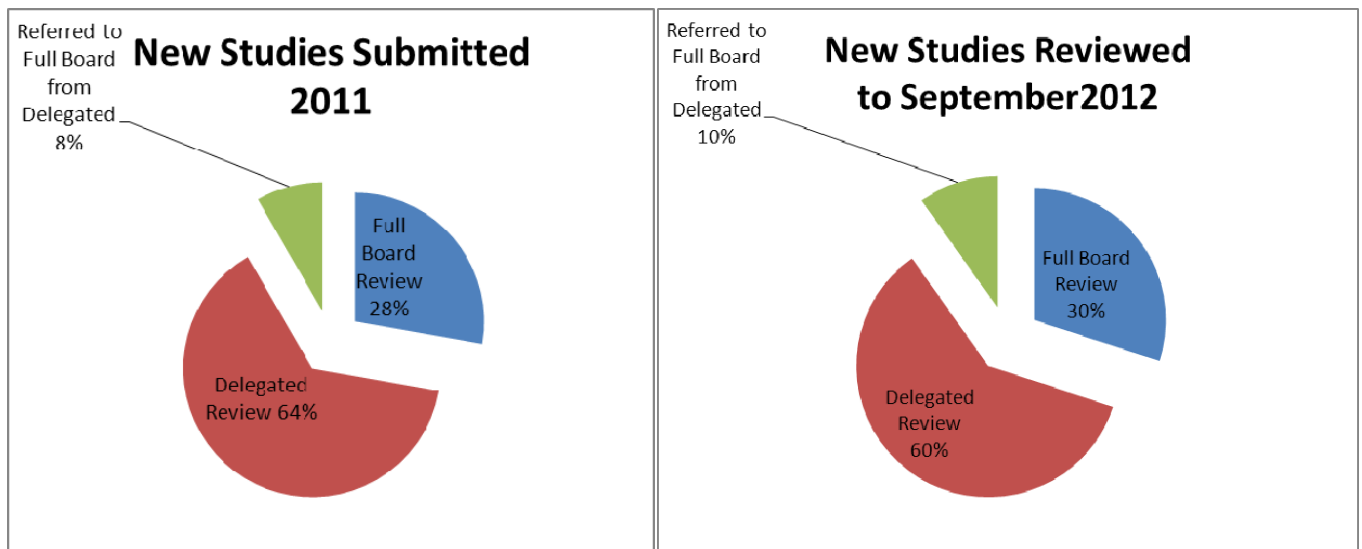


DELEGATED REVIEW UPDATE 2012
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It's been a busy time for Delegated review at the UBC CREB this year. There have been changes to the Delegated team along with the steady flow of minimal risk submissions to review. An agreement between Fraser Health and UBC for minimal risk studies led to several projects which were simultaneously reviewed. The consistency with which applications are submitted which are not minimal risk and require referral to Full Board for review remains an issue that CREB staff and members are working toward addressing.

In the last year, Delegated review welcomed Drs Peter Choi, Ian Martin and most recently, Peter McComb. Dr. Sawatzky also returned to the fold after a year on sabbatical. The team now consists of six reviewers from diverse backgrounds along with Dr. Peter Loewen. We are very happy with these developments and the number of reviewers now ensures efficient turn around can be maintained whilst accommodating reviewer schedules and commitments.

The following charts indicate the numbers for Delegated review between this year and last:



New Studies Submitted				
Year	Total Studies Reviewed	Full Board	Delegated	Referred to Full board
2011	495	150	345	45
2012 (to Sept)	414	138	276	45

Studies submitted refer to reviewed studies. The small percentage increase in referrals to Full Board should be further investigated to ascertain where and why this is happening. This process will be pursued by CREB staff in the next year. Additionally, a review of the current CREB Minimal Risk criteria and its scope will begin in the next year. Tracking the applications in RISE that move to Full review status may help with understanding these referrals. Additionally, the increasing CREB outreach and education program is providing training on minimal risk criteria for researchers and their teams to assist with the submission process.

An increasing effort to collaborate on Delegated review studies increased the administrative relationships between CREB and other REBs, notably at Fraser Health Authority (FHA) with regards to the review of minimal risk projects. Through the “UBC and Fraser Health REB Affiliation Agreement for minimal risk studies,” four projects were reviewed and approved within weeks of initial application at both institutions. Two studies have been reviewed via a similar process at Interior Health.

In general, Delegated review is a dynamic and changing component of ethics review for the CREB. In the next year the continued facilitation of the review of minimal risk projects at UBC should lead to modifications of the minimal risk criteria and further collaborations with institutional partners.