

# Resource Movement

## National Member Gathering 2023

*September 8-10, Montreal/Tiohtià:ke*

*Cité des Hospitalières (251 Ave des Pins Ouest)*

Whether you're just learning about Resource Movement for the first time or you've already been a member for years, this gathering will offer a powerful space for all of us to learn, grow, and share. We're excited to spend the weekend together as we explore the forces shaping wealth inequality in Canada, reflect on where we fit within struggles for liberation, build skills and knowledge for taking action, and set priorities for RM's collective next steps

### SCHEDULE

Time	Activity
<b>Friday, September 8</b>	
6-9pm	Welcome dinner + social activities
<b>Saturday, September 9</b>	
9-10am	Breakfast
10-10:45am	Opening Plenary + overview of weekend
10:45-11am	Break
11-12:30pm	Parallel sessions #1. Choose one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Intro to RM (English)</li> <li>● Intro à RM (en français)</li> <li>● Redistribution Plans 201</li> <li>● RM Retrospective &amp; Member Drive Results</li> </ul>
12:30-1:30pm	Lunch
1:30-2:15pm	Anti-racist caucusing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Colour</li> <li>● White people</li> </ul>
2:15-2:30pm	Break

2:30-4pm	Parallel sessions #2. Choose one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Justice Investing</li> <li>• RM and Anti-imperialism</li> </ul>
4-4:15pm	Break
4:15-5pm	Disability justice caucusing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sick/disabled people</li> <li>• Non-disabled people</li> </ul>
5-5:15pm	Break
5:15-6:30pm	Panel: Social Movement Advisors & RM Members on Cross-class Liberation!
6:30-9pm	Dinner + social activities (including karaoke!)
<b>Sunday, September 10</b>	
9-10am	Breakfast
10-11:30am	Parallel sessions #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How Does the Ruling Class Actually Rule?</li> <li>• RM's Strategic Priorities &amp; Theory of Change</li> </ul>
11:30-11:45am	Break
11:45-1pm	Closing plenary
1-2:30pm	Lunch

## Parallel session descriptions

### RM & Anti-imperialism:

In this session, we'll reflect on how an anti-imperialist framework might support our understanding of our own wealth & status, and strengthen our solidarity with marginalized people. We'll also explore how RM could collectively build more anti-imperialist solidarity into our shared learning and practice. This is *\*not\** an Anti-Imperialism 101 - it's a discussion circle for folks who want to bring an anti-imperialist lens into RM!

### How the Ruling Class Actually Rules:

The corporate elite have power over government and society. We'll learn about about how the institutions they use to organise themselves and the policy these institutions have influenced – with lots

of examples so that you can talk about corporate power without sounding like a conspiratorist. We'll also discuss whether we have connections to people who hold levers of power, and whether/how we can influence these connections.

### **Social Justice Investing:**

What are some of the big problems with traditional investing? What does “social justice investing” even mean, and what are the possibilities for shifting our investments to align with our values? How can RM members support each other’s learning and action on these questions... and how might we collectively help pull the Canadian investment field as a whole towards social justice values? Join this session to find out!!

### **Redistribution Plans 201:**

All RM members are encouraged to create personal redistribution plans for the financial resources we don’t need. We aim to identify what we have, what we need, what we want to redistribute, and how to move those excess resources towards social justice groups. But where do we tend to get stuck? And how might we help each other move beyond some of the common barriers that come up while creating and following through on these plans? Join this session to talk it all through!

### **RM's Strategic Priorities & Theory of Change:**

Ask 2 people “what RM is trying to achieve”, and you’ll probably get at least 3 different answers. This past year, a group of us has been working to update and clarify our beliefs & values, long-term goals, and strategies... and we’re excited to bring them all together. Join us to walk through a new articulation of “what RM does and why we do it”, and help complete it with your ideas!

## **Caucuses**

*Though we all share the experience of having class privilege, our intersecting identities mean we’re impacted very differently by ableism and white supremacy. We gather in closed caucuses to connect, process, and strategize in groups with more shared experiences navigating these two systems - since our vision of a future beyond classism necessarily includes overcoming them as well!*

**BIPOC caucus:** focuses on connecting, sharing experiences, brainstorming how their RM engagement could be more joyful and affirming.

**White caucus:** focuses on deepening our understanding of structures of racial capitalism in Canada and the ways that RM supports organizing work to dismantle them, as well as discussing how to ensure RM spaces are anti-racist.

**Sick/disabled caucus:** focuses on connecting, sharing experiences, brainstorming how their RM engagement could be more joyful and affirming

**Non-disabled caucus:** focuses on deepening our understanding of how ableism plays out, what the disability justice movement is, and how to practice anti-ableism in RM spaces.

## Accessibility information

- **Food:** Every meal will have gluten free, dairy free, vegan, and vegetarian options
- **COVID:** participants must wear masks during all indoor sessions. Masks are available at the front of the Noviciate room.
- **Children:** are welcome in all sessions!
- **Interpretation:** simultaneous French - English interpretation (via Zoom) will be available if needed in each session, to enable francophones to express themselves in whichever language they feel more comfortable.
- **Active listeners**, identifiable with a coloured armband, are available for 1-on-1 debriefs/support chats at all times – just ask them to talk! If you cannot find an active listener near you, any volunteer can track one down for you.
- **Two chill rooms** will be available for breaks and if you need to step out of a session:
  - *Quiet talking room* (will include zine-making materials!)
  - *Silent room* (for meditation, movement, or resting!)