CRPO's Code of Ethics in practice

The seven principles in CRPO's own words, how they differ from the practice standards, CRPO's own example of using one, and where each comes up in the other free sheets.

Study aid, not legal advice. Last verified against the official sources linked below on 11 November 2026.

1 Ideals, not the minimum

- The Code sets out **ideals** registrants aspire to, in practice and in their community roles (CRPO manual).
- The practice standards are the **minimum standard** expected of every registrant, written or unwritten.
- Falling below a standard is professional **misconduct**; the full definitions are in Code s. 51 (1) and O. Reg. 317/12.

2 The seven principles (CRPO's words)

- **Autonomy & Dignity of All Persons**: to respect the privacy, rights and diversity of all persons; to reject all forms of harassment and abuse; and to maintain appropriate therapeutic boundaries at all times.
- **Excellence in Professional Practice**: to work in the best interests of clients; to work within my skills and competencies; maintain awareness of best practices; and to pursue professional and personal growth throughout my career.
- **Integrity**: to openly inform clients about options, limitations on professional services, potential risks and benefits; to recognize and strive to challenge my own professional and personal biases; and to consult on ethical dilemmas.
- **Justice**: to strive to support justice and fairness in my professional and personal dealings, and stand against oppression and discrimination.
- **Responsible Citizenship**: to participate in my community as a responsible citizen, always mindful of my role as a trusted professional; and to consult on potential conflicts-of-interest and other personal-professional challenges.
- **Responsible Research**: to conduct only basic and applied research that potentially benefits society, and to do so safely, ethically and with the informed consent of all participants.
- **Support for Colleagues**: to respect colleagues, co-workers, students, and members of other disciplines; to supervise responsibly; to work collaboratively; and to inspire others to excellence.

3 CRPO's own example

- Lenni, an RP for seven years, meets the requirements to supervise but worries about risk; they consult peers, a lawyer and their insurer.
- They are **not obligated** to supervise, but Support for Colleagues names the ideal of **inspiring others to excellence**, so they decide it is worthwhile.

4 Where they come up on this site (our cross-references)

- **Autonomy** and dignity: boundaries, sexual abuse prevention, confidentiality.
- **Integrity**: consent and capacity, ethical decisions step by step.
- **Justice**: culturally responsive and anti-oppressive practice.
- Responsible **Citizenship**: conflict of interest and undue influence.
- Support for **Colleagues**: clinical supervision.

The standards are the floor and the Code is the aim: meet every standard, and use the Code when a choice is yours to make.

Official sources: CRPO Code of Ethics and CRPO, Professional Practice and Jurisprudence manual. Condensed from The CRPO Code of Ethics in Practice.
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