

MaRS Centre 661 University Avenue Suite 510 Toronto, Ontario Canada M5G 0A3

Telephone 416-977-7599 Toll-free 1-866-678-6427 www.oicr.on.ca

Valid only on date printed: Last printed 01/06/2017 10:58:00 AM. Discard immediately after use!

# CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AND GUIDELINES

#### **Table of Contents**

1.0	Purp	Purpose1				
2.0						
3.0		Definitions				
			licy2			
	4.1	Potent	tial Sources of Conflicts of Interest			
		4 1 1	Activities that are Prohibited			
		4 1 2	Activities Requiring Management and Approval			
	4 2	Disclo	sure Requirements			
	4.2		Financial Disclosure Requirements			
			Frequency of Disclosure			
		4.2.2	4.2.2.1 Additional Disclosure Requirements for Research Staff Supported by			
			NIH Grants			
		4 7 7	Making Information Publicly Accessible			
	4.2					
	4.3	Review	w Process for Conflicts of Interest			
		4.3.1	Initial Review for All OICR Individuals			
			Escalating Conflict of Interest Issues for all OICR Individuals			
		4.3.3	Review for Research Staff			
			Terms of Reference for Conflict of Interest Committee11			
			Communication of Conflicts of Interest12			
	4.4		ng on Conflicts of Interest12			
		4.4.1	Frequency of Training on Conflicts of Interest for Research Staff Supported by			
			NIH Grants12			
	4.5	Report	ting Sources of Support for Research13			
	4.6	Confid	lentiality			
	4.7	Record	d Retention			
	4.8	Failure	e to Comply			
	4.9	Whistl	eblower Protection			
5.0	Proc	edures				
			sing Conflicts of Interest			
	0.1	5.1.1	Disclosure Process for All OICR Individuals			
		5.1.2	Disclosure Process for OICR Individuals with an Actual or Possible Conflict of			
		0.112	Interest			
		513	Disclosure Process for OICR Individuals Receiving NIH Grants			
		5.1.5	5.1.3.1 Retrospective Review for Recipients of NIH Grants			
		511	Disclosure Process for President and Scientific Director			
	5 2		jing Conflicts of Interest			
	J.Z		Role and Responsibilities of an OICR Individual's Supervising Manager 15			
			Role and Responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer			
			Role and Responsibilities of the Conflict of Interest Committee			
		5.2.4	Role and Responsibilities of the Chair of the Governance Committee of the			
		<u> </u>	OICR Board of Directors			
	5.3		g of Disclosure			
			Minimum Disclosure for all OICR Individuals			
			Additional Disclosure Requirements for Research Staff			
			Institutional Reporting to Granting Agencies			
			cuments			
7.0	Refe	rences				

8.0	Revision	History	19
Арр	endix A:	Additional Guidelines to Assist in Determining a Conflict of Interest	21
App	endix B:	Disclosure of Conflict of Interest	24

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

## 1.0 Purpose

The Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR) is an innovative translational research organization dedicated to research on the prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. OICR is responsible for the translation of research findings into products, services and improved clinical practice. In carrying out this mission, OICR is committed to operating with integrity and adheres to the highest standards of business and research ethics.

This policy sets out the expectations of OICR Individuals with respect to the avoidance, disclosure and management of conflicts of interest whether actual, apparent, perceived or potential as they carry out their responsibilities. This policy also provides guidelines and particular examples in Appendix A for identifying situations which may give rise to a conflict of interest.

## 2.0 Scope

This policy applies to individuals employed or engaged by OICR ("OICR Individual") as defined in this policy. The specific requirements for an OICR Individual pursuant to the policy, procedures and guidelines may vary depending upon his/her role and responsibilities, particularly with respect to research.

OICR recognizes that there may be collaborating external scientists receiving financial support through research grants managed by OICR. These external grant recipients and sub-recipients are not considered OICR Individuals and are expected to comply with all policies, procedures and guidelines of their host institution regarding conflict of interest matters, as well as any conditions and obligations relating to conflict of interest matters stipulated within their contractual agreements with OICR.

For the purposes of this policy, conflicts of interest include conflicts of commitment.

# 3.0 Definitions

**Business:** Means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, firm, franchise, association, organization, holding company, joint stock company, receivership, business or real estate trust, or other legal entity organized for profit or charitable purposes, but excluding OICR.

**Conflict of commitment:** Arises when the Outside Professional Activities of an OICR Individual are so substantial or demanding of the Individual's time and attention so as to adversely affect the discharge of the Individual's responsibilities to OICR, or where the non-OICR activities of an Individual involve the use of OICR resources. **Conflict of interest (COI):** Arises when an OICR Individual finds him/herself in a situation where two or more competing interests conflict and may impair his/her ability to make objective, unbiased or neutral decisions.

**Enticement:** the giving or receiving by any person of anything of value (usually money, a gift, loan, reward, favour or other consideration), either directly or indirectly, in order to gain an explicit advantage or influence contrary to the principles of exemplary ethical standards.

**Financial interest:** An interest in a business consisting of: i) any stock, stock option or similar ownership interest in such business, but excluding any interest in a

business arising from an institutional investment (e.g., mutual fund, pension) over which an OICR Individual does not exercise control; ii) receipt of, or the right or expectation to receive, any income from such business (or from an agent or other representative of such business).

**Financial conflict of interest (FCOI):** A significant financial interest that could directly and significantly affect decision making and/or undertaking of an individual's responsibilities for OICR. This specifically includes potential effects on the design, conduct and reporting of research.

**Gifts:** Includes not only articles of value, but also includes, and is not limited to, travel, accommodation, extravagant meals, and the like, including those that might be provided by commercial external sponsors of continuing education programs or conferences in which the OICR Individual is playing no role other than that of an attendee, or by external organizations which offer products or services related to the Individual's profession in situations in which the Individual may be in a position to influence others to use the external organization's products or services.

**Immediate family:** Grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, parents, brothers, sisters, spouse, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephews, nieces, children and grandchildren.

**Non-OICR activity:** Means any activity outside an OICR Individual's scope of work with OICR and includes Outside Professional Activities.

**OICR Individual:** For the purposes of this policy, OICR Individual refers to an individual employed or engaged by OICR, including temporary and permanent employees, individuals carrying out work who are not paid by OICR, and students. Research collaborators, visiting scientists and individuals/entities engaged by OICR through professional services agreements are excluded from this definition.

**Outside Professional Activity:** Means any activity outside an Individual's scope of work with OICR that involves the same specialized skills and knowledge that the member utilizes in his/her work with OICR and includes the operation of a business, consulting or advisory services and speaking engagements.

Research staff: Refers to the following individuals-

- **Researcher:** An individual who performs research bench/laboratory work and documents results/data from research activities (e.g., scientists, research associates, etc.).
- **Research/Program Manager:** An individual responsible for supporting scientific research initiatives through direct management of research staff administratively and through project oversight.
- **Investigator:** Means the project director or principal investigator (PI) and other person, regardless of title or position, who is responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of research funded by a granting agency, or proposed for such funding, which may include, for example, collaborators or consultants.

Significant financial interest (SFI): see section 4.2.1.

#### 4.0 General Policy

All OICR Individuals must take care to avoid actual, apparent, perceived or potential conflicts of interest. In carrying out their duties, OICR Individuals are expected to maintain the highest standard of professional integrity and ethical behaviour. OICR Individuals are expected to exercise care in their conduct of the organization's business and to be open and straightforward when the potential for a conflict of interest arises. The primary commitment of intellectual energies, behaviour and time must be to the role(s) and responsibilities of the OICR Individual as expected through his/her employment relationship with OICR.

OICR recognizes that OICR Individuals and/or members of their immediate families may seek to engage in activities such as research or commercial endeavours that may include Outside Professional Activities or other non-OICR activities and/or involve financial interests via relationships with external parties. While these relationships may be beneficial to the participants, OICR and the public, OICR must ensure that these activities are consistent with OICR's interests since these arrangements may also create or have the potential to create conflicts of interest. Such arrangements may influence, directly or indirectly, a decision, behaviour or action that might lead an independent observer to reasonably question whether the individual's action was motivated by considerations for personal benefit or that of a member of the individual's immediate family, or an individual with whom there exists a close relationship.

In particular, SFIs pose a source of potential conflict of interest. OICR's purpose in recognizing, disclosing and managing SFIs is to enhance the likelihood that the management of business related activities and that the design, conduct and reporting of the Institute's research endeavours are free of bias that may be induced by conflicting financial interests of an OICR Individual.

Conflicts of interest can:

- include conflicts of commitment, which can arise when non-OICR activities of an OICR Individual interfere with his/her responsibilities to OICR as a result of insufficient time and attention placed on performance of his/her duties;
- arise naturally from an individual's engagement inside and/or outside OICR.

OICR Individuals have an obligation to:

- disclose to their supervising manager all matters/activities that may be questionable as per this policy;
- seek approval from their supervising manager and/or OICR's Conflict of Interest Committee prior to engaging in said activities;
- be familiar with the requirements of this policy and associated procedures.

OICR recognizes that each situation depends upon its specific facts. This policy cannot anticipate and provide for every circumstance; OICR has not attempted to develop an exhaustive list of conflicts of interest. Rather, OICR expects that OICR Individuals conduct themselves at all times with the highest ethical standards in a manner that will bear the closest scrutiny.

#### 4.1 Potential Sources of Conflicts of Interest

The existence of a conflict of interest does not necessarily imply wrongdoing; however, such a conflict must be recognized, disclosed and assessed. OICR recognizes two categories of activities potentially giving rise to conflicts of interest:

- those that are prohibited because they cannot be appropriately managed; and
- those that are permissible if appropriately managed.

Where approval of an activity has been sought and received from an individual's supervising manager and/or Conflict of Interest Committee, the activity shall be deemed not to be a conflict of interest subject to compliance with any plan to manage the potential conflict.

Conflicts of interest may arise with the following:

- use of confidential information;
- receiving/providing enticements;
- financial interest;
- outside business/professional activities or affiliations;
- use of OICR resources/property;
- special treatment;
- personal relationships.

## 4.1.1 Activities that are Prohibited

The following conflicts of interest are prohibited for OICR Individuals:

- using privileged or confidential information for personal gain either while employed or engaged by OICR (or during post-employment in particular circumstances);
- accepting or offering personal rewards (e.g., fees or gifts) in order to influence business transactions or offer an enticement while employed or engaged by OICR (e.g., in the case of third parties, such as consultants or contractors, acting on behalf of OICR);
- conducting business on behalf of OICR with an enterprise in which OICR Individuals or a member of one's immediate family has a financial interest;
- participating in non-OICR projects which conflict with institutional values (e.g., projects funded or supported by the tobacco industry, i.e., manufacturers, the Council for Tobacco Research, or the Smokeless Tobacco Council, or any other organization that acts on behalf of or is sponsored directly or indirectly by the tobacco industry);
- direct reporting relationships between immediate family members or individuals with close personal/intimate relationships, including relationships that involve decisions on hiring, firing, promoting, performance evaluation and salary evaluation;
- using or permitting use of OICR assets for significant personal gain or personal business.

The above activities will be considered to be in violation of this policy and OICR Individuals engaged in these prohibited activities will be subject to disciplinary action, unless disclosure and corrective measures are taken upon commencement of the activity/relationship.

Refer to Appendix A for general guidelines regarding a conflict of interest.

# 4.1.2 Activities Requiring Management and Approval

## Family Relationships and Intimate Relationships

It is foreseeable that immediate family members may be employed or engaged by OICR, and that intimate relationships of a consensual nature between OICR individuals may arise. Relationships wherein an OICR Individual is in a position of authority over an immediate family member or with whom one is engaged in an intimate relationship are not permitted. This is due to the potential influence, authority or power imbalance in these relationships at the workplace.

OICR Individuals in these situations should immediately disclose the relationship to their supervising manager so that appropriate measures are taken. Measures will include, among other things, reassigning reporting responsibilities to others. OICR does not guarantee that a mutually agreeable reassignment may materialize and reserves the right to decide that the relationships are unmanageable and take other measures, including disciplinary actions, to resolve the particular conflict of interest.

#### Trade or Technical Associations and Professional Organizations

Trade associations, technical associations and professional organizations very often pursue constructive and legitimate aims that OICR supports. Participation in such organizations may, in some cases, create conflicts of interest or even legal issues related to competition laws. If any such involvement raises a conflict of interest, OICR Individuals should immediately disclose the situation with their supervising manager and seek guidance for their activities.

#### Boards

OICR Individuals may be asked to serve on the board of directors of other organizations, such as another research institute. While this may be an interesting developmental opportunity for the individual, these positions can in some cases raise conflicts of interests and legal issues or detract from an OICR Individual's performance at OICR.

When OICR Individuals engage in activities outside OICR, they should always ensure that time commitments required by such outside activities do not infringe upon or adversely affect their ability to perform their responsibilities at OICR. OICR Individuals should always disclose and discuss potential participation on the board of directors of another organization with their manager and obtain written approval before accepting the position. The level of commitment required and the fees involved will be among the factors taken into consideration when deciding whether approval will be granted to the OICR Individual. If approved, the OICR Individual may keep any director's fees and/or expense reimbursements involved, however, all such amounts must be disclosed to OICR annually.

#### Gifts and Hospitality

Gifts or "token courtesies" of a nominal value or of modest and reasonable hospitality are generally acceptable provided that the OICR Individual uses good judgment and moderation, and that the OICR Individual's objectivity is not influenced.

OICR Individuals shall not encourage or accept gifts over a nominal amount, nor shall they accept gratuities from any person or organization, which has or seeks to have a business or research relationship with OICR. *All gifts above the value of* \$100.00 require the approval of a manager.

Hospitality in the ordinary course of business is acceptable provided it is reasonable and modest and neither influences the recipient's objectivity, nor could be construed as doing so. Such hospitality should be limited. For example, attendance at a general business reception for the launch of a new venture would be appropriate whereas tickets to a sporting event would not be appropriate. If OICR Individuals are in doubt as to whether the hospitality is reasonable and modest, prior approval should be obtained from their manager.

Refer to Appendix A for guidelines regarding gifts and hospitality.

#### **Use of Institute Assets**

Institute assets are to be used for legitimate OICR business purposes. However, OICR Individuals may occasionally use OICR's resources such as a photocopier, telephone or email for personal use provided that there are no measurable costs associated with such use, and other OICR Individuals are not distracted or inconvenienced by the use of those resources. Additionally, in such instances, other OICR policies must be followed. Protection of OICR's assets is the responsibility of every OICR Individual.

Refer to Appendix A for guidelines regarding the use of institute assets.

#### **Outside Business Activity**

OICR Individuals may engage in employment activities outside of OICR and take part in outside activities unless the employment or activities are deemed by OICR to likely give rise to a conflict of interest including a conflict of commitment. The work must not conflict, appear to conflict, or potentially conflict with the OICR Individual's position, influence, or ability to perform at OICR. Outside business activities of this nature from which supplemental income and/or equity capital (i.e., financial interests) may be derived must be disclosed to and reviewed by OICR to determine if they are permissible.

Where outside employment activities might result in demands incompatible with employment at OICR, or cast doubt on the ability to perform OICR duties in a completely objective and productive manner, OICR Individuals must submit a written disclosure to their manager. If it is determined that a conflict of interest exists, OICR Individuals may be required to curtail outside business interests.

#### **Outside Professional Activities of Research Staff**

OICR recognizes the benefit to society and researchers that can result from researchers participating in professional activities outside of OICR. In fact, employment contracts of research staff frequently provide for time to engage in professional activities outside OICR. However, prior to engaging in outside professional activities all research staff members must disclose related activities to their manager as per the procedures outlined in this policy in order to develop a conflict management plan and to ensure that the outside professional activities do not constitute a conflict of commitment.

## **Examples of Outside Professional Activities Requiring Approval**

The following activities require written approval in accordance with this policy:

- All paid professional activities;
- Non-paid activities that exceed the commitment provided for within an individual's contract;
- External management roles which require a significant time commitment;
- OICR scientists hiring and supervising students or other research staff for non-OICR activities;
- Related to the use of any funds administered by OICR, any act relating to the hiring, supervising, or evaluating of, purchasing from, selling to, engaging in any commercial transaction with, or conferring or denying any financial or commercial benefit to any member of the scientist's immediate family or a person with whom there exists, or has recently existed, an intimate personal relationship;
- Related to the use of any funds administered by OICR, any research undertaken by a scientist for a company or organization in which a SFI (see section 4.2.1) is held by the scientist, any member of the scientist's immediate family, or any person with whom there exists, or has recently existed, an intimate personal relationship;
- Hiring OICR staff for external professional activities;
- Any outside activities that involve the use of OICR facilities, supplies or staff; and
- Using OICR administered funds to carry out external research.

## **Post-Employment Activity**

All OICR Individuals, past or present, are bound by this policy. While this policy does not restrict an OICR Individual's ability to pursue post-employment opportunities, OICR Individuals must ensure that their employment after OICR does not create a conflict of interest. For the purpose of this policy employment includes direct employment, membership on a Board of Directors or acting as a consultant. For example, providing advice, guidance or representing services to another organization, based on activities in which the OICR Individual had formerly worked on or made a decision on while at OICR, which would provide an unfair advantage to the other organization in its dealings with OICR, may be in violation of this policy.

OICR Individuals who have been responsible for providing advice and/or making decisions with respect to the funding of recipient projects/programs are specifically precluded from receiving compensation from such recipients for working on the project/program for a period of 12 months. Any exceptional circumstances require consideration and direction of the Conflict of Interest Committee.

All OICR Individuals will continue to be bound by this policy and will ensure all OICR administrative, financial, research, employee and other records are kept confidential after their employment with OICR.

# 4.2 Disclosure Requirements

Full and complete disclosure is key to protecting the integrity of OICR Individuals, as well as that of OICR. The following are elements that must be disclosed in writing to OICR as requested by OICR and/or as the need arises; this listing is not exhaustive as every situation or questionable activity cannot be foreseen:

- The category or type of client;
- The nature of the work;
- The rationale for undertaking this work or activity;
- The nature and rationale of the use to be made of the facilities, supplies, support or staff;
- The extent of the SFI held in the company or organization for which the work or research is done by the OICR Individual or the Individual's immediate family or person with whom there exists or has recently existed an intimate relationship (see section 4.2.1 for further detail);
- Any other professional activities that have already been approved in the present year or that are continuing from an earlier year; and
- The expected impact the activity will have on OICR research, teaching and service responsibilities.

Refer to section 5.0 for disclosure procedures.

## 4.2.1 Financial Disclosure Requirements

It is important for all OICR Individuals to disclose financial interests relating to any activity described in section 4.1.2 and any other activity that may give rise to a conflict, appear to conflict, or potentially conflict with the OICR Individual's position, influence, or ability to perform at OICR.

In particular, increasing public attention on this matter has translated into requirements, especially from Canadian and US research granting agencies, to obtain reports from institutions regarding any significant financial involvements that could be construed to produce a personal benefit.

An OICR Individual (including his/her spouse and dependent children) has an SFI and must disclose the item(s) when one or more of the following criteria are met<sup>1</sup>:

- receipt of greater than \$5,000 aggregate remuneration from any related publicly traded company in 12 months prior to the date of disclosure; remuneration includes salary and any payment for services not otherwise identified as salary (e.g., consulting fees, honoraria, paid authorship); equity includes any stock, stock option, or other ownership interest, as determined through reference to public prices or other reasonable measures of fair market value;
- receipt of greater than \$5,000 aggregate remuneration from any related nonpublicly traded company or equity holding of any amount;
- receipt of related intellectual property rights, royalties from such rights, agreements to share in royalties from such rights.

In determining the aggregate remuneration, the following will also be included:

- payment on behalf of an OICR Individual (and not reimbursed directly to the OICR Individual so that the exact monetary value may not be readily available) such as for sponsored travel or paid authorships; and
- income from non-profits that are not institutions of higher education.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In accordance with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) rules and regulations.

Remuneration excludes:

- salary or royalties paid to the OICR Individual by OICR;
- income from investment vehicles which are not directly controlled by the OICR Individual, e.g., mutual funds;
- income from academic seminars, lectures, advisory boards, or peer review panels sponsored by government agencies, institutions of higher education, academic teaching hospitals, or a research institute that is affiliated with an institution of higher education.

SFIs may be determined to be financial conflicts of interest (FCOIs) through OICR's internal review process. Also, refer to public disclosure requirements for SFIs in section 4.2.3.

## **4.2.2 Frequency of Disclosure**

All OICR Individuals must review and update disclosures at least annually. In addition, all OICR Individuals are required to review and update additional disclosures prior to engaging in activities or when circumstances change potentially giving rise to a conflict of interest.

#### 4.2.2.1 Additional Disclosure Requirements for Research Staff Supported by NIH Grants

In addition to the requirements outlined in section 4.2.2, additional disclosures are required:

- within 30 business days of a new SFI; and
- when applying for NIH funding.

## 4.2.3 Making Information Publicly Accessible

OICR makes information available about its policies and procedures relating to the management of conflicts of interest, and particularly the management of financial conflicts of interest. The current policies and practices governing these activities are readily available on the OICR intranet and Internet homepage (www.oicr.on.ca).

OICR makes certain information available concerning SFIs of research staff supported by NIH funds in compliance with NIH regulations. OICR will provide written response to any requestor within five business days of a request. The information to be made publicly available includes the following:

- Investigator's name;
- Investigator's title and role with respect to the research project;
- Name of the entity in which the SFI is held;
- Nature of the SFI; and
- Approximate dollar value of the SFI (dollar ranges are permissible: \$0-\$4,999; \$5,000-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$19,999; amounts between \$20,000-\$100,000 by increments of \$20,000; amounts above \$100,000 by increments of \$50,000), or a statement that the interest is one where the value cannot be readily determined through references to public prices or other reasonable measures of fair market value.

For more information about OICR's management practices regarding conflict of interest contact:

#### **Ontario Institute for Cancer Research**

Attention: Chief Financial Officer MaRS Centre 661 University Avenue, Suite 510 Toronto, Ontario Canada M5G 0A3 416-977-7599; toll-free 1-866-678-6427

#### **4.3 Review Process for Conflicts of Interest**

#### 4.3.1 Initial Review for All OICR Individuals

Disclosures by OICR Individuals will be initially reviewed by the OICR Individual's supervising manager. All disclosures will be investigated in a timely and effective manner (normally within five business days) by the supervising manager. (See section 5.0 Procedures for details.)

Disclosed conflicts of interest may be treated in any one manner as outlined here:

- i. The supervising manager after investigating the relevant circumstances and determining there is no actual or potential conflict of interest, may permit the disclosed activity and will record his/her determination.
- ii. Alternatively, the supervising manager, after investigating the relevant circumstances and finding that there may be an actual or potential conflict of interest, may determine that it can be managed and will advise and work with the OICR Individual(s) involved to develop and implement a plan to manage or avoid the conflict of interest. The supervising manager and the OICR Individual(s) will work to achieve an acceptable solution to the matter. If the manageable conflict of interest is resolved to the satisfaction of both parties, the supervising manager will document the resolution and the disclosure shall be deemed not to be a conflict of interest.
- iii. Alternatively, the supervising manager, after investigating the relevant circumstances may determine that the disclosed activity is not permissible and inform the OICR Individual of this determination at which point the individual must not proceed or continue with the activity. The supervising manager will document the decision.

or

iv. Alternatively, the supervising manager may escalate the assessment of the disclosure to the Chief Financial Officer if he/she is unable to determine whether a proposed activity is permissible.

# 4.3.2 Escalating Conflict of Interest Issues for all OICR Individuals

If an OICR Individual's supervising manager determines that

- i. the disclosed conflict of interest of an OICR Individual cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of either party, or
- ii. there is an actual conflict of interest which may or may not be permissible, or
- iii. there may be a significant risk to the reputation of OICR as a result of a potential conflict of interest,

the Chief Financial Officer is to be advised by the supervising manager in a timely and effective manner within 10 business days of the request.

## 4.3.3 Review for Research Staff

Subsequent to initial review of disclosures of conflicts of interest from OICR Individuals by their supervising manager(s), disclosures of conflicts of interest from research staff designated as "Investigator" on projects supported by research granting agencies (e.g., CIHR, NIH) will be reviewed by the Conflict of Interest Committee as part of an annual summary reported by Human Resources in a timely and effective manner.

See section 3.0 Definitions for meaning of "Investigator".

# 4.3.4 Terms of Reference for Conflict of Interest Committee

## Mandate

The mandate of the Conflict of Interest Committee is to:

- Monitor conflicts of interest of OICR Individuals including compliance with conflict management directions;
- Monitor compliance of research staff with SFI disclosure requirements;
- Monitor any relationships of OICR research staff, including industry relationships, that may constitute an actual or perceived conflict of interest;
- Determine whether disclosed activities constitute a conflict of interest and provide direction with respect to the management of potential conflicts;
- Determine cases to be referred to the President and Scientific Director and the Board of Directors because there may be a significant risk to the reputation of OICR as a result of an actual or potential conflict of interest;
- Monitor compliance requirements of sub-recipients as required by granting agencies;
- Monitor OICR partnerships to ensure that any conflicts of interest have been identified and handled appropriately;
- When conflicts do not have a solution that can be implemented by OICR alone, communicate the issues to the other institutions involved in an attempt to arrive at a satisfactory solution to the conflict of interest.

#### Membership

Includes the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Corporate Secretary (Chair), and Deputy Director and Chief Scientific Officer (CSO).

#### Meetings

The Committee will meet as necessary to address matters referred for the Committee's consideration on a timely basis and at least once annually to receive reports regarding the required annual review and disclosure by all OICR Individuals. Refer to section 5.2.3 for procedures relating to the Conflict of Interest Committee.

## 4.3.5 Communication of Conflicts of Interest

Initial reviewers (i.e., supervising managers) must provide documentation of all actual conflicts of interest, whether permissible or not, to the Human Resources Manager so that the following reporting requirements may be fulfilled:

- Filing of documents within the OICR Individual's Human Resources file;
- Internal institutional reporting;
- External reporting requirements to granting agencies funding affected research; and
- Applicable research ethics boards where the conflict of interest relates to a research project.

## 4.4 Training on Conflicts of Interest

All individuals new to OICR are provided training on conflicts of interest at a new staff orientation session. Attendance is mandatory.

In addition, all research staff members are required to take self-paced training relating to conflicts of interest via an online training program (www.citicanada.org), in conjunction with training on responsible conduct of research in accordance with OICR's policy on Responsible Conduct of Research Training. OICR Human Resources retains records of completed training.

#### 4.4.1 Frequency of Training on Conflicts of Interest for Research Staff Supported by NIH Grants

Prior to any research staff engaging in research related to an NIH funded project, he/she must ensure receipt of training on conflicts of interest. This training must be renewed at least once every four years. OICR will ensure that affected individuals receiving NIH funds will receive training on conflicts of interest when the NIH conflict of interest policy is revised in a manner that affects the individual or when OICR finds that the individual is not in compliance with this policy or a conflict of interest management plan. The OICR Human Resources Team will provide a notice to affected individuals that they are due to renew their training.

# 4.5 Reporting Sources of Support for Research

When publishing the results of any research for which funding was supplied, the researcher must name the source(s) of funding in the publication, unless explicit approval to do otherwise has been obtained from the person/Institution to whom the OICR Individual reports.

# 4.6 Confidentiality

Except through expressed written consent of the OICR Individual or as required by law or as required by the funding requirements of particular funding agencies, any information gathered about an OICR Individual pursuant to this policy will be held by OICR in strict confidence and will only be available to those individuals who are responsible to OICR for its review, management and administration, and to funding agencies where relevant to an application for research funding to that agency.

Refer to section 4.2.3 for public disclosure requirements.

## 4.7 Record Retention

Records of all OICR Individuals' disclosures of conflicts of interest, review of and response to such disclosures (whether or not a disclosure resulted in a determination of a conflict of interest) and all actions taken by OICR within the scope of this policy or retrospective review, if applicable, will be maintained as per OICR's policy on Retention and Disposal of Administrative Records.

For all such records, as noted above, pertaining to OICR Individuals receiving funds from research granting agencies, records will be maintained for at least seven years from the date of submission of the final expenditures report or, where applicable, from other dates as specified by the agency granting the funds.

# 4.8 Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with this policy as determined by the Conflict of Interest Committee may result in disciplinary action up to and including employment termination of the OICR Individual. Relinquishment of full-time employment status may also be required. Furthermore, it may be required that breach of this policy be reported to the individual's professional body or legal authorities, if applicable.

OICR will protect itself from losses due to conflicts of commitment wherein OICR Individuals spend excessive and significant time on external commitment, especially in cases where the individual did not seek prior permission or comply with the directions to manage the conflict of commitment. OICR may seek reimbursement for the use of OICR assets and the time of OICR Individuals.

## 4.9 Whistleblower Protection

OICR extends whistleblower protection to any employee who reports a breach or a potential contravention of applicable legislation, or of OICR's Conflict of Interest Policy. This protection also extends to individuals who refuse to engage in an activity that they believe to be in contravention of applicable legislation or OICR's Conflict of Interest Policy.

Refer to OICR Whistleblower Policy for details.

#### 5.0 Procedures

## **5.1 Disclosing Conflicts of Interest**

All potential conflicts of interest must be managed in an open and transparent manner. It is essential that all OICR Individuals maintain an exemplary standard of public trust and integrity.

## **5.1.1** Disclosure Process for All OICR Individuals

- 1. Upon commencement of employment and when a change in circumstances requires it, OICR Individuals must review section 4.1 of this policy.
- 2. OICR Individuals must complete and sign the *Disclosure of Conflict of Interest*—*Form A* and, if necessary, *Form B* and obtain direction/approval from his/her manager:
  - Prior to engaging in any activities that directly or indirectly include any personal business transaction or private arrangement for personal profit that accrues from, or is based upon their appointment/employment with OICR or upon confidential or non-public information gained by reason of their employment with OICR;
  - For any direct or indirect personal business or financial activities which conflict with their official duties and responsibilities, including owning any interest (directly or indirectly) in any organization doing business with OICR;
  - As part of the annual attestation request managed by OICR.

#### 5.1.2 Disclosure Process for OICR Individuals with an Actual or Possible Conflict of Interest

- 1. Upon commencement of employment and when a change in circumstances requires it, OICR Individuals with an actual or possible conflict of interest to disclose must complete and sign the *Disclosure of Conflict of Interest—Form A* as per section 5.1.1.
- 2. OICR Individuals must also review section 4.2.1.
- 3. OICR Individuals must also complete and sign the *Disclosure of Conflict of Interest—Form B:* 
  - Prior to engaging in any outside business and/or professional activity as per section 4.1.2;
  - As part of the annual attestation request managed by OICR.

#### 5.1.3 Disclosure Process for OICR Individuals Receiving NIH Grants

- 1. OICR Individuals receiving NIH grants must follow procedures outlined in section 5.1.2.
- 2. OICR Individuals receiving NIH grants must also review and comply with section 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.1.

- 3. OICR Individuals receiving NIH grants must also use *Disclosure of Conflict of Interest—Form B* to:
  - Disclose in writing within 30 business days of a new SFI; and
  - Disclose in writing at the time of applying for NIH funding.

## **5.1.3.1** Retrospective Review for Recipients of NIH Grants

- 1. Whenever an FCOI is not identified or managed in a timely manner, including failure by the grant recipient to disclose an SFI, failure by OICR to review or manage an FCOI, or failure to comply with the management plan, OICR will within 60 business days of the determination of noncompliance, complete a retrospective review of the recipient's activities and the project to determine bias in the design, conduct or reporting of such research.
- 2. The CFO will notify NIH promptly and submit a mitigation report when bias is found.
- 3. The CFO will ensure that the key elements of a retrospective review include:
  - Project number;
  - Project title;
  - Name of grant recipient (e.g., PI);
  - Name of the researcher with the FCOI;
  - Name of the entity with which the grant recipient has an FCOI;
  - Reason(s) for the retrospective review;
  - Detailed methodology used for the retrospective review; findings and conclusions of the review.
- 4. If the results of the retrospective review warrant, the CFO must update the previously submitted FCOI report sent to NIH.
- 5. If the results of the retrospective review warrant, the CFO will instruct the award recipient to:
  - i. disclose the FCOI in each public presentation of the results of the research; and
  - ii. make addendums to previously published presentations.

#### 5.1.4 Disclosure Process for President and Scientific Director

If the President and Scientific Director has an actual, apparent, perceived or potential conflict of interest the matter will be disclosed in writing to the Chair of the Governance Committee of the OICR Board of Directors which has responsibility for conflict of interest matters. The Chair of the Governance Committee shall respond in writing within 20 business days.

## 5.2 Managing Conflicts of Interest

#### 5.2.1 Role and Responsibilities of an OICR Individual's Supervising Manager

- 1. Review all *Disclosure of Conflict of Interest—Form A and Form B* which are submitted by OICR Individuals upon commencement of employment.
- 2. Review all additional *Disclosure of Conflict of Interest—Form A and Form B* which may be submitted by OICR Individuals when changes occur in a timely manner (normally within five business days).
- 3. Where an OICR Individual seeks approval for the disclosed activity/interest the manager may, in his/her discretion:

- i. grant written approval documenting the rationale, without requiring further action, taking into consideration, and without limiting his/her discretion, the following:
  - the provisions of this policy;
  - the impact on the individual's obligations to OICR;
  - the degree to which the proposed action will be detrimental to OICR's interests or in the research context, the degree to which it may compromise a Research Staff's professional judgement in conducting or reporting research;
  - the degree to which the activity contributes to or benefits OICR in such a way that warrants the interference;

#### OR

ii. determine the activity to be permissible only if appropriately managed by a conflict of interest management plan developed, implemented and monitored by the manager;

#### OR

iii. determine that the activity is not permissible;

OR

- iv. refer assessment of the disclosure to the Conflict of Interest Committee for determination if he/she is unable to determine whether a proposed activity is permissible.
- 4. All decisions, corrective actions and conflict management plans made by the Individual's manager and/or the Conflict of Interest Committee regarding an Individual's disclosure must be communicated to the Individual in writing and a copy of the documentation must be included in the Individual's file maintained by Human Resources.
- 5. Monitor compliance with the management plan developed in response to the Requestor's disclosure.
- 6. Monitor training requirements.

## 5.2.2 Role and Responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer

- 1. The CFO is accountable for OICR's conflict of interest disclosure and reporting process.
- 2. The CFO shall notify the Chair of the Conflict of Interest Committee of all requests for approval that have been forwarded for deliberation.

#### 5.2.3 Role and Responsibilities of the Conflict of Interest Committee

- 1. Review all disclosed conflicts of interest of OICR Individuals provided:
  - i. as reported by Human Resources annually and when changes occur;
  - ii. by an employee's manager; or
  - iii. directly by the OICR Individual and render a decision in writing within 10 business days of provision.

Particular attention will be paid to disclosures that originate from OICR research staff.

2. The Committee will discuss all conflict of interest activities/relationships that have been deemed non-permissible by the OICR Individual's supervising manager, or for which the supervising manager has requested assistance with a determination and/or development of a management plan. All determinations will be recorded for reporting purposes and for communication to the Requestor.

- 3. The Committee may ask any OICR Individual and in particular any affected researcher to meet with the Committee either in person or via teleconference.
- 4. The request shall be evaluated in a fair manner to both protect the interests of OICR and to encourage OICR Individuals and Research Staff to participate in other professional activities as such participation represents an important mechanism for disseminating the knowledge and expertise of Researchers to society and for contributing to a Researcher's intellectual and professional development.
- 5. In the event that the Conflict of Interest Committee needs to seek advice from outside advisors when deliberating the request this will comply strictly with the principle of confidentiality.
- 6. If the request is denied the rationale will be explicit in a letter of denial provided to the requestor and filed in the requestor's Human Resources file.
- 7. If the request is denied by the Conflict of Interest Committee the Requestor may appeal the process by writing a letter to the Corporate Secretary to bring this to the attention of the President and Scientific Director within 10 business days of the decision. The President and Scientific Director may make a final determination or refer the matter to the Governance Committee of OICR's Board of Directors. The Requestor will be advised of the outcome of the appeal within 20 business days.
- 8. Review a list of all new OICR industry partnerships and a brief summary of the partnership to be prepared annually by the Director, Industry Partnerships. In addition, if any proposed partnership relationship has the potential to give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest this should be brought to the attention of the Conflict of Interest Committee.
- 9. The Corporate Secretary shall convene the Conflict of Interest Committee to consider all requests for approval and render a decision in writing within 10 business days of the request.
- 10. The Corporate Secretary may require that the identity of the client and any pertinent financial details of the specific activity be revealed by the OICR Individual on a strictly confidential basis.
- 11. If the request is denied the requestor may appeal the decision by writing a letter to the Corporate Secretary within 10 business days of the decision.

#### 5.2.4 Role and Responsibilities of the Chair of the Governance Committee of the OICR Board of Directors

- 1. Review any disclosures involving the President and Scientific Director or both the Deputy Director and Chief Scientific Officer, and the President and Scientific Director and make a determination and/or management plan within 20 business days of receipt.
- 2. Monitor compliance with the conflict management plan developed to address the conflict of interest disclosed.
- 3. Receive a report annually with respect to the administration of and compliance with this policy.

# 5.3 Timing of Disclosure

## 5.3.1 Minimum Disclosure for all OICR Individuals

- 1. The Human Resources team will request review of this policy by and disclosure of any conflicts of interest using Forms A and B (see Appendix B) from each new individual employed or engaged by OICR at his/her start date.
- 2. The Human Resources team will request review of this policy by and disclosure of any changes to conflicts of interest from all OICR Individuals once annually.
- 3. An OICR Individual is required to disclose all conflicts of interests whether actual, apparent, perceived or potential to his/her supervising manager prior to engaging in the questionable activity in order that a conflict management plan may be developed.

## 5.3.2 Additional Disclosure Requirements for Research Staff

1. For research staff supported by NIH funds, disclosure must be made at the time of applying for NIH funding and also within 30 business days of a new SFI.

# 5.3.3 Institutional Reporting to Granting Agencies

- 1. The CSO will provide initial and ongoing reports prior to the expenditure of agency funds relating to a particular research project with which a conflict of interest (or a FCOI in the case of NIH granted research) is determined.
- 2. The CSO will provide initial and ongoing reports relating to identified FCOIs of sub-recipients of NIH research grants.
- 3. For reporting to NIH, the CSO will report any new FCOI within 60 business days of identification during the period of the award.
- 4. The CSO will notify NIH promptly when a grant recipient fails to comply with this policy or when a conflict of interest management plan appears to have biased the design, conduct, or reporting of the NIH-funded research, or following a retrospective review to update a previously submitted report, if appropriate.
- 5. For reporting to NIH, annual FCOI reporting is submitted through eRA Commons FCOI Module at the same time as the NIH grantee submits the annual progress report or the extension of project.
- 6. Provide FCOI reports to NIH as outlined in section 5.1.3.

## 6.0 Related Documents

- Ethics and Integrity of Research;
- Research Misconduct;
- Responsible Conduct of Research Training;
- Whistleblower Policy.

## 7.0 References

- Financial Conflict of Interest Regulation, 42 CFR Part 50;
- Financial Conflict of Interest Regulation, 45 CFR Part 94;
- The University of British Columbia Board of Governors Policy No. 97: Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment (last revised March 2005);
- Conflict of Interest/Conflict of Commitment—An Issues Paper; Tri-Agency http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/\_doc/NSERC-CRSNG/COI-CDI\_eng.pdf (May 2009)

# 8.0 Revision History

Policy Number	Revision Date	Level of	<b>Revision Comments</b>
	(YYYY-MM-DD)	Change No change	
HR-010-002 HR-010-002	Not applicable 2008-07-28	No change Undocumented	New document
AD-GEN.102.002	2008-07-28		None     Consulation and formethods
AD-GEN.102.002	2009-12-11	Minor change	<ul> <li>Copy edited and formatted;</li> <li>Deligy number added;</li> </ul>
			<ul><li>Policy number added;</li><li>Revision history added.</li></ul>
AD-GEN.102.003	2010-04-22	Major change	<ul> <li>Modified section (x) Post-</li> </ul>
			Employment Activity as per
			OICR Board-approved
			language
AD-GEN.102.003	2011-04-15	Minor change	Added reference to OICR's
			Tobacco Policy;
			<ul> <li>Changed "OICR employee" to "OICR Individual";</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>Corrected COI example</li> </ul>
			provided on p.4;
			<ul> <li>Copy edit and OICR logo</li> </ul>
			update
AD-GEN.102.004	2012-07-31	Major change	<ul> <li>Re-structured majority of</li> </ul>
			document to reflect new
			requirements from the
			National Institutes of Health; updates as per re-
			organization of OICR
			executive roles and
			committees; revisions to
			both disclosure forms.
			Added clearer distinction
			between activities that are prohibited and those that
			may be managed with an
			effective conflict of interest
			management plan.
			<ul> <li>Introduced greater</li> </ul>
			disclosure requirements
			regarding financial
			<ul><li>interests.</li><li>Greater procedural details</li></ul>
			added.
			<ul> <li>Updated Sponsor and</li> </ul>
			Issuing Authority from
			Vice-President, Operations
			to Chief Financial Officer;
			updated listing of content reviewers.
			<ul> <li>Changed review period</li> </ul>
			from 2 years to 3 years.
AD-GEN.102.004	2013 12 09	Minor Change	Various

	2014.05.22	Minor Chance	<ul> <li>tasks/responsibilities shift from Chief Operating Officer and Chief Scientific Officer to Chief Financial Officer;</li> <li>Additional roles/responsibilities of the Conflict of Interest Committee, now chaired by the Corporate Secretary;</li> <li>Upon the commencement of employment, each new hire must review and complete the attestation;</li> <li>Changes in an individual's conflict of interest situation that occur during the periods between annual attestations must be reported at the time they occur; and</li> <li>Record retention changed from a minimum of three years to seven years, to comply with generally accepted record retention guidelines in Canada.</li> </ul>
AD-GEN.102-01	2014 05 22	Minor Change	<ul> <li>Added that an indication of the source(s) of funding for research projects be stated</li> </ul>

© Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR). All Rights Reserved. This document is specific to OICR internal activities. OICR does not accept responsibility for use of this material by any person or organization not associated with OICR. No part of this document should be used for publication without permission and acknowledgement. A printed copy of this document may not reflect the current electronic version on the OICR Intranet.

#### Appendix A: Additional Guidelines to Assist in Determining a Conflict of Interest

#### I) General Guidelines regarding a Conflict of Interest

The following questions may assist in identifying whether a situation/relationship is potentially a conflict of interest:

- Do I have personal or private interests that may conflict or be perceived to conflict with my public duty?
- > Could there be benefits for me now or in the future that could cast doubt on my objectivity?
- Do I or members of my family or individuals with whom I have a close personal relationship stand to gain anything by virtue of my relationship with the third party doing business with OICR or vice versa?
- How will others view my involvement in the decision or action?
- Do I feel any pressure/obligation due to the relationship I have with the third party doing business with OICR?
- > Would I be embarrassed if anyone inside OICR knew about the situation?
- How might it look to someone outside OICR, such as a partner or supplier? Would they question whether they have been treated fairly?
- Could my involvement appear unfair or unreasonable in any circumstance?

If the answer to any of the above questions is "yes" or "perhaps" or could be perceived by third parties to be "yes" or "perhaps" you are involved in a conflict of interest. If you are not certain, you should seek guidance from your manager.

#### II) Gifts and Hospitality

#### i) Questions to Help Determine Conflicts of Interest related to Gifts or Hospitality

You may consider the following questions in relation to gifts or hospitality:

- Would the gift or hospitality likely appear to influence my objectivity or the objectivity of the person receiving the gift or providing the hospitality?
- Would my impartiality or the impartiality of the person receiving the gift or hospitality be compromised in any way or appear to others to be compromised?
- Is the hospitality for a private purpose rather than a business purpose? For example is business going to be discussed as part of the event or only in a very limited way?
- Would the gift or hospitality be considered unique or extraordinary? Is the value of the gift above \$100.00?
- Would it be a problem or embarrass the gift giver if the gift or hospitality were disclosed to other employees or third parties?

If the answer to any of the above questions is "yes" or "perhaps" or could be perceived by third parties to be "yes" or "perhaps", accepting or offering such gifts or hospitality is most likely in violation of this policy. If there is any uncertainty, you should seek guidance from your manager.

## ii) Guidelines relating to Gifts and Hospitality

The giving or receiving of gifts and hospitality that are of the nature of token courtesies are part of everyday business life. However, inappropriate gifts and hospitality can give rise to a conflict of interest or perceived conflict between personal interests and professional responsibilities, potentially undermining OICR's reputation. Determining what is acceptable and what is unacceptable requires each OICR Individual to exercise good judgment and moderation and to seek approval if there is any doubt.

Accepting or offering any gift or hospitality, regardless of value, that either makes the recipient feel obligated, or could be construed as a means to make the recipient feel obligated to start or continue a business relationship, is unacceptable and will be a breach of this policy. Acceptance of multiple gifts from a third party such as a vendor, supplier or customer by one or several OICR Individuals may also be violating the spirit of this policy because it may be perceived as a means to make OICR feel obligated to start or continue a business relationship.

Modest and reasonable hospitality with business partners in the ordinary course of business, including occasional meals of reasonable expense, is generally acceptable. Hospitality will not be considered modest and reasonable if the hospitality leads to a sense or feeling of obligation or a perception of an obligation on the part of the recipient.

Business-related social events are acceptable provided that events are reasonable and modest in terms of value, both when viewed as a single event or as a total value over a period of one year, and cannot be construed as a bribe or a pay-off.

All expenses must be properly recorded in reasonable detail such that they accurately and fairly reflect the true nature and amount of the expense.

#### iii) Specific Gifts and Hospitality that are Prohibited

The following are examples of the types of activities or gifts that may not be offered, given or received:

- One that is a violation of any laws or regulations;
- Cash, or anything equivalent to cash (such as gift certificates, loans, stock, or stock options);
- Part of an agreement requiring anything in return for the gift (even if the gift is small in value or below \$100.00), i.e., "getting something for something";
- Sexually-oriented gifts or materials that otherwise violate OICR's commitment to valuing diversity in the workplace;
- Anything that violates any of OICR policies or the policies of the recipient's organization; and/or
- Anything not recorded properly in OICR's accounting records (which in itself could raise other legal and ethical issues).

## **III)** Guidelines relating to Enticement

The following are examples of certain activities that may raise suspicion about a person with whom OICR has done, or proposes to do, business:

- Insufficient, false, or inconsistent information provided by the person and/or reluctance by the person(s) concerned to provide any information requested for proper identification;
- Cash transactions, or requests that are not consistent with the business activities of the person;
- A request by a person to structure a transaction to evade normal record keeping and/or reporting requirements, or to structure it in a such a way that appears to have no legitimate business purpose;

- A person opens a number of accounts under one or more names and asks for payments to be distributed among those accounts or deposited in those accounts in small increments;
- Payments through a third party (other than a bank) that has no contractual relationship with OICR or transactions involving several individuals and companies where there is no apparent relationship;
- Payments for large amounts by way of money orders, travellers' cheques or cash;
- When there are hints or signs that the person is not acting on his or her own behalf, but is trying to conceal the true beneficial owner's identity;
- Transactions, where money or property is passed through a consultant or representative to a public official, to obtain certain government actions;
- Gifts or gratuities to government officials, political party officials, candidates for public office, customers or to their families;
- Extravagant hospitality to government officials, party leaders, customers or their families;
- Indirect payments to vendors, government officials, or their families; and/or
- Requests for unusually large retainers, or other fees.

## **IV)** Guidelines relating to Use of Institute Assets

OICR's assets, whether in physical or intangible form, are to be used for OICR's legitimate business purposes and are intended to assist OICR Individuals achieve their business goals. Damaged, misused or wasted assets impact OICR's operational and financial performance.

Good judgment and appropriate care must be taken by all OICR Individuals to ensure that OICR assets are not lost, damaged, misused or wasted. Institute assets should not be loaned to others, transferred, sold or donated without authorization (refer to policy on Removal of Surplus and End-of-Life Assets).

If any misuse of institute assets arises, OICR Individuals should immediately discuss the situation with their managers.

## V) Principles relating to Outside Professional Activities of Research Staff

The following principles are those used by OICR in determining permissibility of outside professional activities by research staff, including those from which research staff may derive supplemental income and/or equity capital:

- Research staff must be fully engaged in research, teaching and service to OICR and its partner agencies;
- Research staff receiving NIH funding do not hold a SFI as per section 4.2.1 which could directly and significantly affect the design, conduct, or reporting of NIH-funded research as judged by the OICR Conflict of Interest Committee;
- Research staff are required to use OICR resources appropriately;
- Research staff will maintain a significant physical presence in OICR's research laboratories; wherever applicable they must be accessible to students and staff under their supervision and be available to interact on a daily basis for 80 per cent of all business days during a calendar year (~200 business days), unless permitted to do otherwise;

• Outside activities and/or non-OICR projects in which research staff are engaged are not funded or supported by the tobacco industry (e.g., manufacturers, the Council for Tobacco Research or the Smokeless Tobacco Council or any other organization that acts on behalf of or is sponsored directly or indirectly by the tobacco industry).

#### **Examples of Outside Professional Activities Requiring Approval**

The following activities require written approval from the Conflict of Interest Committee:

- All paid professional activities;
- Non-paid activities that exceed the commitment within this policy;
- External management roles which require a significant time commitment;
- OICR scientists hiring and supervising students or other research staff for non-OICR activities;
- With regard to the involvement of any funds administered by OICR, any act relating to the hiring, supervising, or evaluating of, purchasing from, selling to, engaging in any commercial transaction with, conferring or denying any financial or commercial benefit to any member of the scientist's immediate family or a person with whom there exists, or has recently existed, an intimate personal relationship;
- With regard to the involvement of any funds administered by OICR, any research undertaken by a scientist for a company or organization in which a SFI is held by the scientist, any member of the scientist's immediate family, or any person with whom there exists, or has recently existed, an intimate personal relationship;
- Hiring OICR staff for external professional activities;
- A scientist who wishes to carry out any outside activities that involve the use of OICR facilities, supplies or staff; and
- A scientist who wishes to carry out external research using OICR administered funds.

#### **Appendix B: Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

#### Form A

All OICR Individuals are required to acknowledge that they have received, read, and comprehend the terms of the policy by signing this disclosure form on commencement of employment and when changes occur.

Name:	Date:
Program/	
Platform:	

I acknowledge that I have received, read and comprehend the terms of the Conflict of Interest Policy and Guidelines of OICR dated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In making this declaration I have considered not only my own circumstances but also those of my immediate family and/or any person with whom I have a close personal relationship as defined in the policy. I have given careful consideration as to whether any of the circumstances outlined in the Conflict of Interest Policy and Guidelines apply to me and could lead to a potential or perceived conflict of interest.

I recognize that I have an ongoing responsibility to bring to the attention of my manager any potential or existing conflict of interest so that a decision regarding permissibility or non-permissibility, and creation of a conflict of interest management plan, if applicable, can be made and I agree to be bound by that decision. I also agree that if there is doubt as to whether a potential conflict of interest exists that I will err on the side of disclosure and bring the facts forward to my manager. As an OICR Individual, I agree to be bound by the terms and conditions contained in the Conflict of Interest Policy and Guidelines and any amendments thereto.

I confirm as of the above date I have (check as applicable):

- a) \_\_\_\_\_\_ no conflict of interest.
- b) \_\_\_\_\_\_ a possible conflict of interest as described on Form B.

If you answered "no conflict of interest", your disclosure is complete; you do not have to submit Form B. Please sign and date the certification below.

If you answered "a possible conflict of interest as described on Form B" you must complete a separate Form B for each entity/organization with which you (or your immediate family or person with whom there exists or has recently existed an intimate relationship) have a conflict of interest to be disclosed.

OICR Individual's Signature:	Date:	
Manager's		
Signature and		
Printed Name:	Date:	

#### **Return completed form to Human Resources.**

#### Disclosure of Conflict of Interest – Form B (Part I and Part II)

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Use separate disclosure forms for each entity/organization with which you (or your immediate family or person with whom there exists or has recently existed an intimate relationship) is involved giving rise to a potential conflict of interest.
- 2) Part I is required for disclosure of all conflicts of interest. Part II is required for disclosure of significant financial interests.
- 3) You are required to include all information as requested on this form in addition to any other details that would enable you to make a full and complete disclosure.
- 4) Return completed forms to OICR Human Resources.

#### Part I: Conflicts of Interest (for OICR Individuals disclosing a conflict of interest)

Name:	Date:	
Program:		
Total number of Part I forms submitted:		
Total number of Part II forms submitted:		

- 1. Name of entity / organization with which there is an existing or proposed relationship:
- 2. What is the nature of the work/activity or project?
- 3. What is your rationale for undertaking this work or activity?
- 4. What is the nature of the relationship? Check all that apply. For example, if you are currently a founder of and a consultant to an organization from which it is proposed that you would receive gift funds, you would check both of the appropriate boxes under EXISTING and the "gift" box under PROPOSED.

Relationship	EXISTING	PROPOSED
Founder		
Employee/Executive		
Position		
Board Member		
Scientific Advisory Board		
Consultant		
Stock or Ownership		
Interest		
Gift		
Sponsored Research		
Project		
Licensor of Technology		
Clinical Trial		
Other:		

- 5. Explain how you intend to separate any potential conflicts between your OICR responsibilities and your disclosed activities with the commercial entity.
- 6. Please list other activities or relationships that have already been approved this year or that are continuing from any previous year.
- 7. If you checked EXISTING OR PROPOSED for Gift, explain how you intend to use the gift.

#### For Research Projects (questions 8-13)

- 8. If you checked either EXISTING or PROPOSED for any research project, then answer the following applicable questions:
  - a. Provide the title of the project and a description of the sponsored research project.
  - b. Indicate the source(s) of funding for the project?
  - c. Is the sponsored research being conducted for regulatory approval (indicate yes or no) or does it use a technology licensed to the sponsor? Please explain.
  - d. Is the clinical trial testing your own invention or the company's own products? Please explain.
- 9. What is your role in the disclosed activity or relationship (e.g., principal investigator of study, co-investigator, organizer of Continuing Medical Education, etc.)?
- 10. Will the disclosed activity involve use of OICR facilities and/or supplies? What is the rationale and scope of use?
- 11. Who else will be involved in the activity (e.g., students, postdoctoral fellows, etc.) and how?
- 12. How might the disclosed relationship affect your OICR research (including the research projects of your students and postdoctoral fellows), teaching and/or other responsibilities at OICR? Specify also the time commitment required by the disclosed activity or relationship.

#### Significant Financial Interest

13. Does the conflict being disclosed involve significant financial interest as defined in OICR's Conflict of Interest Policy and Guidelines? If your answer is "Yes" you must complete Part II of this form. If your answer is "No" your disclosure is complete; you do not have to complete Part II. Please sign and date this form.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES

\_\_\_\_\_ NO

# <u>Part II: Significant Financial Interests</u> (for OICR Individuals disclosing a significant financial interest)

I am disclosing the following significant financial interests as per OICR's Conflict of Interest Policy and Guidelines and attaching supporting documentation that identifies the business entity involved, the nature and amount of the interest (check all that apply):

["Significant financial interest" (refer to Conflict of Interest Policy and Guidelines for full details) refers to

- receipt of more than \$5,000 aggregate remuneration from any publicly traded company in 12 months prior to the date of disclosure; remuneration includes salary and any payment for services not otherwise identified as salary (e.g., consulting fees, honoraria, paid authorship); equity includes any stock, stock option, or other ownership interest, as determined through reference to public prices or other reasonable measures of fair market value;
- receipt of more than \$5,000 aggregate remuneration from any non-publicly traded company or equity holding of any amount;
- receipt of intellectual property rights, royalties from such rights, agreements to share in royalties from such rights.]

Financial Relationship	Amount of interest (\$ or %)	Individual(s) involved in financial relationship (indicate Self, Family Member, Other Party in a Significant Relationship)
Consultant		
Remuneration (e.g., employee, executive or Board position)		
Equity interests (e.g., stocks, stock options, or other ownership interest)		
Honoraria		
Gift		
Licensor of Technology (e.g., intellectual property rights and royalties from such rights)		
Research Project Sponsorship		
Other (e.g., paid authorship, other):		

Last Modified: May 22, 2014

#### **Certification**:

I certify that the answers to my declaration in Part I and Part II are accurate and truthful to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and OICR may have to share the information publically, if requested, and by signing this form I authorize OICR to release this information as and when required.

I acknowledge my ongoing obligation to inform OICR of any changes in activity status as required by all OICR Individuals, as well as:

- within 30 business days of a new significant financial interest; and
- at the time of applying for NIH funding (as applicable).

I understand that any potential financial conflicts will be reviewed and managed in order to access research funding and I agree to fully participate in the development and implementation of any necessary financial conflict of interest management plans recommended by the OICR Conflict of Interest Committee.

OICR Individual's Signature and Printed Name:	
	Date:
Manager's Signature and Printed Name:	Date:
Manager's Comments:	

#### Return completed form to Human Resources.