

**Number and Title:** SR3 - Responsible Computer Use

**Effective Date:**

May 1st, 2021

**Approval Date:**

April 28th, 2021

**Policy Type:**

Internal Policy

**Review Date:**

This Policy shall be reviewed every 5 years

**Responsible Body:**

Finance Committee

**Designated Executives and Staff Members:**

IT Manager, Vice-President Administration

**Authority:**

AMS Bylaw 5, Section 1(f)

AMS Code of Procedure, Section II, Article 11(1)

**Purpose and Goals:**

This policy is designed to outline best practices around the use of AMS computers and computing systems, as well as protect those resources from damage.

**Applicability:**

This policy is applicable for all employees, appointees, and elected officials of the AMS.

**Exclusions:**

There are no exclusions for this policy.

**Definitions:**

1. **Users** shall mean employees, appointees, elected officials, and all others who use AMS computers and/or computing systems
2. **AMS IT** shall refer to the department within the AMS responsible for information technology.

**Policy:**

1. All Society Users shall, in their use of the Society's computers and computing systems, conduct themselves in accordance with established business ethics and in accordance with the responsibilities of their respective positions.
2. The Society's computers and computing systems are the property of the Society, and are for utilization by Users for business purposes only. The use of computing resources for any purposes not pertaining to their position will be considered unauthorized.
3. AMS IT shall have the power to redistribute computing resources as necessary in order to ensure the efficient use of Society resources.

4. The Society shall not monitor the email or files of Users without their knowledge, except when the Society or its systems may be harmed. Situations when the Society may monitor computer use include, but are not limited to, suspected criminal activity, excessive attachment use, and virus infection.
5. The acquisition of any computer hardware must be processed through AMS IT to ensure compatibility with the Society's systems and be approved by the AMS VP Finance or relevant manager.
6. Any damage to computers or computing systems caused by inappropriate or unauthorized personal use by a User, and any other violations of the provisions of this Policy, may result in disciplinary action.

#### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

7. When using the Society's email, Users shall not
  - a. Log in to an email account that they are not authorized to access;
  - b. Impersonate another user by any means including but not limited to falsifying header or user identification information;
  - c. Create or distribute any disruptive or offensive material, including illegal, abusive, indecent, defamatory, obscene or menacing materials;
  - d. Operate in breach of confidence, copyright, or privacy rights;
  - e. Initiate or forward spam, including chain letters, pyramid schemes, hoaxes, joke emails, or unsolicited mail;
  - f. Send virus warning emails without approval by the AMS IT Manager;
8. Any incoming or outgoing email message which is suspected of containing a virus or malicious attachment, or which could be detrimental to the Society's network, may be isolated for inspection. The message will be released by AMS IT to the intended recipient only after it is determined to be risk free.

#### **COMPUTER USE**

9. All Users shall make every effort to support the Society's Information Technology (IT) Department in protecting the security of the Society's technical systems. As such, Users shall not
  - a. Knowingly install, download, or forward a virus for any purpose;
  - b. Share password or login information;
  - c. Access computers or accounts which they are not authorized to access;
  - d. Remotely access Society servers and workstations on infected or otherwise compromised devices.
10. All software installed on the Society's computing resources must be approved by AMS IT.
11. Remote access to the Society's IT resources and the installation of computing devices not owned by the Society on the Society's network requires the permission of AMS IT.
12. Certain uses of the Society's computer system and Internet connection shall not be permitted at any time. These uses include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Access websites containing sexually explicit, racist, violent, or generally offensive materials, except to carry out research for the Society;
  - b. Distribute to internal or external users material containing sexually explicit, racist, violent, or generally offensive material;
  - c. Download and/or illegally use unlicensed software;
  - d. Gambling
  - e. Act in violation of the Criminal Code or the BC Human Rights Code;

**Consultations:**

The following groups have been consulted during the development of this policy:  
Chief Technology Officer, Finance Committee

**History:**

This is the first draft of the fourth version of this policy.

**Related Policies:**

There are no policies related to this policy.

**Appendix:**

There is no appendix to this policy