

Autism Society

Of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo



SOCIETY NEWS

Summer is gone and the crisp winter air is here. That isn't stopping us from still having lots of fun!

This summer was a busy one for us as we had 6 FULL WEEKS of summer camp and 2 FULL MONTHS (July and August, 7 days a week) packed full of Social Respite!! See below a bigger report with total numbers and hours!

We met so many new families and the children made so many great connections.

The children are back to school now and we are back on our school schedule for social respite. Lots of fun activities still happening during

the evenings, weekends, and no school Fridays of course!

We would also like to welcome our new Community Development Officer, Heather! Heather started working with us in September and is working in our office answering and directing any questions you may have. Heather is also running our Community Sensory Room. Contact Heather to set up a time to check it out!

See below new fundraisers that are taking place and lots of other fun stuff as well!



Contact us!

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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 and Summer Respite Program



Summer is here and gone, just like that and the cold winter breeze is in the air! We had the most amazing summer here at the Autism Society of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. During the months of July and August, we hit the highest attendance yet in our programs!

Summer Camp ran from July 5th to August 13th. Over this period, we had 70 children aged 4-17 attend our camp! Groups of 12 kids each came for one full week, and we were able to attend many different activities during this time, including a boat ride on the river, play parks, Total Ninja Warrior, swimming, mini-golf, Vista Ridge, visits from the RMCP and many different therapy animals, and MUCH more. The kids (and staff) loved every single minute of camp, and the smiles on the children's faces said it all.

Social Respite ran every day of the summer alongside summer camp, so the kids could enjoy similar activities in respite and in camp. A record high number of hours were hit during July and August – over 1200 hours servicing 62 families! This is huge for us – this shows that all our hard work has been totally worth every minute. During social respite, children were able to attend swimming, Total Ninja Warrior, Vista ridge, golf lessons, Nature Walks, visits to the playpark, and much more.

All activities were planned intentionally to meet each child's cognitive, sensory, and social-emotional needs, and because of this, we were able to make changes as needed. We would not be able to make camp or social respite such a success without our fabulous team of staff who are able to work individually with each child to adapt activities as needed.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our summer programs and activities a big success!



Programs



Community Sensory Room

Our multi-sensory room is a space where primary senses are stimulated by using sensory based materials. Our Sensory Room is a safe environment to engage in a range of sensory experiences such as fiber optics, bubble tube, music, color, lighting, and aromas.

Our Community Sensory Room is open to the public by appointment only, days and times may change.

Please contact the community development officer at community@autismrmwb.org to book a timeslot!



Social Respite

Our social respite program focuses on opportunities for children aged 5-17 years old with differing abilities to build stronger foundations for social interactions and community involvement. Children and youth get to be a part of the community and make friends while parents receive the benefit of respite support!

Social respite is held multiple days of the week and include activities like Wood Buffalo Regional Library activities, Bowling at the Alley YMM, Movies at the theatre, Total Ninja Warrior, Swimming, Fort City Playworld, AND MANY MORE!

For any questions, please contact Paula at 780-531-5777 or email programdirector@autismrmwb.org

Thank You to Our Sponsors!



The Kinette Club
of Fort McMurray



Current Fundraisers



Social Respite 50/50 Fundraiser!

All Funds raised are for our Social Respite Care Program.

Social-Respite Youth Group is a Social Respite Program partially funded by United Way-Fort McMurray. The Program focuses on learning and practicing friendship skills in group activities. These activities are held on a variety of times and days for children ages 3 to 17.

Thank you for helping us support the community and good luck!

Ticket Sales End: Nov 14th, 2021

Draw Date: Nov 15th, 2021

Draw Location: Autism Society of the RMWB

The draw and winning ticket info will be posted on our Facebook page [here](#).



Christmas Poinsettia Fundraiser!

Starting to get ready for the holidays? Beautiful Poinsettias, Wreaths, or a holiday planter will add that extra touch. Follow the link and place your order online. Delivery will be Nov. 24th, 2021, in the afternoon just in time for the Holiday season!

<http://asmwb.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Thank you for all your support. All funds are in support of United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo that supports our programs.

Orders are due 6pm on Nov. 10, 2021, for delivery and pickup on Nov. 24th, 2021

Email autismsupport@autismrmwb.org for forms or to place your order with an EMT.

Once order is received, you will get an email order confirmation



Sensory Surprise Bags!

Grab your sensory surprise bag and support The United Way who supports our programs and support services!

Each bag contains a minimum of \$25 sensory tools/items and \$5 from every bag goes to this year's United Way Community Campaign!

To purchase, please visit our Facebook page and click on the Shop Now tab or email jennaL@autismrmwb.org

Available until Nov. 15th or until we sell out!!

