Use of Biohazardous and Radioactive Materials in Research and Education

Classification: Research

Responsible Authority: Dean, Academic Development
Director, Partnerships, Applied Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Executive Sponsor: Senior Vice-President, Academic

Approval Authority: Algonquin College Executive Team

Date First Approved: 2005.02.23

Date Last Reviewed: 2016.06.29

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PURPOSE
To establish practices for the responsible management of biohazardous and radioactive materials used in research, education or any other College sanctioned activities.

SCOPE
All College personnel who use biohazardous or radioactive materials in research or education.

DEFINITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word/Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biohazardous Material</td>
<td>Infectious agents or hazardous biological materials that may present a risk or potential risk to the health of humans, animals or the environment.</td>
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<td>College Personnel</td>
<td>Includes college researchers, staff and students and any person using College facilities for the purpose of research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radioactive Material</td>
<td>Any material that exhibits radioactivity; emitting or relating to the emission of ionizing radiation or particles such as alpha and beta particles, neutrons or gamma rays that may present a risk to the health of humans, animals or the environment.</td>
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<td>CFIA</td>
<td>Canadian Food Inspection Agency</td>
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<td>CNSC</td>
<td>Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission</td>
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<td>PHAC</td>
<td>Public Health Agency of Canada</td>
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POLICY

1. Algonquin College is committed to the highest ethical and safety standards involving the use of biohazardous and radioactive materials in research, education or any other College sanctioned activities.

2. College personnel who are conducting or proposing to conduct research or educational activities involving biohazardous materials shall adhere to the standards outlined in the Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines, 2nd Edition. When animal pathogens are involved, College personnel shall adhere to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) guidelines.

3. College personnel who are conducting or proposing to conduct research or educational activities using radioactive materials shall comply with all of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission’s (CNSC) regulations, recommended procedures, and safety precautions governing the use of such materials in Canada.

4. College personnel shall obtain approval from the Biosafety Committee or the Biosafety Officer that the laboratory procedures being used comply with the safety precautions necessary for the level of containment required by the research or educational activities.

PROCEDURE

These are the steps to follow when undertaking any proposed research or activities involving biohazardous or radioactive materials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Review and adhere to the standards outlined in the Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines, 2nd Edition and the standards outlined in the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Guidelines.</td>
<td>College Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Review and comply with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission regulations.</td>
<td>College Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Obtain approval from the Biohazard and Radiation Safety Committee or the Biosafety Officer that the laboratory procedures being used comply with the safety precautions necessary for the level of containment required by the research or education.</td>
<td>College Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Recommend to the President that he/she sign a grant application or release funds to College personnel with a commitment they will adhere to pertinent guidelines or regulations.</td>
<td>Director, Applied Research, Innovation &amp; Entrepreneurship</td>
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### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION
None

### RELATED POLICIES
- HS01 Occupational Health and Safety System
- HS05 Accident Reporting and Investigation
- HS09 First Aid
- RE04 Use of Animals in Teaching, Research and other Activities

### RELATED MATERIALS
- Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines, 2nd Edition

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency’s Inspection Checklist – Animal Pathogen Containment Level 2 Facilities.

- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission’s (CNSC) regulations, recommended procedures, and safety precautions governing the use of radioactive materials in Canada