

# The Calgary Family Therapy Centre



CEU  
Approved by  
CACFT  
(60 CECs)

Announcing it's

## Two-Week Externship in **Systemic Family Therapy**

with Karl Tomm, MD, and staff

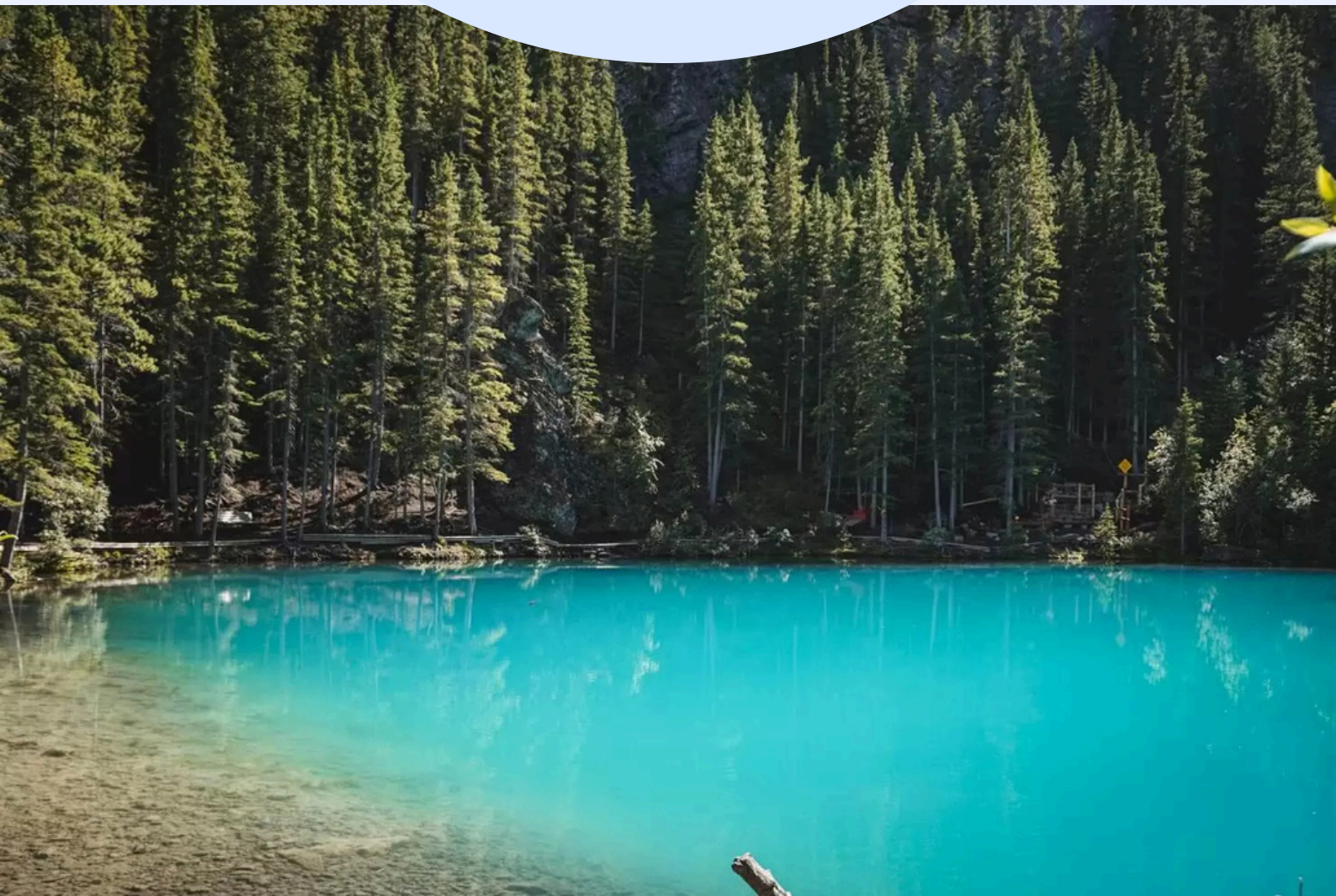
In Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**August 11th to 22nd, 2025**

This externship training course offers in-depth exposure to the unique postmodern and bringforthist systemic family therapy approach developed and practiced at the Calgary Family Therapy Centre over the last 50+ years, which is affiliated with the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada (learn more: <https://www.familytherapy.org/the-centre>).

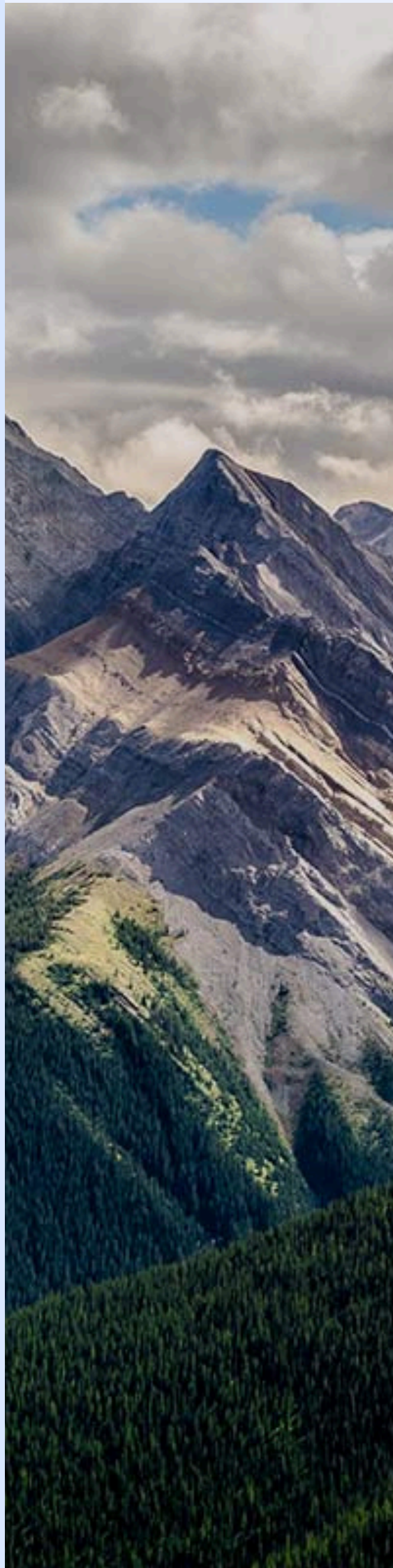
We offer ten full days of learning, with practice-based research and theoretical explorations in the mornings, and clinical interview observations in the afternoons. Externs will regularly participate in reflecting teams for live interviews to integrate their learning experience.

The Externship aims to equip therapists with tools for culturally sensitive therapeutic initiatives to address interpersonal trauma and de-escalate conflict. Our approach is designed to prevent high-risk disruptive behaviors (such as aggression, violence, self-harm, suicidal behavior, and excessive behaviors) by assessing and addressing high interpersonal conflict, or interpersonal and contextual factors sustaining relational pain and risk.



# Content will Include:

- Postmodern and Bringforthist assumptions about the nature of human problems that guide therapeutic initiatives, with a focus on relational pain.
- The IPscope assessment framework (Pathologizing Interpersonal Patterns vs. Healing Interpersonal Patterns).
- Reflexive Questioning and the recently expanded version of the Interventive Interviewing framework.
- The 7 “Rs” of Transforming Interpersonal Patterns (TIPs) to address the 7 “Ms” of Relational Pain.
- The impact of Societal Discourses in the lives of families.
- Using Relational Disquiet to Work within High Conflict, High Discrepancy, and High Risk situations in family therapy.
- Internalized Other Interviewing.
- Addressing Mistrust by Deconstructing Shame and Guilt and Opening space for Apology and Forgiveness.
- Integrating IPscopic approaches with Non-Violent Resistance Therapy (NVR), Trauma-Informed Therapy and Somatic Experiencing®, Solution-Focused Family Therapy and Narrative Family Therapy.
- Other CFTC Signature Practices (on Demand): Research As Daily Practice, Relational Clinical Supervision, Alternative Ethical Postures that support differing therapist responses, Different ‘ways of knowing’ (with a focus on Maturana’s theory of knowledge)...and much more!



Learning methods will include presentations using power point slides, videoclips showcasing therapeutic practices, pre-session clinical discussion, observation of live interviews through one-way mirror and/or monitors, reflecting team participation using two-way mirrors, post-session discussion, individual and group exercises, interviewing practice, optional simulation interview, possible review of interview recordings, and open discussion.



## About the Calgary Family Therapy Centre

The CFTC was initiated in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Calgary by Dr. Tomm in 1973. It continues to serve the Calgary community as a multidisciplinary outpatient treatment program and provides specialized services in systemic therapy for families with children and adolescent who present with behavioral or emotional problems. Approximately 300 families are seen per year, including a wide range of types of family situations and presenting concerns. These clinical services provide a rich base for training graduate students in skills for therapeutic interviewing. The Centre also offers ongoing teaching and serves as a base for conceptual research in family therapy. It is supported by excellent physical facilities including multiple interviewing rooms equipped with one-way mirrors, telephone intercom, and remote-controlled cameras for recording.

The orientation of the Centre, in terms of theoretical framework and methods of practice, continues growing and evolving over its 50+ years. Staff members at the Centre have been at the leading edge of new developments in the field of family therapy for many years and have continuously been involved in exploring, developing, and applying innovative patterns of therapeutic thought and action.

The Centre is located in Calgary, a vibrant Western Canadian city. It is only one hour by car from the Canadian Rocky Mountains and Banff National Park which offer world class hiking, camping, climbing, and sight-seeing.

# The CFTC Training Team

The externship will be facilitated by CFTC trainers who have been directly involved in developing CFTC's Systemic Family Therapy Approach, including:

- Karl Tomm
- Joaquin Gaete-Silva
- Sally Saint-George
- Dan Wulff
- Jeff Chang
- Monica Sesma-Vazquez
- Becky Giammarino
- Tamara Wilson
- Mardi Dauphinee
- Lance Taylor
- Shari Couture
- Emily Doyle
- Danielle Mayer

Please check out our trainers' bios here: [Staff Profiles | CFTC \(familytherapy.org\)](https://www.familytherapy.org/staff-profiles)

## Application Requirements

- Experience as a therapist at the masters or doctoral level
- Current curriculum vitae or resume
- Letter outlining interests in family therapy and intent to utilize training in current or anticipated work settings

## Training Program Fees:\*

- Standard Fee: \$2500 CAD (including tax)
- Early Bird Fee: \$2000 CAD (for registrations before December 15, 2024)
- Special Discounts: Available for local AHS workers and Indigenous students. Please inquire for details.

Number of participants: **Maximum 15**

(early application is advised; applications will be processed as received).

\*Please consult about our money return policy.

## Inquiries and Applications sent to:

### Administration

Calgary Family Therapy Centre  
600, 1816 Crowchild Trail NW Calgary,  
Alberta, Canada T2M 3Y7 Email:  
[cftc@familytherapy.org](mailto:cftc@familytherapy.org)  
Phone: 403-802-1680  
Fax: 403-270-7446

