



Acromegaly Ottawa
Awareness & Support Network

Conflict of Interest Policy

Purpose of Policy

This conflict of interest policy is to help directors and officers of Acromegaly Ottawa Awareness & Support Network (AOASN) identify situations that present potential conflicts of interest. It is meant to provide AOASN with guidance and a procedure that will allow a conflict of interest occurrence or perceived conflict of interest event to be treated as valid. In the event there is an inconsistency between the requirements and procedures prescribed herein and those in federal or provincial law, the law shall control.

1. Conflict of Interest Defined.

For purposes of this policy, the following circumstances shall be deemed to create Conflicts of Interest:

- a. Outside Interests.
 - i. An Agreement or Transaction between AOASN and a Responsible Person
 - ii. An Agreement or Transaction between AOASN and an entity in which a Responsible Person or Family Member has a Material Financial Interest or of which such person is a director, officer, agent, or partner.
- b. Outside Activities.
 - i. A Responsible Person competing with AOASN in the rendering of services or in any other Agreement or Transaction with a third party.
 - ii. A Responsible Person's having a Material Financial Interest in; or serving as a director, officer, personal representative, or other legal representative of, or consultant to; an entity or individual that competes with AOASN in the provision of services or in any other Agreement or Transaction with a third party.
- c. Gifts, Gratuities and Entertainment. A Responsible Person accepting gifts, entertainment, or other favors from any individual or entity that:
 - i. does or is seeking to do business with, or is a competitor of AOASN; or

- ii. has received, is receiving, or is seeking to receive a loan or grant, or to secure other financial commitments from AOASN;
- iii. is a not for profit corporation registered in Ontario
- iv. under circumstances where it might be inferred that such action was intended to influence or possibly would influence the Responsible Person in the performance of his or her duties. This does not preclude the acceptance of items of nominal or insignificant value or entertainment of nominal or insignificant value that are not related to any particular transaction or activity of AOASN.

2. **Definitions.**

- a. A “Conflict of Interest” is any circumstance described in Part 1 of this Policy.
- b. A “Responsible Person” is any person serving as an officer, or member of the board of directors of AOASN
- c. A “Family Member” is a spouse, domestic partner, parent, child, or spouse of a child, brother, sister, or spouse of a brother or sister, of a Responsible Person.
- d. A “Material Financial Interest” in an entity is a financial interest of any kind that, in view of all the circumstances, is substantial enough that it would, or reasonably could, affect a Responsible Person’s or Family Member’s judgment with respect to transactions to which the entity is a party. This includes all forms of compensation.
- e. An “Agreement or Transaction” is any agreement or relationship involving the sale or purchase of goods, services, or rights of any kind, the providing or receipt of a loan or grant, or the establishment of any other type of pecuniary relationship by AOASN. The making of a gift to AOASN is not an Agreement or Transaction within the meaning of this document.

3. **Procedures.**

- a. Before board or committee action on an Agreement or Transaction involving a Conflict of Interest, a director or committee member having a Conflict of Interest and who is in attendance at the meeting shall disclose all facts material to the Conflict of Interest. Such disclosure shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.
- b. A director or committee member who plans not to attend a meeting at which he or she has reason to believe that the board or committee will act on a matter in which the person has a Conflict of Interest shall disclose to the chair of the meeting all facts material to the Conflict of Interest. The chair shall report the disclosure at the meeting and the disclosure shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.
- c. A person who has a Conflict of Interest shall not participate in or be permitted to hear the board’s or committee’s discussion of the matter except to disclose material facts and to respond to questions. Such person shall not attempt to exert his or her personal influence with respect to the matter, either at or outside the meeting.

- d. A person who has a Conflict of Interest with respect to an Agreement or Transaction that will be voted on at a meeting shall not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum for purposes of the vote. The person having a conflict of interest may not vote on the Agreement or Transaction and shall not be present in the meeting room when the vote is taken, unless the vote is by secret ballot. Such person's ineligibility to vote shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting. For purposes of this paragraph, a member of the board of directors of AOASN has a Conflict of Interest when he or she stands for election as an officer or for re-election as a member of the board of directors.
- e. Responsible Persons who are not members of the board of directors of AOASN, or who have a Conflict of Interest with respect to an Agreement or Transaction that is not the subject of board or committee action, shall disclose to the Chair or the Chair's designee any Conflict of Interest that such Responsible Person has with respect to an Agreement or Transaction. Such disclosure shall be made as soon as the Conflict of Interest is known to the Responsible Person. The Responsible Person shall refrain from any action that may affect AOASN's participation in such Agreement or Transaction.
- f. In the event it is not entirely clear that a Conflict of Interest exists, the individual with the potential conflict shall disclose the circumstances to the Chair or the Chair's designee, who shall determine whether there exists a Conflict of Interest that is subject to this policy.

4 **Confidentiality.**

Each Responsible Person shall exercise care not to disclose confidential information acquired in connection with such status or information the disclosure of which might be adverse to the interests of AOASN, furthermore, a Responsible Person shall not disclose or use information relating to the business of AOASN's name for the personal profit or advantage of the Responsible Person or a Family Member or the Responsible Person's company.

5. **Review of Policy.**

- a. Each new Responsible Person shall be required to review a copy of this Policy and to acknowledge in writing that he or she has done so.
- b. This policy shall be reviewed annually by each member of the board of directors. Any changes to the policy shall be communicated immediately to all Responsible Persons.

For Acromegaly Ottawa Awareness & Support Network

Name:

Date:

Dianne Sauve

February 13, 2020