

# JAMES OWEN DUBÉ, BSc, BSW, MSW, RSW – CLINICAL SPECIALIST

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## PROFILE

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- A forensic mental health clinician working primarily in sexual and intimate partner violence. Holds a Bachelor of Social Work from University of Victoria, a Bachelor of Science from Dalhousie University, and a Master of Social Work from University of Waterloo. Facilitated a wellness group for male-identified perpetrators of intimate partner violence. Currently facilitates a group for male-identified victims of sexual abuse offered online and in-person. Offers individual, trauma-specific therapy to adults and youth of all genders who use or experience violence. A clinical member of the Association for the Treatment and Prevention of Sexual Abuse. Conducts forensic assessments for family and criminal Courts. Writes and presents publicly on issues related to sexual, intimate partner, and family violence as well as trauma, mental health, and addictions.

## EXPERIENCE

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- **Executive Director** (2024-present, paid employment)  
**Clinic Manager** (2019-2024, paid employment)  
**Case Manager** (2016-2019, paid employment)  
**Intern** (2015-2016, BSW practicum)  
The Peoples' Counselling Clinic  
*Since 2015, I have held progressive roles at The Peoples' Counselling Clinic (registered as a society in 2017).*
  - Ensure strategic plan for agency is consistent with mission, vision, and mandate.
  - Liaise with board of directors to ensure accountability.
  - Secure funding and manage budgeting and expenditures.
  - Liaise with community members and professionals, staff and NGO partners, members of the media, academics, and others (including local university administration, Justice and law enforcement personnel, Department of Community Services staff, and addictions and mental health professionals).
  - Collaborate with other professionals and paraprofessionals to develop new services, promote referrals, and ensure integration of services.
  - Develop logic models, theories of change, and other evaluation and promotional materials.
  - Guide professional development of staff and interns.
  - Hire new staff and interns.
  - Address performance or conduct issues among staff and students as necessary.
  - Supervise interns and other clinicians in weekly community of practice meetings.
  - Maintain daily operations of clinic, including direct supervision and consultation with staff and interns.
  - Provide case management, therapy, and other direct Social Work services in contexts including deviant sexual behaviour and victimization, intimate partner violence, mental health, addictions, child welfare, adult, and youth criminal justice.
  - Conduct assessments and complete reports for criminal and family court proceedings.
  - Develop and facilitate groups related to sexual trauma and gendered violence.

- **Advisory Council, Africentric Clinical Specialization Cohort (ACSC)**  
 (2025-present, paid civic involvement)  
 Association of Black Social Workers  
*“The Association of Black Social Workers has embarked on an initiative in collaboration with the Nova Scotia College of Social Workers to offer an important learning opportunity.”*

  - Highlight emerging trends and issues relevant to the ACSC.
  - Identify areas of concern in clinical practice with African Nova Scotian community members.
  - Provide feedback to the ACSC program coordinator.
  - Enrich ACSC learning with community-grounded insights.
  
- **Men’s Awareness Campaign Advisory Group**  
 (2025-present, paid civic involvement)  
 Transition House Association of Nova Scotia  
*“The Transition House Association of Nova Scotia is leading a province-wide public awareness campaign focused on engaging men and male-identified individuals in preventing and responding to gender-based violence.”*

  - Participate in narrative session(s) to inform campaign materials, messaging and concepts.
  - Review and reflect on creative look and feel, and help ensure the campaign brief center values of inclusion, equity, and accountability.
  - Offer culturally grounded feedback based on lived, professional, and community-based knowledge.
  - Support the campaign’s ability to reflect and reach diverse communities, including African Nova Scotian, Indigenous, and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, in meaningful and respectful ways.
  
- **Metro Interagency Restorative Conversations Committee on Family Violence**  
 (2024-present, unpaid civic involvement)

  - Identify and discuss systemic issues related to family violence.
  - Build a community of practice of individuals and groups serving in the sector of family violence.
  - Develop shared positions and points of advocacy to address systemic issues related to family violence.
  
- **Nova Scotia Department of Justice Coercive Control Task Group**  
 (2024-2025, unpaid civic involvement)

  - Collaborate across agencies and departments to build a common understanding of coercive control.
  - Engage with stakeholders and community members to identify issues related to coercive control.
  - Develop common stances and points of advocacy related to coercive control.
  - Generate tools and guidance for service providers and others related to responding to instances of coercive control.
  
- **Nova Scotia College of Social Workers Clinical Committee**  
 (2021-2024, unpaid civic involvement)  
 Nova Scotia College of Social Workers

*“The clinical committee will work to strengthen clinical social work practice in Nova Scotia by exploring the regulatory tools best positioned to serve and protect the public interest; preserve the integrity of the clinical practice within the social work profession; and maintain public confidence in the ability of the social work profession to regulate itself.”*

- Identified clear scope of practice for clinical social work.
  - Examined all risks to the public associated with the delivery of clinical social work services.
  - Examined regulatory tools best positioned to mitigate risks.
  - Developed rationale and recommendations and proposed policy for the successful regulation of clinical social work in Nova Scotia.
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- **Alternative Justice Measures for Sexual Violence Research Advisory Committee**  
(2022-2023, unpaid civic involvement)  
Women’s Legal Education & Action Fund  
*“Identifying Alternative Measures that Exist for Survivors and Assessing Whether They Meet Survivors’ Justice Needs”*
    - Examined how alternative justice could be integrated into the Canadian legal system.
    - Examined alternative justice models that were strictly community-based, and described how their work interacted with or is inhibited by law.
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- **National Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Guideline Committee**  
(2021- 2023, unpaid civic involvement)  
British Columbia Centre on Substance Use  
*“A committee of national experts - including clinicians, researchers, policymakers, and people with lived experience of alcohol use and recovery – are working together to develop a Canadian treatment guideline with the goal of improving education on available treatments, and ultimately care, for Alcohol Use Disorder”*
    - Attended meetings, completed surveys, reviewed evidence, and contributed to writing recommendations.
    - Developed guidelines that captured diverse perspectives.
    - Offered a critical perspective on evidence-based models of treatment.
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- **Trafficking and Exploitation Services Systems Regional Working Group**  
(2020-2023, unpaid civic involvement)  
YWCA Halifax  
*“A Turning Point for Women”*
    - Collaborated with various providers of direct services to develop a protocol for working with victims and survivors of human trafficking from initial disclosure to intervention.
    - Mapped local resources for working with victims and survivors and identified gaps in services.
    - Produced educational and public information resources about sexual exploitation.
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- **Practicum Student** (2018- 2018, MSW Practicum)  
Nova Scotia Health Authority  
*“Healthy People, Healthy Communities— for Generations”*
    - Worked primarily in intensive care unit and emergency department.
    - Completed psychosocial assessments.

- Navigated patients to appropriate geriatric, mental health and addiction services within Nova Scotia Health Authority and IWK Health Centre.
  - Provided support for family members and caregivers.
  - Completed referrals to community agencies and provide information about community resources to patients and families.
  - Facilitated end-of-life conversations, assist with personal directives and substitute decision maker selection.
  - Completed suicide risk assessment.
  - Reported cases requiring adult or child protection services.
  - Collaborated with Continuing Care and facilitated arrangements for home supports for patients, family, and caregivers.
  
- **Youth Care Worker** (2016-2017, paid employment)  
HomeBridge Youth Society  
*“Health, Safety, Harmony”*
  - Followed currently recognized best practices in residential youth care.
  - Wrote reports and corresponded with Social Workers, police officers, and medical professionals to ensure continuity of care.
  - Connected with young people and family members who are resistant to developing relationships.
  - Collaborated with team members to provide effective therapeutic relationships between youth and caregivers.
  - Provided suicide intervention, non-violent crisis intervention, and other supports when required.
  
- **Trauma Informed Care Working Group Member** (2015-2016, unpaid civic involvement) IWK Health Centre  
*“Creating a safe and secure trauma informed working environment”*
  - Discussed issues in physical environments and procedures that are traumatizing to patients, family, and staff.
  - Viewed practice issues and solutions using a patient and family-centred lens.
  - Provided feedback on documents used to guide professionals in becoming trauma informed at interagency and systems levels.
  
- **Practicum Student** (2015, BSW practicum)  
**Shift Worker** (2015-2016, paid employment)  
Alcare Place  
*“We are a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of addicted persons with a commitment to recovery”*
  - Facilitated groups and developed counselling skills.
  - Assisted participants in transition planning.
  - Fostered working relationships with other agencies.
  - Completed new intakes.
  - Directed new and potential participants to community resources.
  
- **Public Advisory Group Member** (2014-2016, unpaid civic involvement)  
Nova Scotia Health Authority  
*“Central Management Zone Addictions and Mental Health Program Public Advisory Group”*

- Engaged members of the public in discussions surrounding issues in addictions and mental health treatment.
  - Advised executive leadership team on solutions to issues experienced by people accessing services.
  - Offered feedback on websites, programs, and public engagement processes.
- **Student Representative** (2014-2016, unpaid student government involvement)  
University of Victoria  
*“Between October and April all student representatives across the country teleconference with a faculty member to share ideas and to discuss issues pertaining to the student body”*
  - Acted as point of contact for students facing challenges.
  - Discussed challenges students face and relevant improvements to policy.
  - Piloted course in alternative self-care practices for Social Work students (designed by faculty).
  - Initiated a mentoring program for incoming students.
- **Ideafest Planning Committee Member** (2014-2015, unpaid student involvement)  
University of Victoria  
*“Indigenous Social Work in a Neoliberal Era”*
  - Collaborated with other students and staff to make logistical arrangements for the School of Social Work to be represented at Ideafest.
  - Prepared and submitted artwork for the event.
  - Selected and invited panelists to share.
- **Science and Math Tutor** (2014, paid employment)  
Schooltutoring.com  
*“Affordable home tutoring programs designed for busy families”*
  - Explained complex concepts to students facing barriers to learning.
  - Assisted children in mathematics and science courses.
  - Prepared students for standardized testing.
  - Mentored children with different needs.

## EDUCATION

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- **Certificate in Non-Profit Leadership for Impact** (2025)  
University of Toronto
- **Master of Social Work** (2019)  
University of Waterloo
- **Bachelor of Social Work with Distinction** (2016)  
University of Victoria
- **Bachelor of Science with Honours in Neuroscience** (2005)  
Dalhousie University
- **Professional Development** (ongoing)
  - Therapy, Family Mediation Perspectives: Patterns of Relationship Breakdown (presenter, International Families Alliance)

- Clinical Considerations when Working with Male Victims (presenter, From Boys to Men: Uniting International Research and Practice, Bridgetown 2025)
- What Makes Boys and Men Unwell? Promoting Wellness and Healthy Relationships (presenter, Empowering Boys and Men: Promoting Wellness and Relationships, Toronto 2024)
- What Happened to You? Engaging Men and Boys in Therapy Meaningfully (presenter, The International Conference on Men and Abuse: An Academic-Community Approach, Toronto 2023).
- Male Sexual Victim/ Perpetrator Treatment (presenter, Men & Families Conference, Toronto 2022).
- The Homefront Model: An Evidence-Based Response to Domestic Violence (Homefront).
- Campus Sexual Misconduct: Preventing and Responding to Perpetration (MASOC).
- Understanding Offenders and Offending: National Problem-Solving Courts Conference (Nova Scotia Courts).
- Understanding the Foundations of Dialectical Behavioural Therapy (Stanford, Dr. Stephanie Clarke).
- Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (Monmouth University, Lindsey Capelli and Katelin Weisser).
- Halifax Domestic Violence Court Programme (panel speaker, Canadian Domestic Violence Conference 2020).
- Assessing Parenting Capacity (Robert S. Wright, MSW, RSW)
- Intimate Partner Violence Risk Assessment: Implications for Women's Safety (NSACSW, Jacquelyn Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN)
- Let's Unpack the Man Box (panel speaker, Sexual Health Awareness Week, Dalhousie Student Health Promotion)
- Trauma Informed Care Education Event (IWK)
- NVC, ASIST
- Client-centred Mental Health and Addictions Systems (NSCSW/CASW, Todd Leader, RSW)
- Supporting Survivors of Sexual Violence (DCS)
- Developing Capacity to Respond to Intimate Partner Violence Situations (CASW, Rina Arseneault, C.M., MSW, RSW)
- Acting as Allies to Women Counter Storying their experiences of Sexual Violence. (CASW, Rina Arseneault, C.M., MSW, RSW, Sue McKenzie-Mohr, PhD, MSW, RSW)
- Trauma Informed Practice in Nova Scotia (BCCEWH)
- Halifax Restorative Justice Conference 2015 (CJS)
- Intimate Partner Violence and BDSM (NCSF)
- Suicide Awareness and Intervention (CTRI, Tricia Klassen, MSW, RSW)
- Standard First Aid and CPR Level C with AED
- Mental Health First-aid

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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- Anita Allardice Lancaster Scholarship (\$1,900)  
*"A scholarship is awarded to a full-time student who is entering year four in the School of Social Work. Academic standing and participation in university or community affairs will be considered".*

- Chancellor's Scholarship (\$28,000)
- Laing Undergraduate Student Research Award (~\$6,000)
- Warr Undergraduate Student Research Award (~\$6,000)
- NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (~\$6,000)
- Governor General's Academic Medal (2001)

## ACTIVITIES

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- **Clinical Member** (2020-present), Association for the Treatment and Prevention of Sexual Abuse
- **Clinical Specialist** (2024-present), Nova Scotia College of Social Workers
- **Private Practitioner** (2021-2024), Nova Scotia College of Social Workers
- **Candidacy Mentor** (2020-2022), Nova Scotia College of Social Workers
- **Registered Social Worker** (2018-present), Nova Scotia College of Social Workers
- **Social Worker Candidate** (2016-2018), Nova Scotia College of Social Workers
- **Student Member** (2015-2016), Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers
- **Member** (2015-2016), Youth Project Ally Network
- **Volunteer** (2014-2015), Daily Bread Outreach Program
- **Volunteer** (2003-2005), Scouts Canada