Autism Society Wood Buffalo



Welcome to the Autism Society of Wood Buffalo

The Autism Society of Wood Buffalo is place to access information, supports and services in our community. It is a single location the community can come to get direction for services, support and programs they require to be successful and included in RMWB. The services provided by the society are not limited to individuals with ASD. The issues surrounding persons with disabilities in our community often overlap, and therefore we are happy to assist everyone in our community regardless of their diagnosis. The Autism Society is run by a volunteer board of directors who organize programs, information nights, provide office drop in hours and family events. We have an ambassador who will assist you in connecting to needed services in our community, advocate on your behalf and help you obtain information.

<u>VISION</u>

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 quide families and individuals to the supports needed at each stage of their life.

<u>MISSON</u>

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.

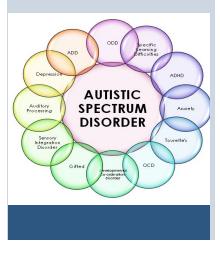
How to contact us:

Lower level of the Local 707A UNIFOR Building 25B-10019 MacDonald Ave, Fort McMurray, AB T9H 1S9 587-452-9334

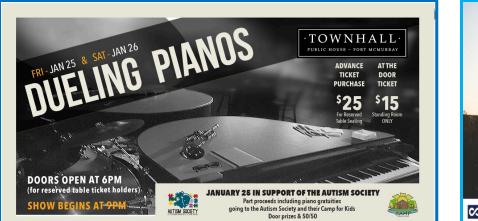
Hours: Any time by appointment Monday – Friday hours vary (Check Facebook for updated hours) EMAIL General inquires autismsupport@autismrmwb.org Support Services admin@autismrmwb.org

> WEBSITE www.autimsrmwb.org

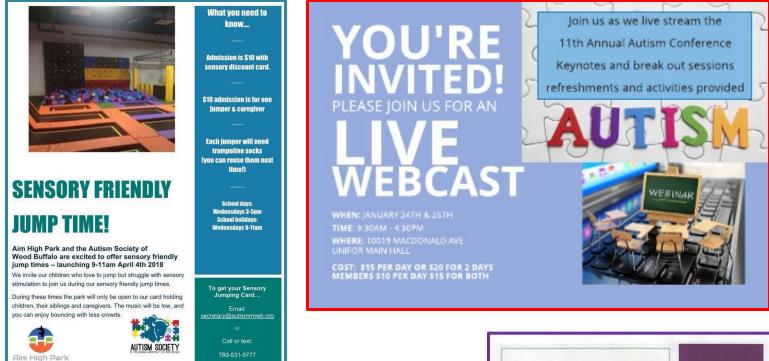
Facebook @AutismRMWB Instagram @autism.societyrmwb Twitter @Autismrmwb



What's on the go in January?







To find out what events and programs are upcoming or on the go visit our website AUTISMRMWB.ORG

Or find us on Facebook @autismRMWB





Sensory Store Shelf

Become a Member Today

Ever wondered who can become a member of the Autism Society of the RMWB??? Anyone over 18yrs old can, that's who!!

But why should you become a member? Well..... you will receive free or reduced cost admission to events, early bird registration for family events and programs (such as Camp Kids First), 10% off items in our Sensory Store, the chance to vote at our Annual General Meeting and Special Meetings and much more!

How can you join?? Click the 'Shop Now' button on our Facebook page to purchase annual membership for \$20 or go to our website for more ways to join.

http://autismrmwb.org/become-a-member/

What we offer

One on One support:

Come in and one of our ambassadors will be happy to assist you with your needs. Office hours are updated on our Facebook page as well as by appointment.

Sensory Store:

We offer a variety of fidgets and sensory items for sale in our office. All proceeds go to help provide services and programs. We carry toys, books, chewies, fidgets and more

Lending Shelf:

We know how expensive it can get to purchase sensory aids, resources and toys, so we have started a lending shelf. All the donated items are available to be leant out and tested by families. We offer items such as, weight vests, balance boards, move and sit seats, learning tools, games, books and more.

In House Programs:

We are continually working on bringing programs and information sessions to the community. Stay connected to see what is upcoming here at the office.

Monthly Board Meetings:

Looking to be more involved? We are currently recruiting board members to assist with program development, committee involvement and volunteering. The board meetings are held monthly on the first Wednesday at 7pm.

MEMBERSHIP



Join the growing number of families, professionals and community members that make up the Autism Society of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. Together we can raise awareness and bring positive changes in our community

The Society's mission is 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.

Why become a member of our Society?

- Support: in the form of parent discussion groups, information sessions on various topics, information and advice on working with your child's school or simply a friendly ear on the end of a phone.
- Voting rights: when you purchase a paid membership and agree to the Society's By-Laws, Values, Vision and Mission.
- Advocate: be a voice for our autism community. Help us to raise awareness and supports for people with special needs in our region.
- Opportunity: to be involved with committees, events and activities to work towards an inclusive community.

Benefits to becoming a member:

- Unlimited access to our Lending Library.
- 10% off items purchased in our Sensory Store.
- Early registration for summer camp and other specialized programming.
- Early access to family events such as Tubing, Easter Egg Hunt, Family Camping, etc.
- Member rates for workshops, seminars and conferences
- Receive bi-monthly newsletters, updating on the Society's work in the community and upcoming events
- Discounts with community partners (e.g. Aim High)

How to become a member:

- Complete: 'Voting Membership' application form; agreeing to Autism Society of the Regional Municipality's Terms & Conditions.
- Pay s2o annually: either by cash, EMT (<u>autismsupport@autismrmwb.org</u>) or through our shop tab link on our Facebook page.

Please see our website for more information: http://autismrmwb.org/become-a-member/

The Missing Piece Project

With thanks to Autism Speaks Canada the Autism Society Wood Buffalo was able to begin an Ambassador Program in 2017. We have been fortunate to sustain this program thanks to funding provided by The RMWB Community Investment Program. The program allows us to continue community office hours, a community ambassador and the expansion of the Missing Piece Project. The Ambassador is here to provide support and guidance with connecting individuals to programs, supports and information. As well as providing education and awareness to the community through public engagements, presentations and information.

- Present to your group on topics such as inclusion, introduction to autism, and general awareness.
- Help your organization or business create an awareness campaign
- Connect individuals to services and supports with in our region
- Advocate with families
- Provide information
- Connect with and create relationships with organizations in the community to assist them in creating inclusive programing

The Missing Pieces Program is a resource intended to promote and educate others about Autism Spectrum Disorder. It will cover topics of understanding ASD, acceptance, how to assist and include others by understanding differences. Each kit will have activities designed to promote inclusion, understanding and acceptance and will be tailored to the specific user group.

The resource can be borrowed from the Autism Society office with training provided if required. A presentation by an autism ambassador is also available.

Intended audience for the program are for educational staff, Students (K-6 kits available), community groups and employers.

We are excited to soon be launching a video series titled One More Piece, as an extension of this initiative.



Employment Opportunity

AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO 25B-10019 MACDONALD AVENUE, FT MCMURRAY, AB. T9H 1S9



Autism Society of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo provides respite opportunities for youth between the ages of 11-18 through evening, weekend and summer programs. Program staff support small groups of teens to participate in a variety of community activities. These activities could include sports, movies, swimming, cooking classes etc.

Working under the guidance of the Program Director, the Respite Program staff provide direct support to youth who have autism and/or related disorders and other special needs while they participate in recreational activities in the community.

This is a part time opportunity and hours will be on a flexible schedule, including evenings and weekends.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promote community inclusion and independence by engaging and supporting the youth with their interests
- Provide direct and indirect support to individuals as required.
- Support individuals in pursuit of their interests and activities.
- Encourage self-expression of individuals supported and remain knowledgeable of verbal and nonverbal communications, including alternative communication systems and techniques.
- Provide mentorship for youth; modelling and reinforcing appropriate social skills.
- Support youth in developing a range of healthy individual coping and problem-solving skills
- Demonstrate a wide range of skills and knowledge of intervention resources and methods
- Complete accurate, timely and professional documentation.
- Always represent Autism Society of the RMWB professionally while providing support in the community

Qualifications:

- Relevant qualifications such as Youth Worker Diploma, Child and Youth Care diploma, diploma or degree relevant to supporting youth with autism an advantage but not essential
- Experience working with youth with autism and/or other special needs.
- Must have a valid driving license (Class 5) and access to a reliable vehicle (Will need to provide a driver's abstract and proof of adequate auto insurance).
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- RMCP check, including vulnerable sector (less than 6mths)
- Children's Services Intervention Record Check (less than 6mths)
- Current First Aid, Level C + CPR certificate
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention certificate (less than 2yrs)
- Must be able to provide 2 references

Closing Date: open until positions are filled

Please send resumes to: campkidsfirst@gmail.com

Thank you for your interest. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for an interview