# AUTISM SOCIETY

OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO



# SOCIETY NEWS

Its hard to believe another summer has come and gone. We hope our families have started to settle into the routines of back to school. Just a reminder that our sensory store has some specialty school supplies, if your child is in need of some sensory items for their toolbox please reach out.

If your school, business or organization is looking for an Autism Awareness presentation please reach out to Danielle at community@autismrmwb.org

Our Education Inclusion bins are also available for teachers and schools to sign out for the new school year. Please see page 11 for more information.

We hope that everyone enjoys the rest of these warmer days and some beautiful fall weather ahead. Please keep a watch out for our member events coming up for the remainder of the year. Watch for our annual Halloween and Christmas party sign ups.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE AT OUR COMMUNITY BBQ ON SEPTEMBER 13TH, FROM 3:00-6:00 PM AT LIONS PARK!

# **CAMP KIDS FIRST**

After another successful summer of Camp Kids First we would like to send out a huge thank you to the staff, community funders, and partners. Without you summer camp would not be possible.







### WB Kids Funding (Regional Recreation Corporation of Wood Buffalo)

What's in Store SHOP · RECYCLE · REPEAT Fort McMurray



























# **CAMP KIDS FIRST**









### Running Bear Wilderness Adventures











### Fort McMurray Fire Department













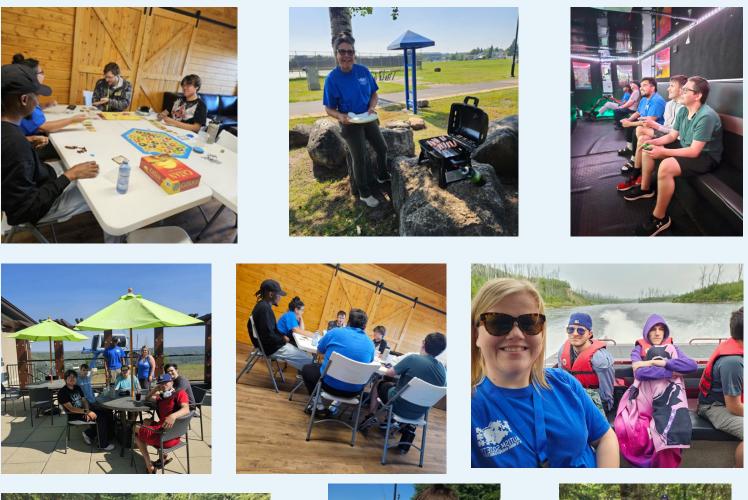


### **Beyond Adventures**

# **ADULT PROGRAM**

This year we were very happy to be able to offer an Adult Summer Camp for the first time and our participants had a fantastic time.

We are beyond thrilled and grateful for our amazing staff and the incredible support of Running Bear Wilderness Adventures, OIL City Game Rig, Vista Ridge and Walter G. Fitzpiggins: Therapy Pig that made our adult chat "n" chill camp a success!! Thank you for helping us create unforgettable memories!









## **SOCIETY & COMMUNITY EVENTS**



Tina and Courtney spent the day in Janvier supporting youth preparing for back to school.

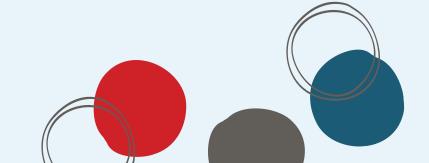


Lindsay attended The Fam Expo for Kidsport Wood Buffalo.



Barb had our resource table set up at the Big Brother Big Sisters Rubber Duck Race.

For more information on having the Autism Society be a part of your event please each out to Danielle, Community Development Office at community@autismrmwb.org



## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Join the growing number of families, professionals and community members that make up the Autism Society of the RMWB.

Together we can raise awareness and bring positive changes in our community! For \$40.00 annually you have the opportunity to get involved, stay connected and help guide the strategic direction of the Autism Society of the RWMB 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.

Come and join our monthly public meeting and see what the board is all about! We are always looking for new and fresh ideas to help diversify and grow our membership! To attend a meeting email your request to <u>autismsupport@autismrmwb.org</u>.

### 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 <u>Approved Bylaws 2020</u>, <u>Guiding Principles</u>, <u>Vision and Mission</u>.
- 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 link. Membership – Autism RMWB Or contact the office 587-452-9334

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THANK YOU, RBC , FOR THIS INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT OUR CLIENTS THROUGH OUR TRANSITIONS PROGRAM. WE ARE THRILLED TO CONTINUE EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS AND GUIDING THEM TOWARDS MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT.

# **VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITIES**







Bottle Drive - September 21st, 2024 The Autism Society of the RMWB is doing a bottle drive on Saturday, September 21st. We will be out...



#### October 21 & 22 Casino 2024

We are very excited to announce our Casino dates for October 21st, 22nd. All Funds raised are used for our programs like Social Respite Care, Camp Kids...

signupgenius.com

Click link to register

Click link to register

# UPCOMING & EVENTS



Awareness Month in October, all A&W locations in Fort McMurray will donate \$1 to the Autism Society of the RMWB for every Teen Burger™ sold. To pre-order or for any inquiries, please call 780.531.0746



### **Caregivers** Coffee

A group for caregivers of neurodiverse individuals to come together to socialize, learn about resources and supports, and take time for themselves. Beverages and snacks provided.

#### Time:

First Tuesday of the month, 9:30 AM- 11:00 AM Third Thursday of the month, 12:00 PM- 1:30 PM Schedule is also posted on Wild Apricot.

> Location: Autism Society Office 5B-10019 MacDonald Ave



For questions or more information please contact: Danielle Lidstone- Community Development Officer Danielle Lidstone- Community Develo Phone: 587-452-9334 Email: community@autismrmwb.org or Barb Fitzpatrick- Family Resource Coordinator Phone: 780-215-2459 Email: barbaraf@autismalberta.ca

Click poster to register

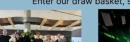


# AUTISM SOCIE

# **Community Programming**

### **Anzac Community Recreation Center** October 1st-2024 11:00-3:00 PM

Please join us at the Anzac Community recreation center. Transitions and Employment Coordinators will be running our Adult Chat N Chill program from 12:00-2:00 PM in the field house. Meet our Disability Resource Coordinator they will be set up to talk 1 on 1 about applying for disability funding. Our Community Development Officer will have our resource table, sensory room and can help with questions. Enter our draw basket, snacks and refreshments provided





12:00 2:00 PM Rec Center Field house



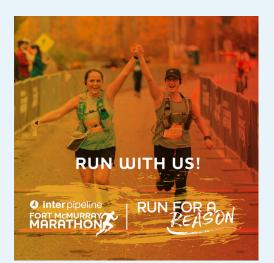
& resources



**Disability Resource** Coordinator

For more information please contact Danielle- Community Development Officer community@autismrmwb.org 587-452-9334

# **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**





The Inter Pipeline Fort McMurray Marathon is coming on Sunday, September 22, at MacDonald Island! If you had fun at our Santa Fun Run, you won't want to miss this event. Mark your calendar and get ready for another exciting race day! To register or to donate to our organization: https://www.fortmcmurraymarathon.ca/

Registration is now open! Karla Power has started a new all abilities choir. This choir is open to all individuals ages 10+ who love to sing, however that looks (vocally, using ASL or ASL) Please click for details to register. <u>https://www.facebook.com/share/Kk</u> <u>WFS2FG2PbqVQg3/</u>



Join our NEAFAN team on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-3:00pm at MacDonald Island Park to celebrate International FASD Awareness Day. There will be snacks, refreshments, trivia, and giveaways.





### Click poster for more information

## **ADULT PROGRAMS**





### **Employment Program**

Identify as neurodiverse or as a person living with a disability? Want to achieve your career goals? Now accepting applications.

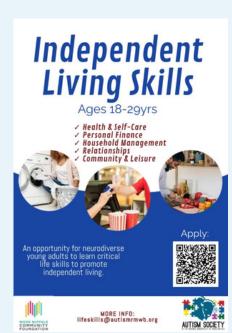
> For more information please contact: Employment Supports Facilitator Email: employment@autismrmwb.org Phone: 780-215-7280

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



### ADULT LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Our Life Skills Program is open to any neurodiverse individuals and persons living with disabilities from the ages of 18-30 to learn critical life skills and to promote independent living.

> For more information please contact: Leslie Rae Samson Life Skills Leader Email: lifeskills@autismrmwb.org Phone: 587-452-9334

# **EDUCATION INCLUSION PROGRAM**

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.





### THE EDUCATION INCLUSION PROGRAM

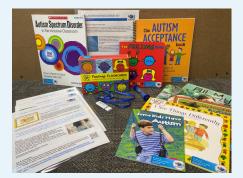
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO

The Education Inclusion 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.

Our 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.





Please follow the link bellow to request a kit: <u>Education Inclusion Kit Request (office.com)</u>

# **NOW HIRING**



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

### CONTACT US

Lower level of the Local 707A UNIFOR Building 21B-10019 MacDonald Ave, Fort McMurray, AB T9H IS9

- Phone: 587-452-9334
- Email: community@autismrmwb.org

Website: www.autismrmwb.org

### 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.