



## **Policy #107 -MN COLA Research Funding**

### **Context:**

This policy helps ensure that MN COLA is consistent in how it uses its financial resources for the purpose of funding scientific research done on behalf of MN COLA, in collaboration with other stakeholders, or on behalf of other stakeholders independent of MN COLA.

### **Policy Details:**

The following criteria will be evaluated in the consideration of a contribution for a research project.

#### **Purpose:**

- The degree to which this research could directly help to further the mission of MN COLA, or could add important tangential scientific knowledge that could further the mission of MN COLA

#### **Scientific Rigor:**

- The adherence of the research project to the strict application of the scientific method to ensure robust and unbiased experimental design, methodology, analysis, interpretation and reporting of results.

#### **Alignment:**

- The degree to which the relevant research organization, co-stakeholders or other independent financial stakeholders align with the MN COLA mission is a secondary consideration, but higher alignment is preferable.

#### **Reputation and Professional Standing:**

- The perceived impact to the reputation and professional standing of MN COLA should be improved or unchanged by participating versus unchanged or reduced if MN COLA does not participate.

The dollar amount that MN COLA contributes, if any, will be based on the Board's consideration of the criteria listed above and the availability of MN COLA funds.

[Policy continues on the next page]

# MN COLA



Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations

## Process:

All research proposals of interest to MN COLA will be reviewed by the MN COLA Research Review Subcommittee who will assess the proposed research against the criteria identified above. Detailed descriptions of all relevant evaluation criteria are published separately on the MN COLA website.

The Subcommittee will report their findings to the Board.

The Research Review Subcommittee may be able to influence the proposed design and/or methodology of the research to improve scientific rigor; these efforts should be attempted before reporting to the Board. It is MN COLA policy to not influence interpretation nor reporting of results.

The Board will make the final determination of a MN COLA contribution based on the report from the Research Review Subcommittee and any other factors the Board deems relevant.

As approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Shneider'.

Joe Shneider, President  
March 8, 2021