

BRETT MASON COUNSELLING

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Advanced Gender-Affirming Practice with Youth & Adults **Condensed 1 Day Training** **Online (on Zoom)**

March 26, 2026
10 am – 5 pm PST

Cost:

\$625

Early bird: \$550 signup before February 15

Student rate: \$149

Sliding Scale Available

Email to access student or early bird rate or the sliding scale

Advanced Gender-Affirming Practice with Youth & Adults

Geared towards counsellors, social workers, psychologists, nurses, doctors, allied health professionals, and other health professionals who already work with trans, Two-Spirit, and gender diverse people, this training goes beyond “Trans 101.” This training teaches research supported, evidence-based best practice grounded in decades of lived and work experience in trans and Two-Spirit communities. This training is engaging; learn through partner practice, small group work, and large group discussion. This training stands out because of its focus on the intersection of neurodivergence and being trans, and because of grounding gender-affirming care in decolonial theory.

Because of the depth of this training, it is relevant to clinicians who have been working in gender-affirming care for some time, and is relevant for people who are themselves trans and likely are already very familiar with “trans 101” topics. Learners for whom these topics are newer are also welcome to attend. This training is open to anyone who works in the health professions and/or helping professions in so-called Canada.

Facilitator Bio:

Brett Mason (MSW, RSW) is a mental health clinician who provides individual, family, and group therapy, as well as assessments for accessing gender-affirming care (GAC) in British Columbia. Brett specializes in working with trans youth and their families, trans adults, neurodivergent people, and supporting people with their mental health challenges. They began working in gender-affirming care 15 years ago, motivated by their own negative experiences accessing care—a journey that spurred them to file (and win!) a human rights complaint.

Their practice focuses on supporting people existing at the margins, navigating the intersections of gender, race, culture, neurotype, size, class, and ability. Brett holds a Master of Social Work from the University of British Columbia, where their graduate research focused on envisioning more equitable healthcare systems for trans and Two-Spirit people. They have worked in diverse settings, from community-facing roles at 2SLGBTQIA+ non-profits (such as being a counsellor at QMUNITY) to the public healthcare system at Trans Care BC where they worked as a health systems navigator, and now in private practice as a therapist and assessor at Brett Mason Counselling. Brett has been conducting adult GAC assessments since 2021 and, through their work as an Associate of Dr. Wallace Wong, child and youth assessments since 2023.

Brett is a disabled, neurodivergent, fat, queer, and trans person of French, English, Irish, and Germanic descent. They live on Vancouver Island, BC, on the unceded territories of the Stz'uminus, Penelakut, Snuneymuxw, and Quw'utsun Peoples. Of all the hats they wear, they consider being a Dad the most important.

Learning Objectives:

Through participating in this training, learners will:

- Recognize how decolonizing and anti-racist practice can support breaking down the gender-binary
- Deepen their understanding of what it means to decolonize their professional practice
- Understand key terminology that is vital to creating a culture of respect
- Learn about trans and Two-Spirit communities, their cultures and norms, and how service providers can show cultural humility and respect
- Build confidence in themselves and their practice through better understanding of implicit bias, how to address it, and how to repair a relationship after making mistakes
- Be better equipped to support clients with gender-affirming health systems navigation
- Build clinical skills and feel more prepared to respond to ethical dilemmas through the use of case studies and small group work collaboration
- Learn about the contributing factors to suicide in trans communities and how, through our roles, we can help prevent suicide
- Gain a broader understanding of mental health concerns that trans and Two-Spirit people face, and learn about areas where helping professionals can be key supports
- Acquire skills for working with families of trans youth
- Gain an understanding of the history of gender-affirming care and the pathologization of trans, Two-Spirit and gender-diverse people and how this impacts care today
- Increase confidence in addressing myths and inaccurate information re: gender-affirming care

- Learn about the ways that neurodivergence presents in gender minorities, and how to better support trans and Two-Spirit neurodivergent people
- Familiarize yourself with free resources that exist that are relevant to trans people, such as support with legal name change, gender-affirming garments (such as binders and gaffs), speech language pathology for vocal feminization, etc.
- Gain familiarity with gender-affirming healthcare pathways in BC, including access to hormone therapy and gender-affirming surgeries, in order to support clients navigating this care and decision making around it
- Familiarize yourself with Indigenous and BIPOC specific resources to better support Indigenous trans and Two-Spirit clients, and BIPOC clients

Logistics:

- Maximum 15-20 people class size
- Online on Zoom, with breaks every 60-90 minutes
- Use of small group work, case studies, and discussion to synthesize learning

Registration:

<https://BrettMason.JaneApp.com/>

Questions or to register via email:

BrettMasonCounselling@gmail.com

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