

# Autism Society

Of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo



## SOCIETY NEWS

April is here and we are so excited! Our April events for Autism Acceptance are ongoing so check out our Facebook page to see what's happening!

With all the nice weather that we have been having lately, we are getting SO excited for summer camp to begin!

Despite the current restrictions, we are crossing our fingers that we will be able to go back to our normal Camp Kids First starting in July!

Planning is underway, but in order to run Camp, fundraisers and sponsors are a must!

Camp Kids First is the best time of the year. Our kids love it, our staff are so excited to work, and our parents are so happy they have a fun and safe environment for their kids to go! The smiles on children's faces and the testimonials from parent's, are the reason we keep making camp happen! Here are just a couple testimonials from camp 2020:

"The support and understanding of kid's needs, and parent's fears, and expectations was amazing", "it was great for her to be with friends and socializing after months at home with parents".



### Contact us!

Lower level of the Local 707A UNIFOR Building  
21B-10019 MacDonald Ave,  
Fort McMurray, AB  
T9H 1S9

Phone: 587-452-9334

Email: [autismsupport@autismrmwb.org](mailto:autismsupport@autismrmwb.org)

Website: [www.autismrmwb.org](http://www.autismrmwb.org)

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram,  
and Twitter!



→ @autismRMWB

### Vision

We envision a centre in RMWB that will be recognized as the primary provider of support and services in our community and surrounding areas. Every person will have access to a center that provides the ability to bridge the gap between families, professionals, education support and assessments. Our goal is to guide families and individuals to the supports needed at each stage of their life.

### Mission

We strive to accommodate a support network that fosters an inclusive community by providing information, supports, awareness and programs to all those in our community affected by ASD and other barriers.

### Values

- Support an inclusive community by respecting people, valuing diversity, and a commitment to equality
  - Raising awareness and understanding to create acceptance in the community
  - Empowering individuals to achieve their goals
  - Inspiring optimism in the community
- Provide an emotionally safe and supportive setting.

# Camp Kids First



Camp "Kids First" is a summer day camp for autistic and other exceptional children aged 4-17-years-old in the Wood Buffalo region. Participants have the opportunity to experience typical summer camp experiences like their peers do. We offer experiences such as swimming, rock-climbing, music and dance classes, boat trip on the river, arts & crafts, visits to Heritage Park, Oilsands Discovery Centre, day trip to Gregoire Lake beach area, just to name a few.

The needs of every child are met individually, and one-to-one support is provided by our team of dedicated and experienced support workers. Children participate in a variety of activities that promote social skills, play and communication.

For more information contact:

[campkidsfirst@autismrmwb.org](mailto:campkidsfirst@autismrmwb.org)

To Register Visit:

<https://autismrmwb.org/register-for-events/>

A colorful poster for Camp Kids First. At the top right, a yellow circle says "SAVE THE DATES!". In the center is a circular logo featuring a wooden cabin in a forest with the words "CAMP KIDS FIRST" and "AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE RMWB" below it. Below the logo, the text "Camp Kids First strives for children to make connections and create memories" is written. A yellow box contains the following schedule:

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| JULY 5TH - 9TH      | 4-6YRS  |
| JULY 12TH - AUG 6TH | 6-12YRS |
| AUG 9TH - 13TH      | 12+YRS  |

Below the box, it says "CAMP REGISTRATION: APRIL 2021". Further down, it states "This year's summer camp partially funded by The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo" and includes the logo for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. At the bottom, the website "WWW.AUTISMRMWB.ORG" and email "EMAIL: CAMPKIDSFIRST@AUTISMRMWB.ORG" are listed.

## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



# Current Fundraisers and Upcoming Events



## VIRTUAL NIGHT OF COMEDY!

Introducing Comics Not Otherwise Specified; AKA-  
"The world's most awkward boy band"

JOIN US for a Virtual Night of Comedy on April 30!

Click the link below to buy your tickets!

[https://www.generoussolutions.com/e/virtual-night-of-comedy-611?fbclid=IwAR3DrcOfdQgqW19nbNyYiUmEnINVtoMeELzhXs7Tem1nS8bVm\\_90Fe6NHRk](https://www.generoussolutions.com/e/virtual-night-of-comedy-611?fbclid=IwAR3DrcOfdQgqW19nbNyYiUmEnINVtoMeELzhXs7Tem1nS8bVm_90Fe6NHRk)

**ONLY \$10 !!!**



## BOTTLE DRIVE!

**Save your empties!**

The Autism Society of the RMWB will be doing a bottle drive on **MAY 15<sup>th</sup>** to fund our summer camp!

All proceeds of the bottle drive will go towards activities for our Camp Kids First summer camp!

Please contact [campkidsfirst@autismrmwb.org](mailto:campkidsfirst@autismrmwb.org) or 780-531-5777 for more information and for location on where to pick up your empties!

**\*\*all pickups will be contactless so please leave your empties at the end of your driveway or add in details in the email as to where they will be located!**



# Sponsorship



**AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO**  
21B-10019 MACDONALD AVENUE, FORT MCMURRAY, AB. T9H 3V8



I am writing to you as a supporter of social non-profit community groups to ask for assistance for next year's summer camp for children with special needs in our community. This 10th annual summer day camp will give children and youth aged 4-17 years-old with autism and other special needs the opportunity to experience typical summer camp experiences like their peers do. We offer experiences such as swimming, rock-climbing, music and dance classes, boat trip on Athabasca river, arts & crafts, visits to Heritage Park & Oilsands Discovery Centre, day trip to Gregoire Lake beach area, etc.

The camp is financially supported in part by Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD), Government of Alberta, which covers a portion of the cost of hiring one-to-one support workers for children with complex needs but all other costs are covered by parent fees and fundraising.

We would greatly appreciate your sponsorship of next summer's Camp Kids First. In sponsoring the camp, you will be assisting the payment of a child attending camp, the cost of covering a field trip, or the cost of a professional attending camp to teach a workshop (dance, yoga, art etc.). We can provide recognition of your name and/or institutional affiliation on our camp t-shirts (worn by all staff and youth attending), on social media and all promotional materials through one of the following levels:

1. **Gold Level (\$999 +)**
  - a. Assists us pay for Camp t-shirts (bright colors for safety purposes) (60 children + 60 staff = \$3500)
  - b. Helps pay for our seasonal storage locker to keep our Camp equipment safe (\$1800)
  - c. Provides staff training in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (6 staff = \$1200)
  - d. Assists us pay facility rental and utilities (1 week = \$800/\$1000)
2. **Silver Level (\$500 to \$999)**
  - a. Covers the cost of a one-to-one support worker for a child with complex or high medical needs (\$780)
  - b. Pays for 10 children to experience a River Boat Tour of the Clearwater River (\$800)
  - c. Covers entrance fees to one local attraction (Heritage Park, Oilsands Discovery Centre, etc.) for ten children (60 children = \$700/\$900)
3. **Bronze Level (\$20 to \$499)**
  - a. Sponsor's one child's camp fees for a week at Camp Kids First (1 child = \$200)
  - b. Pays for a yoga instructor/music teacher/dance instructor session (10 kids = \$200)
  - c. Assists us to pay for camp materials such as craft supplies, baking ingredients, sensory toys, etc.

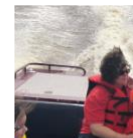
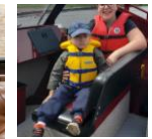
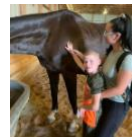
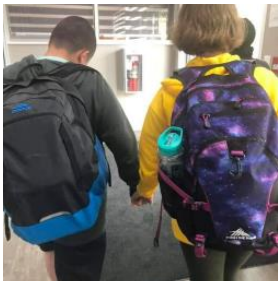
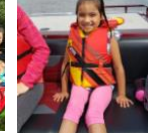
To serve as a sponsor for the 2021 Camp Kids First, you can...

- Mail us a cheque to 21B-10019 Macdonald Avenue, Ft McMurray, AB. T9H 1S9. Please make your cheque payable to: Autism Society of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
- EMT us at [autismsupport@autismrmwb.org](mailto:autismsupport@autismrmwb.org)
- Donate through our website: <https://autismrmwb.org/donate/>

Please email or call me directly if you have any questions and thank you very much for your support! Tax receipts are available for all donations over \$20.

Paula Bowen  
Program Director – Autism Society of the RMWB  
[campkidsfirst@autismrmwb.org](mailto:campkidsfirst@autismrmwb.org)  
780-531-5777

# Camp Kids First 2020



Thank You!

