**Alison Forster**

B.Sc B.Sc (MRS) MTS M.Phil (c) Ph.D (c)

(She/They)

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St. John’s, NL

[Blog and website](http://alisonforsteronline.com/)

PERSONAL PRECIS

As a global thinker, creative problem solver and multidisciplinary individual, I can adapt to a variety of roles.

I thrive in roles that require honed judgement, attunement, critical thinking and crisis management.

I value direct, but collaborative and respectful, conversations with coworkers and mediate conflict within a team.

I am highly driven by both internal and external achievement.

Highly reflective and self-aware, I have a thirst for feedback and mentorship and am best suited to a role that has no ceiling for growth and development.

EXPERIENCE

Choices For Youth *October 2024 – present*

**Residential Counsellor (Shelter)**

* Approachable to residents, resulting in multiple major disclosures
* Responds to crisis situations and medical emergencies with focus and poise
* De-escalates using collaboration and respect for clients’ self-awareness
* Approach based on honesty, understanding above direction, mutual exchange, and empathetic setting of limits
* Balances autonomy and advocacy with collaboration to successfully build relationships with staff of varying approaches
* Actively seeks out feedback and training opportunities to facilitate growth and skills
* Successfully integrates new experiences in an environment with steep learning curve to adapt to leadership role for relief staff

Eastern Health *January 2013 - October 2024*

**Radiation Therapist**

<https://www.camrt.ca/mrt-profession/description-of-practice-2/>

* Naturally built rapport with a range of vulnerable populations
* Met patient needs by engaging thoroughly in difficult conversations around prognosis and mortality, while remaining within scope of practice
* Employed critical thinking and creative problem solving to address gaps in patient care
* Developed a professional identity centred on patient rights, autonomy, and harm-reduction
* Actively invested in student and new staff development, by teaching clinical assessment, soft and technical skills comprehensively, and supporting students through errors and skill growth
* Successfully led the management of numerous crises and prevented a major underdosing error
* Undertook self-directed learning, attaining uncommon, in-depth knowledge of broad range of medications and advanced clinical assessment

QUALIFICATIONS

* Certified in CPR & First Aid
* Certified in Naloxone Delivery (nasal and injectable)
* Vulnerable sector check available
* ASIST certified
* Mental Health First Aid certified

PERSONAL INTERESTS & RECOGNITION

*“THE HOLE IN THE DONUT”*

* [Active Academic Blogger](http://www.alisonforsteronline.com)
* Advocate, demonstrated in [SaltWire Interview](https://www.saltwire.com/atlantic-canada/updated-a-quarter-of-nl-radiation-therapists-left-last-year-those-still-working-are-facing-gut-wrenching-scenarios-with-patients-and-difficult-career-decisions-100824649)
* Well-rounded perspective from diverse experiences with an unconventional approach to life and relationships
* Hiker near completion of all East Coast Trails; Sewist, practicing Buddhist; avid fan of CBC’s *Ideas* podcast, captivated by remote geographies; and “swimming spot” sleuthEDUCATION

DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (CANDIDATE)

**Phenomenology and Existentialism in Psychedelic Assisted Therapy**

Global Center for Advanced Studies Dublin, IE

*January 2025 – present (Distance)*

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY – HUMANITIES (CANDIDATE)

**Capstone project – From ‘Touch, Feel, and Listen’ to ‘Touching, Feeling, and Listening’: The Phenomenological Mismatch Between Physicians and Patients**

Memorial University St. John’s, CA

*September 2023 - August 2025*

MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

**Thesis on Metaphysics of Buddhist and Christian Mysticism**

Queen’s College St. John’s, CA

*January 2019 - July 2023*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE - MEDICAL RADIATION SCIENCES

ADVANCED DIPLOMA - APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

**National License - Radiation Therapy – MRT(T)**

University of Toronto, Michener Institute Toronto, CA

*September 2009 - August 2012*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

**Minors in Biology and Religious Studies**

University of Waterloo Waterloo, CA

*September 1999 - August 2004*