

RUPERT RAJ

Rupert Raj, MA, Counseling Psychology

Rupert Raj (70) is a Eurasian-Canadian, pansexual Trans Elder, who's been an international Trans Activist in North America and abroad since he transitioned in 1971.

He founded six transsexual organizations: Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (1978-85), Metamorphosis Counselling & Educational Services-cum-Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation (1982-88), and Gender Worker-cum-Gender Consultants (1987-88)---and edited three newsletters: “Gender Review” (1978-81) **(the first national transsexual newsletter in Canada)**, “Metamorphosis” newsletter-cum-”Metamorphosis Magazine” (1982-88) **(the first newsletter exclusively for trans men in North America and abroad)**, and “Gender NetWorker” (1988).

As a former psychotherapist and gender consultant from 2001 to 2015, Rupert counselled queer, transgender, intersex and Two-Spirit people; and trained health care, social service and legal practitioners, educators, students and policy workers, employing his TransPositive Therapeutic Model.

He has written six trans-focussed clinical research papers, and his three books include: *Trans Activism in Canada* (with Dan Irving) (2014), *Of Souls & Roles, Of Sex & Gender: A Treasury of Transsexual, Transgenderist & Transvestic Verse* (2017/2018), and *Dancing the Dialectic: True Tales of a Transgender Trailblazer* (2017, 2020).

A recipient of much public recognition, in 2013 Mr. Raj was inducted into The ArQuives: Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives, where the Rupert Raj fonds are housed. In 2016 he was on the Founders Panel of the Moving Trans History Forward Conference put on by the University of Victoria's Transgender Archives. In 2022, he was nominated for Fantasia Fair's Transgender Pioneer Award for his 50+ years of trans activism.
