

## Cooperation Agreement

Between

**Canadian Evaluation Society, National Capital Chapter (CES-NCC)**

and

**Carleton University’s School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA)**

and

**The University of Ottawa’s Centre on Governance (COG)**

and

**The University of Ottawa’s Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services (CRECS)**

**Date: August 22, 2022**

The purpose of this Cooperation Agreement is to confirm the shared interest and desire of the Associations to formally engage in initiatives that mutually strengthen each other’s mandate and to promote the development of evaluation professionals.

This Cooperation Agreement is not intended to be legally binding, and therefore does not create any compulsory obligations or commitments among the three groups.

This Cooperation Agreement covers a period of five years (from 2022 to 2027) and will be revisited annually.

### **Association Mission and Vision**

The Canadian Evaluation Society (CES) is bilingual, and in 2022, the National Capital Chapter (NCC) was the largest of the 11 regional chapters affiliated with CES. The NCC supports National CES objectives and its vision “to advance excellence in evaluation across Canada and internationally”. CES-NCC’s mission centres on “promoting the development of evaluation theory and practice; leading the professionalization of evaluation; building awareness of evaluation; and, advocating for the use of quality evaluation.”

The Carleton University’s School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA) seeks to strengthen ties between the various programs within the School at Carleton University and the various professions involved in the development, implementation, analysis, and evaluation of public policy and its administration. SPPA offers several programs with a focus on policy and program evaluation, including the Graduate Diploma in Public Policy and Program Evaluation (DPPE) which offers professional development opportunities to evaluators, Master’s of Public Policy & Administration which offers graduate courses in evaluation, Master’s of Philanthropy & Non-profit Leadership which offers a graduate course in evaluation, and other programs that use evaluative methods in its core courses.

The Centre on Governance (COG) is a bilingual (English/French) academic research center from the University of Ottawa. The COG's mission is to better understand governance phenomena as well as contemporary administrative and policy problems affecting governmental and non-governmental actors. To achieve its mission, the COG produces, mobilizes and teaches knowledge based on both basic research and more applied research in order to improve the functioning of governmental and non-governmental organizations. The COG's knowledge mobilization plan is based on five objectives: Development of internal and external partnerships; Organization of academic events (conferences, seminars, lunch talks); Publication of knowledge (publication of academic journals and research papers); Professional training (online and face-to-face training activities and development of a series of educational videos on governance including in Program Evaluation and Results-Based Management); and support for early-career faculty and graduate students. The COG comprises some fifty professors, affiliated researchers and students who conduct research on the topics related to the Centre's main lines of research and is affiliated with the School of Political Studies which offers undergraduate and graduate programs in Political Sciences and Public Administration. The Centre on Governance together with the School of Political Studies and the Professional Development Institute supports two micro-programs with ties to program evaluation in the public sector: (1) Microprogramme en Gouvernance et gestion publique; (2) Microprogramme en Gouvernance et analyse des politiques publiques.

The Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services (CRECS) is a bilingual (English/French) bi-faculty (Faculty of Education and Faculty of Social Sciences) academic research centre at the University of Ottawa. CRECS collaborates in research, evaluation, and training with organizations in the educational, social service, and health sectors to improve social programs and policies for citizens, especially those facing social exclusion. In pursuing this overarching goal, CRECS has three main purposes: contributing to the overall mission of the University of Ottawa, producing and transferring knowledge through applied research, evaluation, and dissemination, and providing training and building capacity in the community agencies with which it collaborates in the social, health, and educational sectors. The Centre has 44 Senior Researchers (regular uOttawa professors), 8 of whom are considered to be Core Members, and 14 Affiliate Researchers, who are members of the research community with interests in CRECS' mission. The Core Researchers have been highly successful in acquiring external funding through Canadian federal granting councils, federal and provincial departments and ministries and, foundations, donor agencies and community sector organizations. CRECS supports two microprograms focusing on program evaluation: (1) Microprogram in Evaluation of Social and Health Programs and Policies (School of Psychology) and (2) Microprogram in Program Evaluation in Professional Contexts.

### **Cooperation Agreement Objectives**

This Cooperation Agreement's specific objectives aim to promote knowledge exchange between experienced and emerging evaluators by creating a direct link between students engaged in program evaluation courses in both universities and experienced professional evaluators in the CES-NCC. It also aims to capitalize on the opportunity to explore the overlap between the evaluation and various programs offered at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of activities That might support the realization of this objective:

- Invite and host guest speakers from CES-NCC students in evaluation-related courses and the larger academic community, promoting conversations between emerging and experienced evaluators.
- Facilitate the participation of students in CES-NCC events to provide them with opportunities to present their research work.

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- Provide networking and volunteering opportunities through university-based and CES-NCC events.
- Offer free tickets for students to access member-only to certain CES-NCC events.
- Development of joint educational material (ex. educational videos; case studies; etc.) that can be used by the CES and the university partners in their respective training and educational activities.
- Support academic partners' knowledge mobilization through dissemination; events; annual meetings; etc.
- Support research collaboration and partnerships between CES-NCC and the academic partners (including grant proposals, other funding opportunities, knowledge mobilization, and student research activities).

### **Governance**

An ad-hoc committee will be formed by representatives of the three organizations to plan and implement various joint activities. The ad-hoc committee includes 7 members: one professor from each university partner selected by the directors of SPPA, COG and CRECS (3), one graduate student from each university (2) recommended and selected by the professors and two representatives from CES-NCC (2). The number of meetings per year is to be determined by the committee. A representative of this committee could be invited to attend the CES-NCC Board of Directors Meetings as ex-officio (non-elected and non-voting status) when appropriate. This ad-hoc committee will also manage and promote the joint initiatives and events in their respective organizations.

### **Funding**

Due to financial limitations of students, free-of-charge events will take priority. Where feasible, provision of funds to cover events may be made available through CES-NCC, SPPA, COG, CRECS, or via joint funding arrangements.

### **Governing Law**

This Cooperation Agreement is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from SPPA (namely the School Director or authorized delegate), the COG (namely the Director of the Centre on Governance or authorized delegate), the CRECS (namely the Director of the Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services authorized delegate), or the CES-NCC (namely the Partnerships Representative, or other representative duly authorized to represent the CES-NCC).

This Cooperation Agreement becomes effective upon signature by the authorized officials from SPPA, COG, CRECS, and CES-NCC. It shall terminate at the earlier of: (i) five (5) years from the date of complete execution by the Associations; or (ii) three (3) months after the notification date should one Association decide to terminate by giving written notice to the other.

### **Contact Information**

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- The University of Ottawa's Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services, Peter Milley [pmilley@uottawa.ca](mailto:pmilley@uottawa.ca)

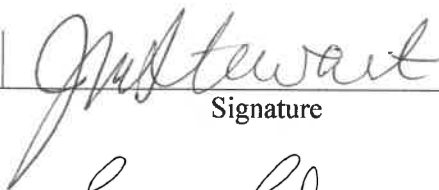
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- Canadian Evaluation Society, National Capital Chapter – Partnerships Representative  
[nccsecretariat@evaluationcanada.ca](mailto:nccsecretariat@evaluationcanada.ca)

**For and on behalf of SPPA**

**Jennifer Stewart**

SPPA Director



Signature

30/09/22

Date

**For and on behalf of COG**

**Eric Champagne**

Director, Centre on  
Governance



Signature

30/09/22

Date

**For and on behalf of CRECS**

**Peter Milley**

Director, Centre for Research  
on Educational and  
Community Services



Signature

02/10/22

Date

**For and on behalf of CES-NCC**

**Marc Riopel**

CES-NCC Partnership  
Representative



Signature

03/10/22

Date