

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Commercialization of Intellectual Property Policy</b>
<p><b><u>BACKGROUND</u></b></p> <p>The Province of Ontario issued its Commercialization Mandate Policy Framework (CMPF) in early 2022. The objective of Ontario’s CMPF is to harness the intellectual property generated with the post-secondary institutions’ resources to achieve Ontario’s goal of ensuring that made-in-Ontario innovations benefit Ontarians.</p> <p>Northern College is committed to supporting Ontario’s CMPF within the role Ontario colleges have in Applied Research and innovation.</p> <p>Northern College requires a framework to support and facilitate the commercialization of intellectual property (IP) created with the college’s resources.</p> <p><b><u>POLICY</u></b></p> <p>This policy reinforces Ontario’s objective to ensure that innovations and associated IP emerging in Ontario benefits our province and residents.</p> <p>Northern College will promote the management and protection of IP arising from Northern College’s research activities, and will safeguard IP to enhance economic, social, health, and environmental benefits for Ontarians.</p> <p><b><u>SCOPE</u></b></p> <p>This policy applies to all Northern College employees, students, and contractors who generate IP in funded research activities at the College, or through their normal course of administrative or professional duties with the College.</p> <p>This policy adheres to the principles of ownership detailed in the College’s “Intellectual Property” policy AR-4.</p> <p>This policy does not restrict or infringe upon Northern College employees’ rights under their respective collective agreements.</p>	

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<b><u>DEFINITIONS</u></b>	
<p><b>Applied Research:</b> Research and development projects aimed at resolving a particular issue that a Third-Party Entity (TPE) or external partner is encountering.</p> <p><b>Commercialization:</b> The process of introducing a new product or service to commercial markets.</p> <p><b>Intellectual property (IP):</b> Knowledge or products created by human minds such as inventions, literary and artistic works, designs, symbols, names and images used in business, and elsewhere. For this policy, confidential information having commercial value is deemed IP. All IP is legally protected.</p> <p><b>Third-Party Entity (TPE):</b> An industry or community partner with which Northern College has contracted with to provide Applied Research services.</p>	
<b><u>RESPONSIBILITY</u></b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The President of Northern College is responsible for the overall management and operations of the college. The President ensures that this policy is implemented, and that compliance is monitored.</li> <li>2. The Vice President of Academic and Student Success must sign all agreements that could result in IP, including all Applied Research agreements.</li> <li>3. The Department of Applied Research, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation (AREI) will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) ensure and promote compliance with this policy by informing relevant stakeholders of their rights, roles, and responsibilities;</li> <li>b) respond to inquiries regarding the application, interpretation, and implementation of this policy;</li> <li>c) manage agreements signed with TPEs, including establishing, negotiating and reviewing all such agreements, with the assistance of legal counsel, if necessary, before they are signed by any Northern College student, employee or contractor;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	

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- d) store and retain previous agreements;
- e) promptly review all written IP disclosures;
- f) support Northern College employees, students, and external partners with any issue related to IP protection and commercialization;
- g) ensure that research teams understand the terms and conditions of relevant research agreements (e.g., disclosure and confidentiality provisions).

4. Deans and Managers are responsible for supporting and implementing this policy.

5. College employees, including employed researchers and students, must abide to this policy.

**APPROVED BY PRESIDENT**


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Dr. Audrey J. Penner

September 28, 2023

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Date

**REFERENCES**

Commercialization Mandate Policy Framework

[AR-4 Intellectual Property Policy](#)

AR-5 PR-1 Commercialization of Intellectual Property PROCEDURE

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