When Is Research Ethics Review Required?

The purpose of this document is to act as a guide in determining whether your research requires Research Ethics Review. If you have any questions or are at all unsure if your project requires review, please contact research@cambriancollege.ca.

No review required: (proceed with your project)

- No human participants or No data related to human participants (*e.g., analysis of mineral samples*)
- Publicly available information with no expectation of privacy (e.g., interviews on public record)
- Evaluation as a part of standard college operations (e.g., staff performance reviews)
- **Standard college quality assurance processes** (e.g., Program improvement processes such as KPI surveys, course evaluations, program review focus groups)
- **Naturalistic Observation** where individuals have no expectation of privacy and there is no intervention or interaction with participants (*e.g., public meetings*)

Research ethics review is required prior to commencing research:

- Human participants or Data from or about people other than for standard quality assurance processes (e.g., surveys, focus groups, interviews, data from medical/legal records, etc.)
- **Publication (planned or reasonably likely)** of any of the above except research without human participants.
- **External organization or researcher** involving any college resource in any respect with research involving human participants, data from them, or about them.
- Use of Secondary Data involving identifiable information that was originally collected for another purpose.