Ethics Harmonization – A New Approach to Ethics Clearance for Health Research Projects in BC

UVIC is a partner in the Research Ethics BC – REBC (formerly known as BC Ethics Harmonization Initiative – BCEHI). The mandate of Research Ethics BC is to streamline and improve research ethics across BC’s major research universities (UBC, SFU, UNBC, UVIC) and health authorities (Island Health, Vancouver Coastal, Fraser Health, Northern Health, Interior Health).

For health researchers who must obtain multiple ethical clearances from separate BC research ethics boards a streamlined, coordinated system aims to eliminate duplication and reduce time while ensuring that ethics obligations are met by researchers and review boards.

If you are a UVic researcher (faculty, student, staff) whose health research project will require ethics clearance from UVic and at least one additional BC university ethics board or BC health authority ethics board (listed above), and you are unsure what application to submit, you can do the following:

1. Submit the “Cover sheet for harmonized research ethics review” by email;
2. Contact the UVic research ethics office at ethics@uvic.ca, 250-472-4545 or 250-472-4321
3. Visit the Research Ethics BC for more information: https://researchethicsbc.ca/

Effective January 1, 2019, research ethics applications for all studies that involve UVic and at least one additional BC university ethics board or BC health authority ethics board (including Island Health), must be submitted through the Provincial Research Ethics Platform (PREP).

Version: January 2019