1.0 PURPOSE

This SOP describes the procedures for Full Board research ethics review meetings during a non-emergency closure or a short notice cancellation.

2.0 GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT

A non-emergency closure or short notice cancellation can be a situation such as the sudden closure of the University and its services, for example closure due to inclement weather.

In a situation where the University has a short notice closure on a day in which a Full Board meeting is scheduled, Board members will be notified, by email from the Director, or designee, that the meeting is cancelled. If email is inaccessible, telephone calls will be made to the Board members.

The protocols which were to be reviewed at the cancelled Full Board meeting may rollover to the next meeting, although there may be instances in which a remotely conducted meeting may occur. In this situation, the Chair or Vice-Chair will determine if any of the studies to be presented at the cancelled meeting requires a review before the next convened Full Board meeting. If a review is required, steps will be taken to ensure the meeting follows all applicable regulations. If an emergency review is required, procedures in REB Review During Publicly Declared Emergencies SOP must be followed.

The Ethics Officers (EOs) will email or send WREM correspondence to the relevant Principal Investigators (PIs) of the studies to notify them of the delay in providing a review and provide any relevant updates.

3.0 RESPONSIBILITY

This SOP applies to the Health Sciences (HS) and Non-Medical (NM) Research Ethics Board Chairs, Vice-Chairs, HS and NM members and to all Office of Human Research Ethics (OHRE) staff.

1. SOP HISTORY

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