

MCGILL UNIVERSITY
ANIMAL POLICY AND WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Policy on Reporting and Disclosure to Funding Agencies

1. Purpose

McGill University, and its Affiliated Research Institutes if applicable, (respectively “the Institution”) are bound by agreements with funding agencies that provide funds for research and teaching. The Institution, therefore, has a responsibility to use the funds in accordance with the terms of the agreement, to be accountable for their use, allocation and outcomes, and to help ensure that the activities supported are conducted in accordance with the highest ethical and financial standards.

If the Institution uses animals in any of its research, whether in its own facilities, in other facilities or in the field, it shall:

- i. maintain a valid Certificate of Good Animal Practice® from the Canadian Council on Animal Care ("CCAC"), or an indirect certification by a formal agreement with another organization that has a valid Certificate, and ensure that research funded by an Agency complies fully with [CCAC standards](#) as amended from time to time;
- ii. allow access to research funds only after the institution's animal care committee or another animal care committee designated by the Institution has approved the use of animals, unless the activities involving animals will only take place in the future, in which case a part of the funds may be released to cover only expenses to be incurred before animals are used if allowed by the agency; and
- iii. ensure that approval by the animal care committee is maintained for the duration of research activities involving the use of animals and that, subject to (ii), funds are available to the Recipient only while this ongoing requirement is met.

Additionally, the Institution must adhere to reporting and disclosure requirements stipulated in formal agreements with each funding agency with regard to animal care and use for research funded through that agency.

The Institution is subject to audits and inspections by funding agencies and these audits may include verification of the conduct of research involving animals.

2. Responsibility

Agreements between the Institution and funding agencies delineate responsibilities by the researcher and the Institution, as represented by either the Animal Care Committees or higher administration. Where required by funding agency agreements, the Facility Animal Care Committee (FACC) will report unexpected events, changes in the projects, non-compliance, and research misconduct as stipulated in applicable agreements.

In order to fulfill its requirements, the FACC shall inform animal facility and research personnel, and Quality Assistance Advisors of their respective responsibility in disclosure and reporting.

In cases of Research Misconduct, for McGill University Faculty, personnel, Students and Postdocs, the Research Integrity Officer will receive allegations from the FACC and dispose of the Research Misconduct case, as well as required disclosure. For personnel of the Research Institutes, if applicable, who are not formally appointed or registered at McGill University, the Director of the Research Institute will receive allegations from the FACC and dispose of the Research Misconduct case, as well as required disclosure.