

## Annual Report to Senate - Research Ethics Board

This report covers the period May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

### Introduction:

The REB is a Senate committee which functions with administrative support from the Office of Research. Its mandate is to apply Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS) guidelines to all research at Lakehead University that involves human participants and to educate the LU community about research ethics.

### REB Review of Research (2008-09):

The REB reviewed 160 applications during the period covered by this report, not including applications for renewal or amendments to ongoing projects. The comparable number for the 2008-09 reporting period was 159.

### REB Educational Activities:

Richard Maundrell (REB Chair) and Lisa Norton (Research Ethics Officer) presented at a workshop for new faculty: "Establishing a Successful Program of Research at Lakehead," September 3, 2008.

Richard Maundrell and Lisa Norton presented an information session on research ethics to Kinesiology graduate students on September 17, 2008.

The Office of Research, with assistance from the Lakehead University Centre for Health Care Ethics, sponsored a workshop on research ethics for students and faculty which was held on November 28, 2008. Two presenters were involved: Daphne Maurer from McMaster University and Denis Cournoyer from McGill University.

On March 18, 2009, Pierre Deschamps a member of the Interagency Panel on Research Ethics gave a presentation to the university community entitled "The Tri-Council Policy Statement and Beyond."

Richard Maundrell and Lisa Norton attended the National Council for Ethics in Human Research (NCEHR) conference in Ottawa, Feb. 19-21, 2009.

Richard Maundrell attended the Canadian Association for Research Ethics Boards annual national conference in Vancouver, April 29-May 2, 2009.

### Looking Ahead:

A national consultation process regarding the Draft 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the TCPS concluded at the end

of June 2009. The revised TCPS will likely come into effect some time during the academic year 2009-10. The REB will help to inform the University community about the changes the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition will require of those involved in human participant research.

The Office of Research has obtained an electronic research office software system from Process Pathways. Implementation of this system is expected late in 2009 or early 2010. It should make the submission and review of research proposals more convenient for both researchers and the REB.

Lakehead University is committed to providing REB services for the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). On March 20, 2009, Senate approved changes to the REB's terms of reference allowing for the appointment of someone "knowledgeable in aspects of the law relevant to medical research."

A sub-committee of the REB was struck in 2007 to draft a set of guidelines for research involving aboriginal peoples. The committee is chaired by Dr. P. Smith of the Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment and includes REB members Dr. R. Maundrell and Dr. B. Poulin. This committee's work is ongoing. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft TCPS will involve substantial changes to the section pertaining to research involving aboriginal people (Chapter 6). The committee will await the final version of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft before proceeding with its work.