

Autism Society

Of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo



January, 2022

SOCIETY NEWS

The new year is in full swing here at the Autism Society of the RMWB and we are so excited to ramp up this year with even more successes!!

Our team have been hard at work over the past few weeks totalling numbers and prepping for the new year. Last year we seen the highest numbers in our social respite program EVER!!

The society provided 4,437 respite hours to 62 families in 2021!! That is triple of what we accomplished the year before!

We are always so proud of how far we have come in just a few short years, but the needs of the community keep us reaching for more.

We would never be where we are today without the continued support from our community members and our team of employees and volunteers. We want to say a big thank you to every single person who have supported us in any way during the crazy year that 2021 brought to us!



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

Website: www.autismrmwb.org

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram,
and Twitter!



→ @autismRMWB

Vision

A region where Autistic individuals and all those living with a disability, are valued and are participating members of the community. A region that recognizes that all citizens have the right to live, work, and play

Mission

We are committed to creating an inclusive community through programming, supports, and understanding for Autistic individuals in our region, and all those living with a disability and their families across the lifespan.

Values

- Support an inclusive community by respecting all people, valuing diversity and a commitment to equality.
- Promoting education and acceptance around Autism to create an understanding and inclusive community.
- Empowering Autistic individuals and those with disabilities to achieve their goals
- Inspiring optimism in the community.
- Provide an emotionally safe and supportive environment.

Camp Kids First Sponsorship Opportunity



We are writing to you as a supporter of social non-profit community groups to ask for assistance for this year's summer camp for children with special needs in our community. This 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 Clearwater 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 are hoping to raise \$12,000 through this campaign.

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 colours 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 2022 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
- 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
programdirector@autismrmwb.org
780-531-5777

Sensory Store



Check out our Sensory Store for all your sensory needs! We offer a variety of sensory tools, tactile play, fidgets, School supplies, and more!
Check it out on our Facebook page or contact Jenna –
jennal@autismrmwb.org for more information!



Thank You to Our Sponsors!



The Kinette Club
of Fort McMurray



Year in Review ...



We wanted to take a minute to reflect on all the fun we have had over the past year.
Here are some pictures of the memories that were made.

