



Government  
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Gouvernement  
du Canada

Interagency Advisory Panel  
on Research Ethics

Groupe consultatif interagences  
en éthique de la recherche

Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 1H5

October 23, 2003

**Subject:** On-line consultation for **prioritizing** procedural and related definitional issues in the TCPS – Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics (PRE) sub-group on TCPS Procedural Issues (ProGroup)

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This is an open invitation to participate in an *on-line consultation* on **prioritizing** procedural and related definitional issues in the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS)*. The purpose of the consultation is to assist the Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics (PRE) sub-group on TCPS Procedural Issues (ProGroup) in determining which procedural and related definitional issues are most important to address.

A management-consulting firm, Goss Gilroy Inc., has been hired by PRE to facilitate this consultation. The consultation has been programmed to occur on-line by visiting a web site and responding to a number of questions. We estimate that the consultation will take approximately 10 to 20 minutes to complete. You will need access to the Internet in order to complete the consultation exercise.

For a more successful consultation, it is important that as many respondents as possible participate. ProGroup is hoping to obtain feedback and perspectives from a wide variety of individuals including researchers, administrators, students, research ethics board (REB) members, research participants, and research users.

We encourage you to visit the site by clicking on the link below. We appreciate your input. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the firm hired to conduct the consultation (Goss Gilroy Inc.) or the Secretariat on Research Ethics (see contact information below).

Please help us distribute this public call for input as widely as possible by sharing it with others who may be interested in responding. The web-site will be available until November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003.

**To access the on-line consultation**, please visit:

[http://www.ggi.nf.ca/ethics\\_consultation\\_ethique/splash.asp](http://www.ggi.nf.ca/ethics_consultation_ethique/splash.asp)

Sincerely,

Howard Brunt, RN, PhD  
Chair of the Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics (PRE) and its sub-group on TCPS Procedural Issues (ProGroup)

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**Contacts:**

*Goss Gilroy Inc.:* Sara Mayhew at [research\\_ethics@ggi.ca](mailto:research_ethics@ggi.ca) or 1-800-611-0511.

*Secretariat on Research Ethics:* Hanan Abdel-Akher at [hanan.abdel-akher@pre.ethics.gc.ca](mailto:hanan.abdel-akher@pre.ethics.gc.ca) or 1-613-996-2564

**Informed Consent**

As a volunteer participant, your responses to this consultation are protected under the federal *Privacy Act* and will be used by Goss Gilroy Inc. only for the purpose of this consultation and not for any other purpose. The consultation report will provide aggregate data only. No individual information will be transmitted to PRE or any other individual or organization. Should individual comments be quoted, they will be made anonymous. The consultation data obtained will be stored in a secure manner with all the precautions appropriate for the sensitivity of the data. Data containing information about identifiable individuals will be destroyed after the final report has been accepted. At the end of the consultation you will be asked if you would be willing to participate in further consultations or working groups. If you agree to participate, Goss Gilroy Inc. will provide **only your contact information** to PRE.