

MINDSENSE

Two IMEs. Two outcomes. Same client - treated very differently.

Trauma-informed does not mean advocacy. It means better evidence and a tailored methodology backed by science. Here's what changes at every stage, and what it means for your case.

“A survivor who feels unsafe in an assessment will not present the same history as a survivor who feels respected and in control.”

STAGE	TRADITIONAL IME	MINDSENSE TRAUMA-INFORMED IME
01 Referral & Expert Match	First available expert. Generalist credentials. May have no specific training in abuse-related trauma, complex PTSD, or the survivor's case context.	MindSense’s trauma-informed team carefully matches each survivor with an expert whose experience aligns with the case, including sexual violence, intimate partner abuse, institutional abuse, or elder abuse, while also considering cultural context, gender preference, and individual support needs.
FOR THE SURVIVOR	They walk in trusting that the expert understands how trauma can impact one’s life. Trust starts before the door opens.	
02 Preparation	Appointment letter. Date, time, address. Limited information about what the assessment involves, who will be present, or how long it will run.	Survivor Engagement Program: a trauma-informed coordinator, advance materials, equipment lending if needed, a test call before the day, and a team member present on the day of a virtual assessment to ensure a smooth process.
FOR THE SURVIVOR	Anxiety drops. Transparency is established. System uncertainty is lessened..	
03 The Assessment Itself	A single 2–3 hour session at the expert's pace, in a system-convenient location. The survivor responds to what is asked, when it is asked.	Survivor can choose format (in-person, virtual, or hybrid), pace, breaks, and which topics to flag in advance. A support person is welcome to attend.
FOR THE SURVIVOR	Agency is established. Engagement is improved. Story is better captured.	
04 Post- assessment	The survivor leaves and is on their own. No follow-up plan. No guidance on what to expect emotionally in the hours and days afterward.	Survivor is encouraged to schedule a debrief with their treating professional and to have a support plan in place - a friend, family member, or counsellor. Available resources and information provided.
FOR THE SURVIVOR	Lower risk and duration of post-assessment distress, isolation, or destabilization.	
05 The Report	Generic IME format. Trauma signs at risk of being misread as inconsistency, malingering, or fabrication - conclusions that may not survive cross- examination.	Trauma is interpreted correctly - clinical signs of complex trauma distinguished from the common myths. Written in trauma-informed language, structured to withstand legal scrutiny.
FOR THE SURVIVOR	Their story is documented in language that does not re-injure - and that holds up in court.	

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR YOUR CASE

An assessment that fails the survivor is also an assessment that fails the file.

Trauma is interpreted correctly

A MindSense expert distinguishes the clinical signs of complex trauma from the common myths. Inconsistent recall isn't unreliable testimony; flat affect isn't malingering. The conclusions reflect the science.

Better engagement, better evidence

A survivor who feels safe gives a fuller, more accurate clinical history. That is the difference between a report that mis-characterizes your client and one that captures them.

Defensible expert evidence

Canada's courts are increasingly sophisticated in their understanding of trauma. Methodologies that ignore current evidence are more likely to be challenged. A MindSense report holds up.

Being a trauma-informed lawyer means you need trauma-informed partners.
You don't have to walk it alone.

REFER WITH CONFIDENCE