Autism Society

Of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo



SOCIETY NEWS

The countdown is on until Christmas and us here at the Autism society are so excited!!

This year has had it fair share of hardships, but we cannot be more thankful for the wonderful year we have had.

Just last month, October, we reached an all-time high of participants and hours for our social respite program. In total, we ran 308 hours and had 24 children participate!! Thank you to our wonderful staff for making this happen!

Our community sensory room has also seen lots of interest. Because children are attending school and could not make it, we have altered the days and times. We are now offering 45-minute sessions on Monday from 10am – 2:45 pm, and Wednesday from 1pm – 4:45 pm.

We were also able to bring our missing piece program into schools! We will be adding a few health awareness bins for the transition to adulthood!!

A special thanks to Syncrude for choosing the Autism society to receive their Good Neighbours Grant!

We are working hard on creating more exciting events, programs and fundraisers for the future so please keep an eye out on our events page for all updates!

Thanks to everyone for your continued support! Your support is what helps us become a more inclusive and welcoming community.

<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 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.

Contact us!

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

Phone: 587-452-9334

Email: <u>autismsupport@autismrmwb.org</u> **Website:** www.autismrmwb.org

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!





@autismRMWB



SENSORY STORE

Did you know we have a sensory store?!

From birth to adulthood, sensory play is a fundamental source to brain development. Children learn basic functions through using their senses to explore the world around them. We take this knowledge with us into adulthood and use it every day without actually knowing.

Sensory play includes activities that stimulate a child's touch, smell, taste, sight, and hearing as well as helps with gross motors skills like balancing and movement.

Come check out our sensory store for items that will help stimulate all of those senses!!

Visit our Facebook page and click on "Shop now" to access our sensory store! https://www.facebook.com/AutismRMWB





WE WANT YOU TO JOIN OUR BOARD!

Autism Society is looking for energetic, passionate individuals to:

- Provide your voice to decisions and services that shape our community in the RMWB.
- Promote the organization in the community
- Attend monthly Board meetings and committee meetings
- Serve on sub-committee (i.e. fundraising, events)
- Volunteer at events

Interested? Please submit your expression of interest to autismsupport@autismrmwb.org or attend a meeting held monthly!

Our Mission

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Programs and Fundraisers







2021 Player \$350 Value for \$100!!

- Free Round of Golf in July or August (\$109 value)
- \$50 Green fee (\$109 value)
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- 25% Off Dinner & non-alcoholic beverages for up to 4 people
- 25% Off Lunch & non-alcoholic beverages for up to 4 people
- 25% Off Breakfast & non-alcoholic beverages for up to 4 people
- Large Bucket of Range Balls (\$20 value)
- Large Bucket of Range Balls (\$20 value)
 - ** To purchase please click on the link below or visit our sensory store!

https://autismrmwb.org/fundraising-opportunities/

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

We are very excited to announce our Casino dates for January 13-14th. All funds raised are used for our programs like social respite, Camp Kids First and The Missing Piece Project. If you have time to cover one shift or know someone that can, please send them the sign up or email autismsupport@autismrmwb.org or Call Tina at 780-715-7585. Any help is greatly appreciated.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050f4ca4ac2fa4f49january

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and our Website for all up to date information and events!

Thank you to our Sponsors!











THE MISSING PIECE



The Missing Pieces Program was created by the society as a lending resource that is accessible to and free of charge. It is was developed with the intention of promoting and educating others about Autism Spectrum Disorder. With a focus on acceptance and understanding, it covers topics of understanding ASD, acceptance of differences, and how to adapt your environment to be inclusive of everyone's needs. Since its conception it has grown to a library of presentations that cover a range of topics for almost any organization, service provider, business, employer and family wishing to learn more about ASD acceptance and accommodations.

Ours school lending bins have been created for an intended audience of early entry to grade 6. Educators can request to borrow a bin for their class. Included in the bin is a collection of books, interactive material and an informative slideshow. We have ensured that the bins have curriculum related material that could be substituted for items in health or language arts. Reading comprehension activities, novel study material and critical thinking activities are just some of what you will find in this resource. We have also ensured to add Leader in Me language to slideshow content. It really is a "win, win". An extensive teacher recourse guide has been created for each bin and offers ideas for activities and group projects. A teacher could use as little or as much of this program as they like. The resource can be borrowed from the society office with training provided if required or requested. A presentation to the intended audience is available by our Community Development Officer as well.

Looking for something to help navigate puberty? We have a wide range of body awareness and health material that we choose from to create a custom kit made for your needs. Great for parents and teachers. Our collection of social stories, visuals, books and hands-on material could be just what you need to help explain topics such as puberty, hygiene, menstruation, masturbation, and appropriate touch.

Are you a service provider or business looking to gain more knowledge or offer your staff a new professional development opportunity? Then this program is also for you! Our Community Development Officer provides custom, interactive presentations and learning opportunities. This free resource can help your organization make that step to creating a more inclusive space. Find out how we can help you today.

We are continuing to grow and develop this resource to ensure we can make all the pieces in the community come together.

We have been able to continue the delivery of this program through funding provided by the Community Initiative Grant from the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

For more information contact our Community Development Officer at community@autismrmwb.org or 780-215-2459





Funding consideration provided by :



