

AUTISM SOCIETY

OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO



SOCIETY NEWS

Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month

Now that Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month has concluded, we cannot thank the community enough for your continued support in creating an inclusive region, the small but mighty events raised just over \$15,000.00 for the society.



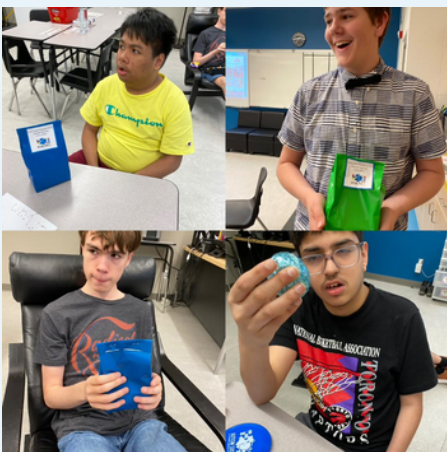
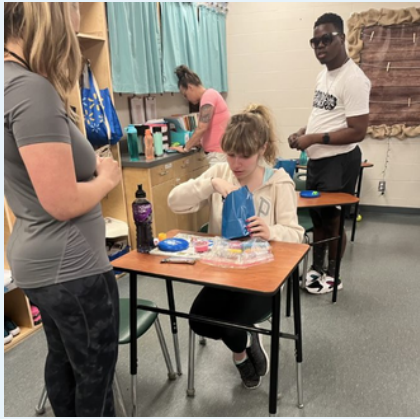
Employment Engagement Luncheon

Meticulon provided a presentation, connected with our community for employment opportunities and also with our employment program. We were happy to take part in the Spring Trade show and meet many new people.

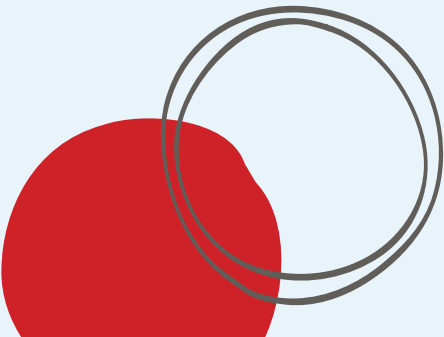


Conscience Kindness Day

May 15th was Conscience Kindness Day, and we were so happy to surprise the ILP class at Holy Trinity and the Independent living class at Composite School with goodies bags.



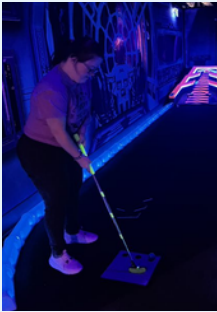
BE KIND
TO ALL
KIND



ADULT SOCIAL GRPUP PROGRAM

The Adult Social group meets every Tuesday from 12:00-2:00 pm. Check out some of the activities they have been enjoying.

Mini Golf & Arcade at UpTown Alley



A visit to Starbucks for some treats



Avenue Eatery & Cafe- Treats & Games



Beautiful Day to check out Kiyām Community Park



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 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.

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 autismsupport@autismrmwb.org.

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

587-452-9334



Call For Camp Kids First Sponsorships

Summer camp is just around the corner and planning has begun. If you're interested in sponsoring this year, please reach out to Paula- Program Director 780-531-5777
Email: programdirector@autismrmwb.org

AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO
21B-10019 MACDONALD AVENUE, FORT McMURRAY, AB. T9H 1S9



January 2023

We are writing to you as a supporter of social non-profit community groups to ask for assistance for this year's summer camp for children with special needs in our community. This annual summer day camp will give children and youth aged 4-17 years-old with autism and other special needs the opportunity to experience typical summer camp experiences like their peers do. We offer experiences such as swimming, rock-climbing, music and dance classes, boat trip on Athabasca river, arts & crafts, visits to Heritage Park & Oilsands Discovery Centre, day trip to Gregoire Lake beach area, etc.

The camp is financially supported in part by Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD), Government of Alberta, which covers a portion of the cost of hiring one-to-one support workers for children with complex needs, but all other costs are covered by parent fees and fundraising. We are planning to raise an estimated \$13,500.00 for uncovered costs, estimated cost for fundraising is \$1,000.00 for this campaign.

We would greatly appreciate your sponsorship of next summer's Camp Kids First. In sponsoring the camp, you will be assisting the payment of a child attending camp, the cost of covering a field trip, or the cost of a professional attending camp to teach a workshop (dance, yoga, art etc.). We can provide recognition of your name and/or institutional affiliation on our camp t-shirts (worn by all staff and youth attending), on social media and all promotional materials through one of the following levels:

- Gold Level (\$999 +)**
 - Assists us pay for Camp t-shirts (bright colours for safety purposes) (60 children + 60 staff = \$3500)
 - Helps pay for our seasonal storage locker to keep our Camp equipment safe (\$1800)
 - Provides staff training in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (6 staff = \$1200)
 - Assists us pay facility rental and utilities (1 week = \$800/\$1000)
- Silver Level (\$500 to \$999)**
 - Covers the cost of a one-to-one support worker for a child with complex or high medical needs (\$780)
 - Pays for 10 children to experience a River Boat Tour of the Clearwater River (\$800)
 - Covers entrance fees to one local attraction (Heritage Park, Oilsands Discovery Centre, etc.) for ten children (60 children = \$700/\$900)
- Bronze Level (\$20 to \$499)**
 - Sponsor's one child's camp fees for a week at Camp Kids First (1 child = \$200)
 - Pays for a yoga instructor/music teacher/dance instructor session (10 kids = \$200)
 - Assists us to pay for camp materials such as craft supplies, baking ingredients, sensory toys, etc.

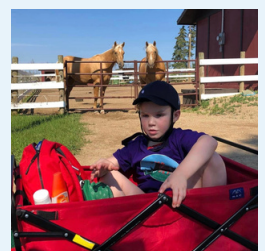
To serve as a sponsor for the 2022 Camp Kids First, you can...

- Mail us a cheque to 21B-10019 Macdonald Avenue, Ft McMurray, AB. T9H 1S9. Please make your cheque payable to: Autism Society of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
- EMT us at autismsupport@autismrmwb.org
- Donate through our website: <https://autismrmwb.org/donate/>

Please email or call me directly if you have any questions and thank you very much for your support! Tax receipts are available for all donations over \$20.

Paula Bowen
Program Director – Autism Society of the RMWB
programdirector@autismrmwb.org
780-531-5777

Alberta Incorporated 2017, Registered Charity #707604492RR0001





Community Initiatives Program (CIP) Operating grant

Our organization is the recipient of the Community Initiatives Program (CIP) Operating grant, grant supports eligible non-profit organizations in their efforts to operate and provide services to vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.

We plan to use these funds to cover operational expenses and expand the hours of our part-time Executive Director. This will allow us to enhance key areas such as grant writing, fund development, community awareness, volunteer recruitment, corporate partnerships, and board growth. By strengthening these areas, we aim to secure long-term sustainability for our organization and continue meeting the needs of the community.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Community Initiatives Program (CIP) Operating for their support. Their contribution will play a vital role in helping us continue our work and make a positive impact in our community. Thank you.



IN THE COMMUNITY

Kidsport Wood Buffalo

Kidsport is looking for youth and adults of all ages to Walk the Ramp for our cosplay show.

Get your best costume out or better still create a new one and Walk the Ramp to support our show. Tickets to the event are applied. Early bird tickets are only \$10 ea for 13 and up. Kids enter for free.

Cosplay show participants need to buy an event ticket. There's no cost to enter the cosplay show.

We can't wait to see your costumes.

More details to sign up here:

The Fam Expo- a family friendly mini-comicon - Wood Buffalo
(kidsportcanada.ca)



Fort McMurray's running event of the year is back with a new name – Mark your calendar for the Inter Pipeline Fort McMurray Marathon on Sunday, September 24! Early bird registration opens at 10:00am, May 2, 2023.

Run for a Reason is back! Local registered charitable organizations can apply to participate in the 2023 Run for a Reason program until May 31, 2023. New this year – grab your friends & fundraise as a team! Register a charity or learn more about team fundraising here:

**[For more information please click below link
www.fortmcmurraymarathon.ca/reason](http://www.fortmcmurraymarathon.ca/reason)**

FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS



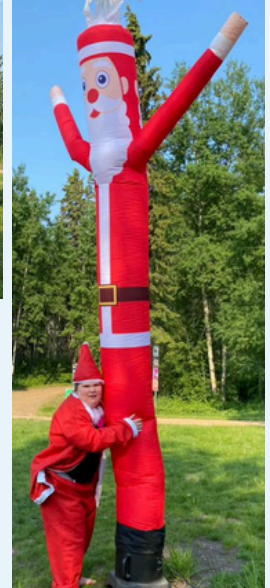
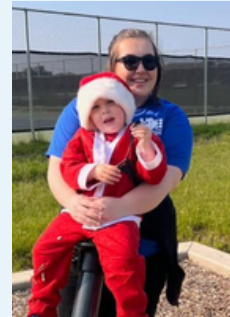
SANTA FUN RUN

RUN, WALK, ROLL OR SKATE
TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH
SOCIAL-RESPIRE PROGRAM
5K FUN RUN OR 1K SANTA DASH!

SUNDAY
JUNE 25TH
2023

Registration includes Santa Suit
and medal!

Register at
<https://autismmbw.org/register-for-events/>
For more details: programdirector@autismmbw.org



[Click poster to registration link](#)

CAR WASH

COOKIES & LEMONADE

AUTISM SOCIETY
ALBERTA
Family Resource Centers

CAR WASHES, LEMONADE AND SWEET TREATS BY DONATION - ALL FUNDS GO TO OUR YOUTH SOCIAL-RESPIRE PROGRAM

JUNE 3rd 11-2pm
UNIFOR 707a Parking Lot

DISABILITY TAX CREDIT & REGISTERED DISABILITY SAVINGS PLAN

Have a child or loved one living with disabilities?

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Learn how to open an account and receive up to \$1000 per year for their retirement!

Receive grants & bonds to help your savings grow faster!

Join our free session
1:00 PM-2:30 PM on September 22nd
Local 707A Union Main Hall,
10019 MacDonald Ave
Fort McMurray, AB

AUTISM SOCIETY
ALBERTA
Family Resource Centers

autismalberta.ca/frc

HOTDOG STAND FUNDRAISER

AUTISM SOCIETY
ALBERTA
Family Resource Centers

**SPONSORED BY:
HOME HARDWARE**

**JULY 15 AND 16TH
10AM TO 4PM**

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/disability-tax-credit-registered-disability-savings-plan-info-session-tickets-641628085877subheading>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Autism Society of the RMWB Casino (signupgenius.com)

Wood Buffalo Volunteers



Autism Society: Santa Fun Run (signupgenius.com)



Wood Buffalo volunteers

[Sign up genius](https://signupgenius.com)



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@AUTISMRMWB.ORG
WEBSITE: WWW.AUTISMRMWB.ORG

AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO

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

Employment Support



MAS METICULON ASSESSMENT SERVICE

DO YOU WANT TO...

Support for neurodiverse individuals & people living with all types of disabilities

RECEIVE NO COST DIGITAL LITERACY TRAINING

DEVELOP YOUR GOALS

CREATE STRUCTURE AND BUILD HEALTHY HABITS

CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

BUILD CONFIDENCE

RECEIVE PERSONALIZED COACHING

ACCESS EMPLOYMENT, VOLUNTEER, AND/OR MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Coming soon...

CONTACT US
AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE RMWB
Email: employment@autismrmwb.org
Phone: 780-215-7280
Website: www.autismrmwb.org

FUNDED BY
Government of Alberta
Government of Canada
CASE (Canadian Association for Supported Employment)
Sineave Family Foundation



DO YOU...

- Identify as neurodiverse or as a person living with a disability?
- Have the skills but struggle to move beyond the first interview?
- Want support to achieve your career goals?

To learn more about how we can assess your employability skills and create a customized solution just for you, contact us at:

AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE RMWB
Phone: 780-215-7280
Email: employment@autismrmwb.org
Website: www.autismrmwb.org

FUNDED BY:

MAS METICULON ASSESSMENT SERVICE
Sineave Alberta
Government of Alberta
Government of Canada
The Canadian Association for Supported Employment
Canada

Identify as neurodiverse, or as a person living with a disability?

Want to achieve your career goals?

Please reach out to Jibrán Hamayun our Employment Supports Program Facilitator to find out more information for our next session.

Email: employment@autismrmwb.org

Phone: 780-215-7280

Independent Living Skills

Ages 18-29yrs

- ✓ Health & Self-Care
- ✓ Personal Finance
- ✓ Household Management
- ✓ Relationships
- ✓ Community & Leisure



An opportunity for neurodiverse young adults to learn critical life skills to promote independent living.

Apply:



MORE INFO:
lifeskills@autismrmwb.org



ADULT LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Our LifeSkills Program is open to any neurodiverse individuals and persons living with disabilities from the ages of 12-30 to learn critical life skills and to promote independent living.

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

Sensory Store Sale

June 1st-30th our sensory store will be 20% off

You can shop in office or online
www.autismrmwb.org

SALE!

20% OFF STORE WIDE
June 1st - 30th
online and in office
www.autismrmwb.org

AUTISM SOCIETY
OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO

Munchables

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.

*Thank
You*

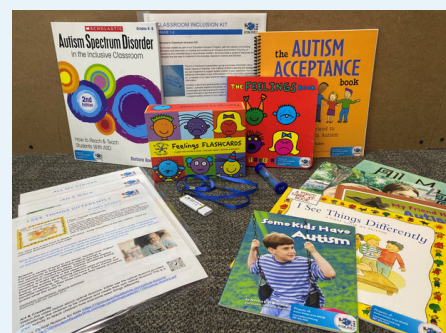
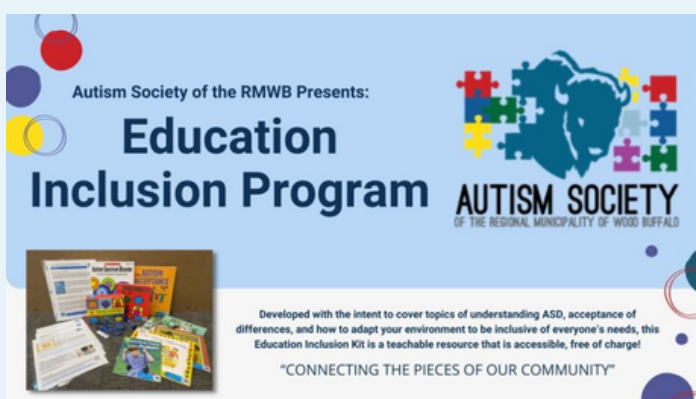


THE EDUCATION INCLUSION PROGRAM

The Education Inclusion Program, was created by the society as a lending resource that is accessible to and free of charge. It 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 below to request a kit:
[Education Inclusion Kit Request \(office.com\)](https://www.office.com)

NOW HIRING SOCIAL-RESPITE SUPPORT WORKERS



AUTISM SOCIETY
OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO

HIRING NOW SOCIAL-RESPITE SUPPORT WORKERS

FLEXIBLE HOURS
PART TIME/CASUAL

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.

EMAIL RESUME TO:
programdirector@autismrmwb.org

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 1S9



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.