

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 the IH 2021-24 Strategic Priorities .
DEFINITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics: The discipline that examines who we ought to be and what we ought to do in light of who we say we are. • IH Ethics Framework: 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.
SPONSOR	Vice President Clinical Operations, IH North
ACCOUNTABLE TO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is accountable to the Vice President Clinical Operations, IH North for the activities and outcomes assigned to it. • 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. • The Council reports to the IH Board of Directors through the Senior Executive Team.
AUTHORITY	The Council will advise on, maintain and advance the core functions within the IH Ethics Framework.
APPOINTMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All appointments are for two year terms with the opportunities for re-appointment. • Nomination of at least one representative by each Vice President for their portfolio for approval by the Council. • Appointment of two community members, recruited through Patient Voices Network, by the Council. • Appointment of one ethicist if available, by the Council. • Appointment of the Co-chair is by the Sponsor, reviewed every two years.
MEMBERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum one representative from each of the IH Senior Executive Team portfolios*, inclusive of the six Ethics streams** • One representative from Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee • Two community representatives from Patient Voices Network • Corporate Director, Internal Audit (Ex-officio) <p>*IH Senior Executive Team portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications & Culture • Clinical Operations, IH North • Clinical Operations, IH South • Human Resources • Medicine & Quality • Population Health & Chief Medical Health Officer • Planning & Research • Support Services & Chief Financial Officer • Clinical Support Services & Chief Information Officer <p>**Six Ethics streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Ethics (Employee & Labour Relations, Business Support, and Internal Audit)



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