



POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Name	Use of Animals in Teaching and Research		
Policy #	1105	Category	Research and Scholarly Activity
Policy Sponsor	Associate Vice-President, Applied Research and Innovation	Previous Revision Date	January 15, 2018
Policy Approved by	President & CEO	Issue or Revision Date	April 14, 2023
Procedures Approved by	Vice-President, Academic and Provost	Review Date	April 14, 2028

See the related [PROCEDURES](#).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure implementation of an effective, institution-wide program for the use of animals in teaching and research that meets or exceeds Canadian standards for animal ethics and care.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all faculty, employees, researchers and students who are engaged in the use of live animals for the purposes of teaching, research and testing.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Saskatchewan Polytechnic is committed to applied research that benefits industry and the furthering of human knowledge.
2. Animals play an essential role in research and training. Saskatchewan Polytechnic recognizes its moral and ethical obligations to ensure the exemplary care and use of live animals under its care.
3. Saskatchewan Polytechnic is committed to complying with the highest accepted Canadian standards that guide the ethical care and protection of animals.
4. Saskatchewan Polytechnic considers improper treatment of animals in education and research to be a serious offence and may be subject to severe penalties, including but not limited to the withdrawal of privileges to use animals in teaching and research and/or disciplinary action.

POLICY

1. Saskatchewan Polytechnic is responsive to implementing proactive measures in the operation of its facilities and programs to protect live animals, and contribute to the quality of maintaining humane practices in the handling and treatment of all animals used for educational or research purposes. To this end, Saskatchewan Polytechnic has established a process to conform to the applicable legislation and regulations; and to identify animal care concerns or potential concerns, recommend preventive measures and remedial actions, and promote animal care education programs.

2. Saskatchewan Polytechnic requires all faculty members, employees, researchers and students conducting teaching and research to adhere to all policies, procedures and guidelines which are in place in relation to care of animals.
3. The use of animals at Saskatchewan Polytechnic shall be conducted in strict compliance with the standards of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC), Section 3.5 of the Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions, and related Federal and Provincial legislation and regulations.
4. The Provost & Vice President, Academic is responsible for the development, administration and maintenance of procedures in accordance with the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Animal Ethics and Care Program Terms of Reference.
5. The Office of Applied Research and Innovation (OARI) shall assist Saskatchewan Polytechnic Schools and/or instructional programs to comply with the animal care requirements. OARI is also responsible for reporting any infractions involving Saskatchewan Polytechnic to the appropriate immediate supervisor, Dean/Director, and to the Provost & Vice President, Academic.
6. The unique character and potential risks to animals used by each School and/or instructional or research program of Saskatchewan Polytechnic shall be reviewed and evaluated periodically.
7. OARI shall develop and maintain the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Animal Ethics and Care Program, which shall detail the implementation of this policy and the commitments contained herein.

DEFINITIONS

Animal: Any living non-human vertebrate or cephalopod used for research, teaching, breeding or testing which is purposed at Saskatchewan Polytechnic. This includes animals held within Saskatchewan Polytechnic facilities, approved requests for animals at alternative housing, and animals used in field studies.

Animal User: Anyone handling an animal under a protocol including Principal Instructors/Investigators, students, etc.

Applied Research: a systematic study to gain the knowledge or understanding necessary to determine the means by which a recognized and specific need may be met.

Applied Research Project: Applied Research undertaken with an intended inquiry, examination, defined question or hypothesis, start and end dates, deliverables, and budget (if applicable).

Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC): The national peer review agency responsible for setting and maintaining standards for the care and use of animals used in research, teaching and testing throughout Canada.

Principal Instructor/Investigator: The instructor or researcher with overall responsibility for the direction of a protocol or an Applied Research Project.

RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

Saskatchewan Polytechnic Animal Ethics and Care Program Terms of Reference
Health and Safety Policy
Enterprise Risk Management

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS

Tri-Agency Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions