

January 2026

ONTABA™ ANALYST

Newsletter of the
Ontario Association
For Behaviour
Analysis™

Special Edition!!

**Our Vision: Fostering a culture of
excellence, integrity, and
expertise for the advancement
and promotion of the science of
behaviour analysis.**

**Our Mission: To demonstrate
leadership, knowledge, and
innovation in education, training,
and research for the ethical and
effective application of behaviour
analysis.**

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From The President's Desk

BY JESSICA CAUCHI



Dear Members,

Welcome to our special edition newsletter highlighting our Special Interest Groups (SIGs)! ONTABA began inviting members to create SIGs in 2021 and are so excited at the growth since then. SIGs represent an important area of support; a way for individuals with common interests and areas of application of ABA to grow together and work on topics that matter. We are delighted with their continued contributions to ABA in Ontario, excited about the work they are doing, and can't wait to see what is next!

If reading this issue sparks interest in other opportunities for Special Interest Groups please reach out for more information.

Please enjoy this special issue,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Cauchi".

Jessica Cauchi, Board President
She/Her
Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis™



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)



[HTTPS://ONTABA.ORG/SPECIAL-INTEREST-GROUPS/](https://ontaba.org/special-interest-groups/)

Behaviour Analysis in Publicly Funded Schools Special Interest Group (BAS-SIG): A Community for School-Based Behaviour Analysts

Written by: Melissa Spencer, MPEd., BCBA, R.B.A. (ONT.)

The **Behaviour Analysis in Publicly Funded Schools Special Interest Group (BAS-SIG)** officially launched in Spring 2025 with the goal of supporting and connecting behaviour analysts working within Ontario's publicly funded education system. In just a few short months, the BAS-SIG has grown to nearly 100 ONTABA members across the province. This growth reflects the increasing presence of behaviour analysts in schools and the need for shared guidance, collaboration, and professional support within this setting.

Most BAS-SIG members work directly in publicly funded schools, supporting students, educators, and school communities through assessment, consultation, coaching, mentorship, and capacity building. The SIG was created to bring these behaviour analysts together, recognizing that school-based work involves unique responsibilities and challenges that can differ from those in clinical or community environments. Since launching, the group has held regular membership meetings that offer space for discussion, problem-solving, and reflection. Topics have included navigating multidisciplinary teams, aligning behaviour-analytic approaches with Ontario's educational policies, and developing effective consultation and coaching practices. These meetings have become a valuable source of professional connection and shared learning for members across Ontario.

This year, the BAS-SIG also hosted its first Continuing Education (CE) event, which provided an opportunity for members to deepen their knowledge and stay informed about current best practices in the context of school-based services. The positive response to this event has helped shape future CE opportunities that reflect members' needs and the evolving landscape within publicly funded schools.

BAS-SIG Continued:

Much of the SIG's early progress is thanks to several active subcommittees whose volunteers have contributed their time and expertise to key initiatives. A dedicated website has been created to share updates, announce events, and serve as a central hub for members. One of the most significant projects underway is the development of a comprehensive guide to practice, which will outline the background and evolution of school-based behaviour analysis in Ontario, describe the types of services behaviour analysts provide in schools, and offer guidance on best practices. The SIG is also preparing a variety of school-specific templates and tools that members may choose to integrate directly into their work to help streamline processes.

The rapid growth and development of the BAS-SIG would not be possible without the commitment of its members, volunteers, and the Board. Their ongoing involvement, thoughtful feedback, and generosity in sharing their time have shaped the direction of the group and ensured that the SIG remains responsive to the needs of behaviour analysts working in publicly funded schools. We are sincerely grateful for the support and engagement that has allowed this community to take root and continue to grow.

We are proud of the work accomplished so far and look forward to continuing to learn from and collaborate with ONTABA members who share an interest in the role of behaviour analysis in Ontario's education system. If you work in, collaborate with, or simply want to learn more about behaviour analysis in publicly funded schools, we welcome you to connect with us.

To learn more or become a member, please visit our website or follow us on social media:

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/bas-sig/home>

Instagram: [@ont_bas_sig](#)

We look forward to building this community together and supporting the important work happening in classrooms and school boards across Ontario.

Private Practice Special Interest Group (PP-SIG)

Written by: Lisa Israel R.B.A. (ONT.), RN,
Psychotherapist, BCBA

As we enter the new year, our PP-SIG is thrilled to share updates on the incredible Empowerment Series we are planning for our members. These sessions are being designed to support, inform, and uplift our community with highly relevant, practical, and engaging content.

We are currently organizing two major Empowerment Sessions for early 2026:

1. Immigration Empowerment Session-February 4th

This session focused on Supporting staff through the permanent residency process. This session provided clarity, guidance, and actionable information to help members navigate the complexities of immigration-related challenges within their teams.

2. Insurance Empowerment Session

Planning is also underway for an in-depth Insurance Empowerment Session. This will be a valuable opportunity for members to strengthen their understanding of insurance processes, updates, and advocacy tips.

Member Survey Launched

We are excited to announce a PP-SIG member survey to help shape the direction of our upcoming programming. Everyone is welcome to contribute!

The survey invited members to suggest additional Empowerment Series topics. Your voice will directly influence what comes next, so please stay tuned! Wishing everyone a wonderful year, and we look forward to an empowering 2026 together!

Did You Know?

ONTABA has multiple opportunities to post on our **website, social media** or in our **newsletter**.

Check out the links below!!



Post in our Newsletter

Newsletter Ad Request



Post on our website:

Job Posting Ad Request



Post on our Social Media

Social Media Promotional Request



Please note: we reserve the right to reject submissions at our discretion. We will not be accepting job postings as part of newsletter advertising.

MEMBER BENEFITS



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<https://ontaba.org/membership-benefits/>

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+	BxDATA
+	CAA
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+	GOODLIFE
+	HOW TO ABA
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