

# AUTISM SOCIETY

OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO



## SOCIETY NEWS

The beauty of fall has no doubt made its appearance in our beautiful region. The society has had another busy couple of months in the community and we are so thankful for all the support that we continue to receive. We were excited to kick off September with an open house to be able to show our office space, community sensory room and social respite area. We enjoyed meeting new faces, catching up with current members and engaging with other community supports.

On October 1st we held our Toonie swim. Many families enjoyed swimming, goodie bags, cake and more. We enjoyed engaging with familiar faces and meeting new ones, sharing our programs and resources and educating our community about ASD and inclusion. Thank you to the community for your support in participating in our event or offering your time to volunteer.

The society held a public Information Session with First Nations Health Consortium. Thank you to Cherie Sturek- Regional Service coordinator/North region-Alberta for presenting and sharing information about your resources and supports. Thank you to those who came to the session, it was great connecting with you all. If you were unable to attend and are interested in some information, please reach out to the society.



Phone: 587-452-9334



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



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

# COMMUNITY ENGAGMENTS & EVENTS

We had the pleasure of attending the United Way kickoff event and launched our sensory bag sales. Sensory bags can be purchased online or in the office for \$20.00, \$5.00 will go to United Way.

Thank you to the Fort McMurray Oil Barons for having us at their golf tournament. Along with our friends from Support 4 Moms we enjoyed the day. Thank you to Fort McMurray First Nation Group of Companies for sponsoring the event.

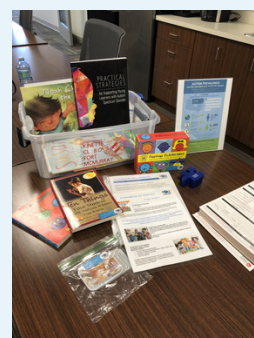
The society was also chosen to be the B MAC Score for charity organization during the month of September. Thank you to B MAC underground Services for sponsoring and to the Oil Barons for working hard on scoring those goals to raise the donation amount to a total of \$120.00.

Our community Development Officer attended the ELCC conference to be able to offer sensory toys/products, resources and supports.

Jib offered resources about the employment Support program during the Community Resource Day held at Frank Spragins High school.

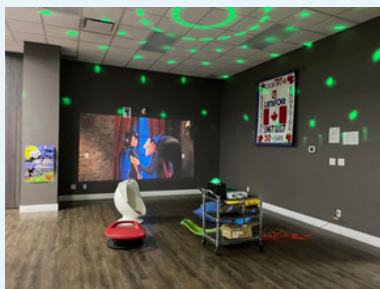
Tina presented to United Way supporters about our programs, services and supports during the Seeing Is Believing Tour.

Thank you Maiké and staff, in the Accessibility Services at Keyano College for reaching out to us and helping our organization spread awareness, acceptance and inclusion for Canada's Autism Awareness Month!





Thank you to those who signed up and joined our Halloween party. This was a sold-out event; we will look at holding more session times for future events.



## MEMBERSHIPS

For \$20 annually you have the opportunity to get involved, stay connected and help guide the strategic direction of the Autism Society of the RMWB by electing our board-level leadership at the annual general meeting. Join the growing number of families, professionals and community members that make our society.

### 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 Approved Bylaws 2020, Guiding Principles, 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:

10% off sensory store items

Access to newsletters and information about the society

Unlimited access to our lending library

Early registration for programming and special events

Member rates for workshops, seminars, and conferences

Discounts with community partners

Voting rights at our Annual General Meeting and special resolution meetings

Non-Voting Rights for professional Membership

To become a member follow the following link

Membership – Autism RMWB

Or contact the office

Thank  
you



Thank you to Andrew Barnes for going that extra mile and choosing us as your Chairty of choice for Run For A Reason.



Thank You B MAC Underground Services for your donation to the Society during the first month of Score for Charity.



Thank you to **Wood Buffalo Community Foundation**. With their support we are able to continue our **Social-Respite Life Skills program**.

Participants of our Social-Respite Life Skills program take part in activities that help build life skills.

Some examples of what they have been up to:

- writing grocery lists
- grocery shopping
- preparing simple meals
- tasting new foods and trying new textures
- washing dishes and cleaning up
- working cooperatively
- helping each other
- HAVING FUN-





# FUNDRAISERS



## LIMITED TIME ONLY!!

Our United Way Sensory Surprise bags are back... \$20 each.  
\$5 from each bag goes to United Way Campaign 2022

## Christmas Poinsettia Fundraiser



If you would like to support United Way in reaching this year's campaign goal, please consider taking part in these two fundraisers above.

Thank you United Way for your continued support!

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Inclusion Fair

### INFORMATION SESSION SAVE THE DATE



THE AUTISM SOCIETY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE WE WILL BE HOLDING A PRESENTATION ON DECEMBER 12TH 2022. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON BOOKING THE SPEAKER AND WILL RELEASE MORE INFORMATION AS IT COMES AVAILABLE. SAVE THE DATE, YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are the heart of our non-profit organization and without their continued support, we would be unable to service the community. If you would like to help us out and volunteer your time, please click on a link below and sign-up VIA WoodBuffalo Volunteers.

If you have any questions about volunteering, please reach out to [autismsupport@autismrmwb.org](mailto:autismsupport@autismrmwb.org)



[Click for more details and to register](#)

Wood Buffalo Volunteers  
[Bottle drive pick ups](#)

## NOW HIRING SOCIAL-RESPITE SUPPORT WORKERS



We are looking for motivated, caring, enthusiastic, supportive and professional members to join our team. Knowledge and previous experience supporting individuals with disabilities is essential.

Flexible hours  
part time/casual

**Email Resume to:**

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



Phone: 587-452-9334



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



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

# UPCOMING SESSIONS

**Neurodiverse**

**ADULT SOCIAL GROUP**

Social program for 16 years plus. The program focuses on building and maintaining friendship skills in group activities.

**TUESDAYS**  
12:00-2:00 PM

LOWER LEVEL OF THE LOCAL 707A UNIFOR BUILDING  
21B-10019 MACDONALD AVE.  
FORT McMURRAY, AB  
T9H 1S9

PHONE: 587-452-9334  
EMAIL: COMMUNITY@AUTISMRMBW.ORG  
WEBSITE: WWW.AUTISMRMBW.ORG



Neurodiverse Social Group is a Social Program for 16 years plus. The Program focuses on building and maintaining friendship skills in group activities.

Activities included:

- Pizza Party with crafts & games
- Wood Buffalo Regional Library.
- Bowling at The Alley YMM
- Sensory Friendly Movie
- Games and activities night
- Sensory time

For any questions please contact 587-452-9334 or email [community@autismrmwb.org](mailto:community@autismrmwb.org)



**INFORMATION SESSION**  
**SAVE THE DATE**

**10** DAY  
**12** MONTH  
**22** YEAR

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**FRIDAY FRIENDS**

**Social Skills and Friendship Group**

**THE PROGRAM**

A 6 week facilitator led program, based on PEERS for youth aged 10-14 years. Sessions are held on Friday, 5-7pm, starting October 20th. Youth will learn and practice skills during sessions and practice at home with parents/family members. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT EACH SESSION. ELIGIBILITY IS DETERMINED THROUGH TELEPHONE INTERVIEW WITH FACILITATOR.

**PROGRAM FOR THE EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT OF RELATIONSHIP SKILLS (PEERS)**

PEERS is a research-based program for youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome and other social communication challenges. PEERS is designed for motivated youth to learn how to make and keep friends. Skills taught include: use of appropriate conversational skills, appropriate use of personal space, active and passive listening, social problem solving, and understanding of personal and social boundaries.

TO REGISTER, EMAIL: [PROGRAMS@AUTISMRMBW.ORG](mailto:PROGRAMS@AUTISMRMBW.ORG)



## CONTACT US



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



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## 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.