

<b>Title</b>	<b>Corporate Social Responsibility</b>		
<b>Classification</b>	Board	<b>Oversight &amp; Responsibility</b>	Office of the President
<b>Category</b>	Governance & Legal	<b>Effective Date</b>	2015 Oct 02
<b>Approval</b>	Board	<b>Policy No</b>	1022

This policy is applied in a manner consistent with applicable statutory and legal obligations, including university collective agreements and terms of employment.

**NOTE:** The most up-to-date versions of our policies are posted on the policy & procedure website. If you've printed this policy, check the website to be sure you have the current version.

## Introduction

Universities offer the public a social good, as recognized in the legislative acts creating them - - and attested to by an ever-increasing demand for participation in higher education. Through their tripartite mission of teaching, research and service all universities seek to expand the boundaries of knowledge, impart that knowledge, and improve society by helping to make the benefits of knowledge available. Universities have a diffuse set of stakeholders, including learners and their families, faculty and staff members, the organizations who hire their graduates, the worldwide community of researchers, surrounding communities/municipalities, First Nations, and governments and taxpayers in general.

## Board Policy Statement

The Board of Governors is committed to seeing that the University operates in an economically, socially and environmentally responsible manner while recognizing the interests of its stakeholders. The following policy sets out a framework to guide Administration's actions in achieving, recording and reporting on corporate social responsibility objectives at RRU.

Within parameters established by the *Royal Roads University Act*, the Royal Roads University Terms of Reference, the Board's Context Statement and goals approved by the Board from time to time, the University will strive to fulfil its corporate social responsibility and accountability in the following three areas. Examples of activities appear under each heading.

## Corporate Social Responsibility Framework

### 1. Economic Responsibility

The University will operate in a sound, ethical and accountable manner.

Examples: Ensuring comprehensive compliance and financial reporting; implementing a comprehensive risk management framework; implementing ethical investing and fundraising practices; implementing sustainable procurement practices; ensuring a code of conduct and conflict of interest policy is in place; reducing reliance on government funding; holding employees accountable for adhering to ethical business practices as they carry out their responsibilities.

While acknowledging the ancestral history of the Coast Salish people and respecting its military heritage, the university will treat students, staff, faculty and partners equitably, respecting cultural and diversity differences, and maintaining the university's commitment to excellence in academic programming and service to society.

## **2. Social and Cultural Responsibility**

While acknowledging the ancestral history of the Coast Salish people and respecting its military heritage, the university will treat students, staff, faculty and partners equitably, respecting cultural and diversity differences, and maintaining the university's commitment to excellence in academic programming and service to society.

### **Service to society**

Examples: Building community through consultation and collaboration with local First Nations and civic government; employing problem-solving approaches with governments, the Indigenous community, local schools, etc.; providing regular reports to the community; providing accessibility for learners who traditionally find it difficult to attend university; supporting charitable giving and involvement in community causes (includes setting goals and guidelines); encouraging individual personal responsibility for charitable giving and community outreach.

### **Equitable treatment of students, employees and partners**

Examples: Implementing equitable and transparent hiring, promotion and remuneration policies (including policy on intellectual property); setting the expectation of individual personal responsibility for effective communications, leadership and teamwork.

Ensuring compliance with human rights legislation (including freedom of information legislation and policies on persons with disabilities); implementing the RRU Diversity Statement; respecting the human rights of our collaborators in countries with gaps in their human-rights records; setting the expectation for individual personal responsibility for upholding human rights.

### **Excellence in Academic Programming**

Examples: Setting a research and consultancy agenda that is action-based, problem-solving and experiential in nature; developing curriculum that observes and responds to expressed societal needs and the needs of the BC labour market; ensuring high ethical standards for research and scholarship; incorporating major projects and organizational management projects as an integral element of the curriculum; promoting lifelong learning (sustainability); granting prior learning assessment credit for life experience.

## **3. Environmental Responsibility**

The university will operate in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Examples: Reducing energy use, carbon emissions and resource consumption; diverting materials from the landfill through reuse, recycling and composting; reducing harmful outputs to water, soil and the atmosphere; operating within sustainable procurement practices; protecting the ecological integrity of the campus; adapting to a changing climate, reporting results and instilling the RRU community with a sense of personal responsibility to affect positive change in all aspects of environmental sustainability.

## **President's Responsibilities**

The President will ensure that resources, procedures, personnel and processes are in place to effect this policy, and that goals for achievement are set as necessary. The University's corporate social responsibility agenda should be reflected in organizational policies and procedures.

## **Information, Action and Monitoring Requirements for the Board**

Annually, the Board will receive a report on University activities undertaken in fulfillment of the Board's Corporate Social Responsibility Policy, organized under the headings in the Corporate Social Responsibility Framework, above. The administration will make this report available to the public following presentation to the Board of Governors.

## Related Documents and Information

Related RRU policies

- [Freedom on Information and Privacy](#)
- [Intellectual Property](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Standards of Conduct and Service for Employees and Contractors](#)

Related Other Sources

- [Royal Roads University Act, RSBC 1996, c.409](#)

## Review and Revision History

Date	Action
2005-Feb-01	Approved by the Board
2015-Oct-02	Revised – current published version
2021-Oct-06	Transfer to new template – no content changes except updated related documents
<b>Next Review</b>	
2018-Oct-02	For review