

AUTISM SOCIETY

OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO



SOCIETY NEWS

A&W Inclusion Burger Day

The A&W Fort McMurray teams out did themselves in support of the Autism Society. All four locations raised funds during the month of September, and held an Inclusion Burger day to donate a percentage of the burger sales to our society. We want to send a huge thank you to them for being so amazing. With yours and the communities support these funds will go a long way in helping our programs thrive.





Link:

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/asrmwbxmas2024>

Ticket Prices:
100 for \$100.00
20 for \$50.00
4 for \$20.00
1 for \$10.00



IN THE COMMUNITY

Support 4 Moms Group

Support4moms offers a safe space for parents to connect and share experiences in a positive, non-judgmental way. Join their private FB page, Support 4 Moms Society – Fort McMurray, or reach out via email at support4moms@outlook.com. Connect with other families, build networks, and learn from peers! <https://www.support4moms.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/225250874293589>



Celebrating progress on Inclusion and diversity in the region.



In September 2023, the Municipality in partnership with the Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce, Fort McMurray Economic Development and Tourism along with the Local Immigration Partnership launched the Wood Buffalo Workplace Inclusion Charter. The charter is a voluntary no-cost employer toolkit and recognition program that supports employers in creating more equitable and inclusive workplaces for their employees and clients. All local organizations can still sign on to the charter and are encouraged to do so.

For more information on the Wood Buffalo Workplace Inclusion Charter please follow the link:

<https://www.rmwb.ca/en/community-services-and-social-support/wood-buffalo-workplace-inclusion-charter.aspx>

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.

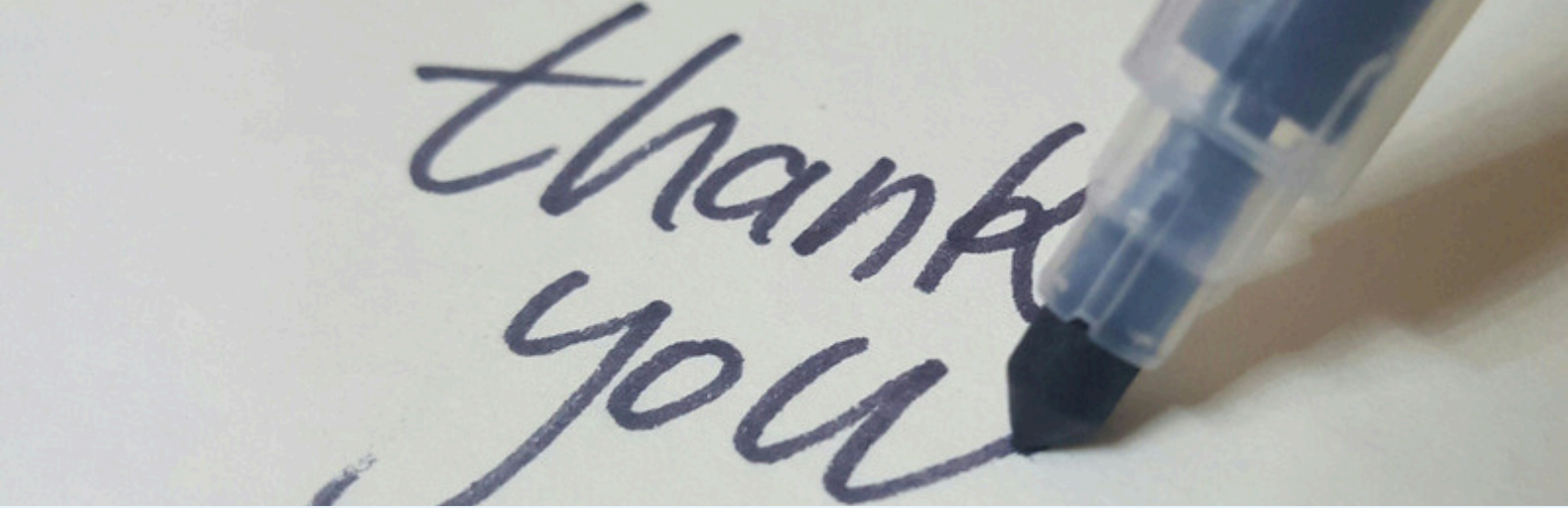
Why become a member of our Society?

- 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 link. Membership – Autism RMWB
Or contact the office 587-452-9334**



Thank you

We are thrilled to announce that the Autism Society of the RMWB has been awarded a generous \$20,000 grant from the TELUS Edmonton and Northern Alberta Community Board! This incredible support will have a transformative impact on our Transitions to Adulthood Program, which provides youth and adults with differing abilities access to a wide range of opportunities. From fostering social connections to facilitating employment, higher education, and mentorship, this program changes lives.

"One of our clients initially approached the Autism Society seeking social connections and wasn't yet ready for full-time employment. Before joining us, they had independently secured a part-time job, working just one day a week. Eager to expand their prospects, they participated in our employment assessment over the summer. As a result, they were connected to a locally owned company and successfully landed a new job. They've expressed how much they enjoy their new role, especially the increased hours and the opportunity to achieve financial stability."

A huge thank you to TELUSTELUS and the TELUS Friendly Future Foundation for their incredible support! We are excited to witness the continued positive impact this grant will bring to our community.





Thank you to the Spears Family for your donation to our programs!



Thank you to Heritage Park Society for your generous donation of pumpkins for our Halloween parties.

We are incredibly grateful to TD Bank Foundation for their generous community grant supporting our Transitions to Adulthood Program. This program empowers autistic and neurodivergent individuals to access meaningful employment opportunities and build a brighter future.



UPCOMING SESSIONS & EVENTS

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
Phone: 587-452-9334
Email: community@autismrmwb.org
or
Barb Fitzpatrick- Family Resource Coordinator
Phone: 780-215-2459
Email: barbaraf@autismalbarta.ca

Click poster to register

Autism and Neurodiversity Awareness Training



This is a 2 hour training session is facilitated by the Autism Society of the RMWB. During this 2 hour session you will learn how to support individuals of all ages living with disabilities throughout their life span. Training is appropriate for caregivers, professionals, family, friends, employers and coworkers, and anyone who supports someone living with a disability, or wants to expand their knowledge of neurodiverse individuals. This training will offer a certification upon completion.

December 2nd 2024

Session 1: 12:00-2:00 PM, Session 2: 6:00-8:00 PM

Registration Link:

<https://autismsocietyofthermwb.wildapricot.org/event-5929316>

10019 MacDonad Ave, UNIFOR Building

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



Click poster to register

A festive poster for an Autism Society Member Christmas Party. The background is light blue with white snowflakes and a green holly branch with red berries and yellow flowers. Two cartoon Santa Claus figures are featured: one at the top right wearing a red hat and green coat, and one at the bottom center wearing a red hat and white beard. The text is arranged in several boxes: a large green and red title, a green box with a list of activities, a red box with the date, a white box with party times, a red box with the location, and a white box with contact information. A red ribbon with white and yellow stripes is also visible.

Autism Society Member
CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Food & Drinks
- Crafts
- Bouncy Castles
- Movie
- & More

DEC 21 2024

Party 1:
12:00-2:00
Santa visit @ 1:00

Party 2:
2:00-4:00
Santa visit @ 3:00

Boys & Girls Club
20 Riedel St.

For more information please contact
Community Development Office- Danielle
587-452-9334 community@autismrmwb.org
Register on wild apricot

Member Christmas Party
please register through your Wild Apricot app.

PROGRAMMING UPDATES:

In October we were able to offer 3 Halloween party's to our members and social respite group.



During our Adult Life Skills there was tons of fun to be had during their Halloween Party and trick or treating.



TRICK
OR
TREAT

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:

Email: community@autismrmwb.org

Phone: 587-452-9334



EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Are you a neurodiverse individual or a person living with a disability and looking for employment?

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR NOV 14-15TH, 2024 ASSESSMENT

- ✓ Digital Training
- ✓ One to One Coaching
- ✓ Person-centered Tools
- ✓ Employability Skill Evaluations
- ✓ Develop Goals
- ✓ Build Healthy Working Relationships

REQUIREMENTS:
Neurodiverse individuals and persons living with disabilities from the ages of 16+

APPLY NOW

Seamless Support Project
Seamless Support | Powered by METICULON.

Contact: Autism Society of the RMWB
Email: community@autismrmwb.org
Phone: 587-452-9334

Funded in part by:
TD | UNITY OF AUTISM | RBC

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



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 UNIFORM BUILDING
21B-10019 MACDONALD AVE.
FORT MCMURRAY, AB
T9H 1S9

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

ADULT LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Our Life Skills Program is open to any neurodiverse individuals and persons living with disabilities from the ages 16+ 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



INDEPENDENT Living Skills, Ages 16+

- Health and Self Care
- Personal Finance
- Household Management
- Relationships
- Community and Leisure

Our LifeSkills Program is open to any neurodiverse individuals and persons living with disabilities from the ages of 16+ to learn critical life skills and promote independent living.

For more Information
community@autismrmwb.org

EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR AUTISM CANADA | AUTISM SOCIETY

ADULT PROGRAMING CALENDARS

December

Adult Chat N Chill

Register through [Wild Apricot](#)



Sunday	Monday	Tue.Sday	Wedne.Sday	ThursDay	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Gingerbread House making at office 12:00-2:00	4	5 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	6	7
8	9	10 Volunteer at Food Bank. Meet at Food Bank 12:00-2:00	11	12 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	13	14
15	16	17 Christmas Party at The Alley 12:00-2:00	18	19 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	20	21
22	23	24 NO CHAT N CHILL 12:00-2:00	25	26 NO CHAT N CHILL	27	28
29	30	31 NO CHAT N CHILL 12:00-2:00				

Dates, times and events are subject to change

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

January



Adult Chat N Chill

Register through [Wild Apricot](#)



Sunday	Monday	Tue.Sday	Wedne.Sday	ThursDay	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 NO CHAT N CHILL	3	4
5	6	7 New Years Eve Party @ Office 12:00-2:00	8	9 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	10	11
12	13	14 BINGO @ Office 12:00-2:00	15	16 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	17	18
19	20	21 Swimming at Mac Island. Meet @ Mac Island 12:00-2:00	22	23 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	24	25
26	27	28 The Legion meet @ The Legion 12:00-2:00	29	30 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	31	

Dates, times and events are subject to change

For more information please contact Community Development Officer- Danielle Lidstone
community@autismrmb.org 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.

Thank You

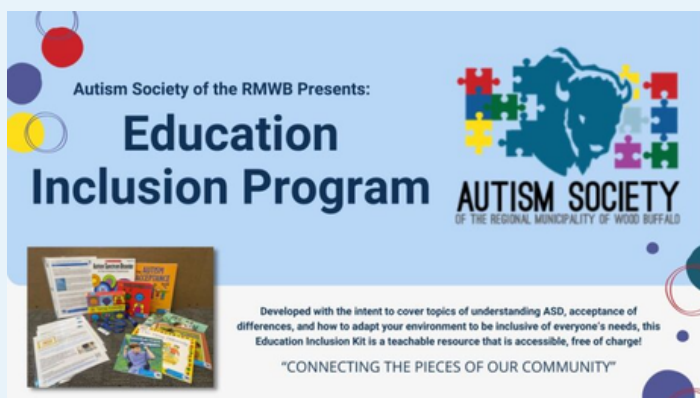


THE EDUCATION INCLUSION PROGRAM

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

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 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.