



CRPO / OPAO

College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario  
Ordre des psychothérapeutes autorisés de l'Ontario

## Council Meeting Highlights September 8, 2016

At its meeting on Sept. 8, 2016, Council approved the following:

- A consensus document further clarifying the controlled act of psychotherapy.
- Circulation of a series of proposed by-law amendments for stakeholder consultation.
- A policy for reporting information to police as a result of matters referred to the Discipline Committee.
- Circulation of a survey for stakeholder consultation concerning implementation of a criminal record check requirement for applicants and/or Members.

Council also received information about the new requirements for clinical supervisors, which will come into effect as of April 1, 2018.

### Controlled Act Consensus Document

Following proclamation of the *Psychotherapy Act, 2007*, the six colleges whose members would share the controlled act of psychotherapy were directed to develop a consensus document which would further define the meaning of the controlled act. Once complete, this document would be used to provide clarity to members, applicants and the public about what the act of psychotherapy entails.

Following development by subject matter experts and review by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the Ministry), the consensus document was approved by Council. The document will be brought forward to other college councils this fall in order for the Ministry to make a recommendation to proclaim the controlled act.

### By-law Amendments

In order to improve transparency about CRPO Members, our processes, and decision making, Council has approved stakeholder consultations for several by-law amendments which would provide additional information about Members on the Public Register. The additional information proposed would include posting:

- Criminal charges relevant to practice.
- Applicable undertakings, in-person cautions and specified continued education and remediation programs (SCERPs).
- Extension of the length of time information about former Members remains on the Public Register, including information regarding the fact and date of death of a former Member, if known.

Council also approved stakeholder consultation for an amendment to College fees. Members transferring from the Inactive or Qualifying category to the Registered Psychotherapist (RP) category are required to pay a transfer fee of \$75 +HST. The proposed amendment clarifies that Members entering the Inactive category will not be subject to this transfer fee.

Consultation materials will be available this fall.

## **Reporting Information to Police**

As a measure for improving transparency, Council approved a policy for reporting information about a Member's alleged misconduct to police, in order to allow them to launch a criminal investigation where appropriate.

The policy approved by Council specifies that CRPO will initiate a report to the police when there are reasonable grounds to believe a Member has committed a criminal act, and the allegations have been referred to the Discipline Committee. If a complainant has provided the information, they will be asked for consent in order for CRPO to disclose the complainant's name and personal information as part of the report. If consent is not given, the report will be made without this information.

Furthermore, CRPO may disclose relevant information to appropriate parties if there are reasonable grounds to believe the disclosure is necessary to eliminate or reduce a significant risk of bodily harm to a person or group of persons.

## **Police Record Checks**

As part of the CRPO's ongoing review of registration requirements, Council has approved, for stakeholder consultation, a survey seeking input on whether to require submission of a completed criminal record check, including the type of record check and frequency of submission.

Consultation materials will be available this fall.

## **Clinical Supervisor Competency Requirements**

Beginning April 1, 2018, CRPO will phase in new requirements for qualifying as a clinical supervisor. Specifically, clinical supervisors will need to demonstrate competence in providing clinical supervision.

CRPO's Registration Committee has approved the following criteria for demonstrating competence in providing clinical supervision, which were presented to Council:

1. *The supervisor must be a Member in good standing of a regulatory college whose members may practise psychotherapy.\**
2. *The supervisor must have five years' extensive clinical experience.*
3. *The supervisor must meet CRPO's "independent practice" requirement (completion of 1000 direct client contact hours and 150 hours of clinical supervision).*
4. *The supervisor must have completed 30 hours of directed learning in providing clinical supervision. Directed learning can include course work, supervised practice as a clinical supervisor, individual/peer/group learning, and independent study that includes structured readings.*
5. *The supervisor must provide a signed declaration that they understand CRPO's definitions of clinical supervision, clinical supervisor, and the scope of practice of psychotherapy.*

*CRPO staff may request evidence of 30 hours of directed learning in providing clinical supervision and may also request a letter of verification and a statement describing the supervisor's approach to providing supervision.*

*It is recommended that a clinical supervisor be able to provide their supervisee with a letter attesting to their competency, as set out in 1 through 5 above, that the supervisee would submit as evidence of supervision in the supervisee's application to CRPO.*

\*College of Nurses of Ontario; College of Occupational Therapists of Ontario; College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario; College of Psychologists of Ontario; College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario; Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers.

Criteria 3-5 listed above will not take effect until April 1, 2018. Supervision received prior to this date must be provided by a Member in good standing of one of the regulatory colleges whose members may practise psychotherapy, who has extensive clinical experience (generally five years or more) in the practice of psychotherapy and who is competent in providing clinical supervision, in order for those hours to count for registration purposes with CRPO.