

The Ontario Society of Registered Psychotherapists

Dear [Name of Invitee]

I am writing to extend an invitation to you to join the more than 1,300 RPs, RP(Q)s, Students and Friends of the Society who have already joined the Ontario Society of Registered Psychotherapists (OSRP). I’m doing this for a number of good reasons.

First, **you get a $50 discount when you join**! And when you become a member, you can send out your own membership invitations to other people who are not yet members and get more discounts!

But that’s not even the best reason for my invitation. In my time at OSRP, I have watched it grow and adapt to current member needs. It has always offered affordable liability insurance, but now the OSRP offer other supports, such as health insurance, through a group benefits plan. The association has enhanced our community, maximizing connections between therapists for supports, such as a referral network, a Protect Yourself: **P**rotect **S**eminars series to enhance your safety and effectiveness in your work; a place to advertise for new clients and more. Rich conversations are happening on our member listserv, and our newsletter, ***Connect***, shares valuable profession-related content on a monthly basis.

OSRP is also doing important advocacy with CRPO and all levels of government to ensure your voice is heard on issues that affect your practice, including removing the HST from our work. You can read more here: <https://osrp.ca/Advocacy-Corner>.

Plus, OSRP members receive discounts on a plethora of professional development opportunities as well on trips, consumer goods, office furniture and more: <https://osrp.ca/join-us/benefits>

**How to become a member and redeem your discount:**

Visit <https://osrp.ca/join-us> then do the following:

* The OSRP membership application has a field called “Invitation ID.” Enter my name to indicate that I invited you.
* In the Discount Code field, enter “Member2023.”

**OSRP’s BIPoC MEMBERSHIP BURSARY**

The Ontario Society of Registered Psychotherapists (OSRP) is committed to ensuring that race and other forms of marginalization are not barriers to entry into the field of psychotherapy. There is an alarming lack of psychotherapists who identify as Black, Indigenous, or Racialized in Ontario,[[1]](#footnote-1) and the resulting gap in service to the public limits access to mental health support.

To address these barriers, the OSRP is actively assisting Equity-Deserving individuals by providing support to Clinical, Qualifying, Student psychotherapists and Friends of the Society who identify as Black, Indigenous, or Racialized (often referred to as BIPoC).

For those interested in participating in the **PS**: protect yourself **P**rotect **S**eminars, the BIPoC Bursary enables the recipient to receive a members-only “Flex Pass.” This pass allows members to attend (online and/or in-person) and receive all materials including seminar videos for all five of the community learning events offered by world experts engaged by the OSRP. For more information on the Protect Seminars, click here: <https://osrp.ca/page-18157>

For those who are not yet OSRP members, the BIPoC Membership Bursary also offers a 1-Year OSRP membership.

To apply for the BIPoC Membership Bursary, please forward your completed application in confidence to EDI Co-Chairs Kimberly Cato, Dr. Natasha Tuletta-Bowman, and Alethia Cadore by email to: edi@psychotherapyontario.org

These materials will not be shared outside of this group, and will not be kept on file after a decision has been made.

Applications can be made by either:

* a short self-video (no longer than three minutes)

Or

* a short (no more than 500 words) written essay.

Your application, in whichever preferred medium, should include the following information:

* Tell us a bit about yourself and your therapy practice
* Tell us what prompts you to apply for a BIPoC Membership Bursary
* Let us know if you are currently a member of the OSRP (if not, we will assume that you are applying for a year of membership) and, if so, at which level — please see the different membership categories here: <https://osrp.ca/join-us/types-of-membership> — Tell us what you need to flourish as a psychotherapist moving forward

For video applications, please email a google drive link to your video.

For written applications, please email a Microsoft Word document as an attachment.

All applicants will be notified of the EDI Co-Chairs’ decision by email.

The OSRP is committed to reducing barriers to accessing services for equity-deserving communities in need of support. This is one small way that we can increase representation and enrich our pool of well-trained and equipped BIPoC psychotherapists in Ontario.

The more RPs we have in our growing community, the richer and more diverse our supports, the greater our leverage for advocacy. Welcome aboard!

With warm wishes,

[insert your name]

*The Ontario Society of Registered Psychotherapists (OSRP) is the professional voice of Registered Psychotherapists in Ontario. We believe that every Registered Psychotherapist needs to have a voice along with a place to go to for information connection and support. We represent the diverse interests of all psychotherapists. For RPs by RPs.*

1. [Shining a Light on Mental Health in Black Communities](https://osrp.ca/EmailTracker/LinkTracker.ashx?linkAndRecipientCode=rfGONYaszDpYeAieRmRKd1JEDho581hUWWEuQZeFlVRhsUuN2vRf8BxByLLqwQsANX0Qq8JNLo%2bq1597WpKtEtH7oKgk%2fA3osnTTb2dPZqo%3d), Mental Health Commission of Canada, February 2022. Deborah Adams, the Registrar and CEO of the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO), responded to this data by stating, “The message that these statistics carry is clear: we need work to reduce barriers like systemic inequities resulting from anti-Black racism and lack of representation in the profession to improve access to much-needed mental health care for the Black community in Ontario.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)