



## Code of Values

This Code is intended to act as support for VFTC Therapists in the development of sustainable ethical protocols as they continue to respond to the demands of the community. The values outlined in this code are built on the three pillars that have formed the foundation of a ProChoices, and continues to support our work within the VFTC : Narrative, Feminisms, and Collectivism. Each of the values can be understood through the lenses of each of these three pillars.

### On Narrative:

Narrative Therapy's non-pathologizing approach credits the client as the expert of their experience and as the authority on what will constitute meaningful change and resolution. Narrative therapists take a co-research position that invites alternative ways of perceiving, responding to, and resolving individual challenges.

### On Feminisms:

The clinic's understanding of social justice is formed through the lens of intersectional Feminisms. This places particular attention on the raising of consciousness and promotion of choice, change, empowerment, and possibility in response to patriarchal systems of power. Our Feminisms honour the resistance, resilience, and strengths in our client's stories that too often get minimized, dismissed, pathologized, or made invisible.

### On Collectivism:

While we do not operate as a collective, we are in an ongoing process of working with collectivist intention. For us, working with a collectivist intention is about shared responsibility, ownership, intention, and values. These things that we share are what have brought us together and what sustain our commitment to this work. Our intention is to embody a non-authoritarian decision-making structure where everyone's voice is heard and valued. This intention supports multifaceted interpretation of our work and promotes ongoing growth. Working with this collectivist intention, we are weaving together a rich, unique tapestry that is ever changing and will continue to grow from each person who touches it.