

Understanding Paramedic & Crown Attorney Culture & the Impact of Trauma

Facilitated by Dr. Dion Goodland, R.Psych

Friday, May 23, 2025 9:00 am to 6:00pm Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel

Fees: \$225

After May 1, 2025: \$250

This workshop is a collaboration between Emergency Medical Care Inc. (EMC), the NS Public Prosecution Service (PPS) and APNS, in response to the need for psychologists across Nova Scotia, who are trained and skilled in evidence-based treatments for PTSD, as well as having an awareness of the culture of paramedics and Crown Attorneys.

The goal is to develop a list of registered psychologists for referral by EMCI and PPS.

The facilitator will incorporate clinical examples to provide a context to help participants better understand the nuances of this illness on the lives of people being treated.

Audience:

Open to registered or candidate registered psychologists who have some experience with treatment for PTSD

Register:

apns.ca/events/impact-of-trauma





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Workshop Overview

The program will be divided into four sections:

- 1. A review of the culture facilitated by paramedics and Crown Attorneys.

 Participants will include experiential experience in the paramedic and legal environment.
- 2. Assessing and Diagnosing PTSD
- 3. Treatment of PTSD
- 4. Vicarious Traumatization

Learning Objectives:

- To better understand the culture of paramedics and Crown Attorneys in NS
- To gain a clearer understanding of diagnostic criteria for PTSD to facilitate an accurate diagnosis
- To facilitate a broader understanding of empirically based treatments for PTSD
- To provide direction on how to apply the "gold standards" in the treatment of paramedics and Crown Attorneys.
- To better understand the potential impact on the provider when working with people suffering from the impacts of trauma.





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Dr. Dion Goodland completed his PhD (2001) at the University of Windsor (ON). As part of his academic training, he worked for two years at the Detroit Medical Center and Wayne State University's Department of Medicine and Behavioural Sciences. During that time, he completed assessments and treatment at Detroit Receiving Hospital, at that time the largest traumaspecific hospital in the US. After completing his training, Dr. Goodland moved back to eastern Canada and has worked in several clinical positions in Halifax and Truro. From 2002 to 2014, he worked at the Operational Trauma and Stress Support Centre (OTSSC) at CFB Halifax, where the focus was operationally-related psychological injuries, such as PTSD. He served as the Psychology Practice Leader and participated in recruiting and training new staff as well as supervised the clinical training of several psychology graduate students.

Since 2014, Dr. Goodland has been in full time private practice and continues his focus on assessing and treating individuals with a diagnosis of PTSD. His clientele almost exclusively consists of currently serving and retired members of the military and the RCMP. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Goodland does presentations and workshops related to assessing, diagnosing, and treating PTSD as well as vicarious traumatization.



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Presenters

Shani Frugtniet

Originally from Ontario, Shani graduated from the University of Calgary in 2015 with Bachelor of Arts Degrees in both French Language and Literature and English Language and Literature. She was also a member of the Dinos wrestling team during her undergraduate studies. She then went on to Dalhousie University's Schulich School of Law graduating in 2019.

Shani articled at Boyne Clarke before joining the firm as an associate lawyer in 2020. In 2022, she joined Carter Simpson as an associate lawyer. In private practice she focused on Employment Law, Personal Injury, Long Term Disability Benefits Litigation and Human Rights Law. Shani joined the Halifax office of the Public Prosecution Service in the Spring of 2023. She prosecutes matters in English and French and is a proud member of the PPS' Equity and Diversity Committee.

Cory Roberts

Cory Roberts was called to the Bar in 2011 after articling at the Nova Scotia Department of Justice. Cory worked briefly as a defence lawyer and then rejoined the Department of Justice for two years practicing Child Protection. Cory first became a Crown Prosecutor in New Brunswick in 2014 where he worked for two years. Cory moved back to Nova Scotia and has worked as a Crown Attorney with the Public Prosecution Service since 2016 in both Halifax and Dartmouth. Corey is now a member of the Appeals and Special Prosecutions branch of the Public Prosecution Service where he appears before all levels of courts.