

**Preamble** Curatorial research at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) is essential to the authentication, interpretation, communication and understanding of our collections, the advancement of knowledge within associated disciplines, and as the basis for original contributions to the public program.

**Policy** Curatorial research at the ROM will

*Collections*

- Be directed towards developing a better understanding of (1) the ROM's collections and/or of collections held elsewhere; (2) the cultures or classes of objects, specimens, organisms, and processes represented by the ROM's collections; and/or, (3) the academic disciplines and subjects represented by the ROM's collections.

*Dissemination*

- Be incorporated, where relevant and with active participation of curatorial staff, in fund-raising activities, public relations, departmental and museum programs, permanent galleries, temporary exhibitions, travelling exhibitions and displays, public lecturing, public programming and education, and public consultation.
- Be published and/or otherwise disseminated.

*Ethics*

- Be carried out within the ethical framework of the curator's academic discipline, of the ROM, of the Canadian Museum Association's Ethics Guidelines (1999), and in accordance with law.

- Be carried out in a manner consistent with the ROM's obligation to remain accountable to the people of Ontario and Canada for the wise use of the resources made available to it in its annual operating budget.
- Be carried out in a manner that does not obligate the ROM to an expenditure of funds except as provided in its annual operating budget.
- Be one of the basic performance elements of all curatorial staff.
- Be directed by individual curatorial staff as governed by the principles of academic freedom (stipulated in Article 4 of the ROM/ROMCA Collective Agreement) and be aligned with the strategic goals of the museum.

**Date** April 19, 2001

**Amended** August 29, 2002.  
June 14, 2007 (no changes made)  
July 1, 2007 Sr. Management Reorganization (housekeeping changes only)  
November 23, 2010 (reviewed and no changes made)  
March 3, 2011 (new language)  
October 2, 2014 (new language)  
October 11, 2018 (housekeeping changes only)

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## **MONITORING**

### **Adherence to Policy**

*Board:* The Collections, Engagement & Research Committee will periodically review management's adherence to the policy.

*Management:* The Director & CEO and the Deputy Director, Collections & Research will ensure that the Collections, Engagement & Research Committee has all the relevant information for determining adherence.

### **Policy Review**

<i>Method</i>	Internal Report
<i>Responsibility</i>	Collections, Exhibitions & Research Committee
<i>Minimum Frequency</i>	Every three years

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