of the IH REB are:

* The protection of the rights and welfare of individuals who are the research participants. This is achieved through the application of relevant policies and regulations.
* The duty to understand the regulations and policies regarding the protection afforded to participants in research.
* To participate in monthly meetings held the first Thursday of the month from 0730 to 0900, in person in Kelowna or by teleconference and WebEx.
* To review distributed materials and be prepared to discuss at the meetings. On average the review time in preparation for the meeting is 1-3 hours.
* Based on expertise, members will be asked to review minimal risk research studies 4-6 times per year which may take 2-4 hours.
* To be comfortable using a provincial electronic platform to access research projects for the purposes of review

Training and mentorship are provided by the REB Chair and Coordinator.

**Inquiries to:**

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