

Animal Care and Use Appeal of an AUACC Decision Procedure			
Parent Policy	Animal Ethics Policy		
Policy Sponsor	Provost and Vice President Academic	Category	Academic
Policy Contact	Associate Vice President, Research	Effective Date	May 22, 2019
Procedure Contact	Research Ethics Officer	Review Date	May 22, 2024

1. Purpose

To specify the grounds upon which a researcher can appeal a decision of the Athabasca University Animal Care Committee (AUACC) and to detail the procedures to be followed in the event of an appeal.

2. Scope

This procedure applies to all Athabasca University researchers who use animals for research.

3. Definitions

Animal	Any living non-human vertebrate and any living invertebrate of the class Cephalopoda, including free-living and reproducing larval forms, used for research purposes by Athabasca University researchers.
Athabasca University Animal Care Committee (AUACC)	The Committee responsible for the ethics review and post-approval monitoring of all animal use by Athabasca University researchers.
Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC)	The national organization responsible for setting and maintaining standards for the ethical use and care of animals used in science.
Peer Review for Scientific Merit	The review of the research proposal by two or more researchers, who have the technical expertise to assess the science of the protocol and are at arm's length from the research team and the AUACC.

Principal Investigator (PI)	A member of the academic staff who is responsible for the design, conduct, supervision and oversight of the care and use of animals in research as described in an approved animal use protocol.
Researcher	Anyone who conducts research activities. Includes, but is not limited to, faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and other personnel involved directly or indirectly in research, including research assistants/associates, technical and support staff, adjunct professors, visiting professors, and institutional administrators.
Science Animal Support Services (SASS)	Animal facility, established and operated by partner institutions (i.e. University of Alberta) as an ongoing administrative unit to provide veterinary and animal care staff, infrastructure, training, oversight and other resources to support the use of animals in research, teaching and testing by University researchers.
University Animal Policy and Welfare Committee (UAPWC)	UAPWC is a standing committee of the Vice-President (Research) at the University of Alberta and is the institutional animal care and use committee for the University of Alberta. UAPWC oversees all animal care and use performed under the jurisdiction of the University of Alberta to ensure humane and ethical treatment of animals in compliance with University of Alberta and Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) policies, guideline, standards and procedures.

4. Guiding Principles

A Principal Investigator (PI) has the right to request, and the AUACC has an obligation to provide reconsideration of a negative decision by AUACC.

If the PI and AUACC cannot achieve agreement through reconsideration, the PI may appeal the disputed decision of AUACC to the designated Appeal Committee (i.e. the University of Alberta Policy and Welfare Committee (UAPWC) in accordance with the procedures outlined in the University of Alberta *Animal Care and Use Committee Appeal Procedure*.

The Chair of UAPWC will, within ten (10) days of the appeal hearing, provide a written decision to the University of Alberta (UofA) Research Ethics Office (REO). The UofA REO will transmit the decision to the appellant, the respondent and to the Research Ethics Officer at AU.

Athabasca University accepts as final and binding, any decision of the UAPWC arising from an appeal.

5. Applicable Legislation and Regulations

The care and use of animals in research is to be carried out in accordance with federal and provincial legislation and regulation, including the most recent versions of the following.

[Canadian Council on Animal Care \(CCAC\)](#)

[Tri-Agency Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards](#) (2012, December and as amended from time to time).

[Animal-Based Projects Involving Two or More Institutions \(CCAC\)](#)

[Animal Protection Act](#) (Government of Alberta)

[Animal Protection Regulation](#) (Government of Alberta)

[Agreement on Animal Research Ethics Review](#) between the Governors of the University of Alberta and the Governors of Athabasca University (2019, and as amended from time to time).

[Athabasca University Animal Ethics Policy](#)

[Athabasca University Research Integrity Policy](#)

[Athabasca University Breach of Research Integrity Procedures](#)

[University of Alberta Animal Ethics Policy](#)

6. Related Procedures/Documents

[Animal Care Committee Roles and Responsibilities Procedure](#)

[Animal Care and Use Post-Approval Monitoring Procedure](#)

[Animal Care and Use Standard Operating Procedure](#)

[Animal Care and Use Non-Compliance Procedure](#)

[Animal User Training Procedure](#)

History

<i>Date</i>	<i>Action</i>
May 22, 2019	Associated Policy Approved (General Faculties Council)