

Dear Members of the Autism Society,

Somehow, we're already in the last two months of the year. As winter starts to settle in, it feels like the perfect time to pause, take a breath, and look at everything we've experienced together as a community.

From sensory-friendly events, caregivers coffee, summer camps, presentations, school visits, and times of support shared between parents and staff. This year has been full of connection. We saw new families join us, familiar faces return, and community partners step forward to support us. None of it would have happened without the care and commitment of the people in our community.

With only a little bit of the year left, we're excited to keep creating spaces where families feel supported, seen, and included.

Warm regards,
The Autism Society of the RMWB



We acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional lands of the Cree, Dene, and Métis peoples, within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. This land is part of Treaty 8 Territory, and we recognize the long history of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples who have cared for and lived on this land for generations.

We honour the diverse Indigenous communities of this region, including Fort McKay First Nation, Fort McMurray First Nation, Chipewyan Prairie First Nation, Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Mikisew Cree First Nation, and the Métis peoples of Fort McMurray, Fort Chipewyan, Fort McKay, Conklin, and Janvier.

Caregivers Coffee

TWO OPTIONS; SAME SESSION



IN-PERSON SESSION

Dates:

November 19th 2025

December 10th 2025

Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Location: Autism Society Apartment

Come Join us!
Light snack and coffee/tea
provided.

REGISTER NOW!



VIRTUAL SESSION

Date: November 5th, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Location: Virtual Session



"Because You Can't Pour from an Empty Cup"

REGISTER NOW!

Regulation and Communication Presentation

TWO OPTIONS; SAME SESSION









A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON MENTAL WELLBEING & SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion World Café

Join us for a gathering where we will come together to listen, learn, and share ideas on how to strengthen supports for mental wellbeing in the community.

Together, we'll explore gaps in current services, community strengths, and opportunities for more inclusive and responsive supports. We invite people of all social identities, lived experiences and service providers to join the conversation.

*Must be at least 18 years old

Why attend?

- Have your voice heard in informing regional services
- Enjoy light breakfast, lunch & refreshments
- Free on-site childcare available
- Receive a \$25 token of appreciation
- Accessibility & accommodations provided (please let us know your needs)

Co-hosted by:

The University of Calgary & The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

SAVE THE DATE!

NOV 06, 2025

8:30 A.M.- 2:30 P.M.

AT UNIFOR LOCAL 707A

10019 MACDONALD AVE, FORT MCMURRAY

Questions: Tiffany.Barbosa@ucalgary.ca



https://forms.office.com/r/dFdBreb7Dw

This study has been approved by the University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (REB23-0556)









Registration Needed: Click here



Feedback Opportunity: Air Travel

YMM Airport is looking for feedback from individuals with disabilities about their experiences traveling through Canadian airports.

The research group is gathering this information to better understand the challenges passengers face and to help airports improve accessibility and support for travelers with disabilities.

The survey is only 4 questions, 100% anonymous, and takes just a few minutes to complete.

<u>Take the Survey Here</u>

Your input will help shape future improvements and make air travel more inclusive for everyone.



LAST FUNDRAISER

ORDERS ARE DUE 3PM ON NOVEMBER 6TH, DELIVERY FOR NOVEMBER 20TH.

EMAIL AUTISMSUPPORT@AUTISMRMWB.ORG FOR FORMS



Our Beautiful Poinsettias, Wreaths, or holiday planters will add that extra touch. You can follow the link and place your order online. Delivery will be on November 20th in the afternoon, just in time for the holiday season.

https://asrmwb.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home
place your order with E-transfer.
You will receive an email confirmation once it is received.

Upcoming Community Event: McDonald's Autism Society Family Night

You're invited to a sensory-friendly **McDonalds Event**



Join us at McDonald's Fort McMurray Gregoire Location (450 Gregoire Drive) for an Autism Society Family Night!

> October 27 & 28 and November 3 & 4, 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM each day

Kids receive a free kids' meal of choice, sensory-friendly activities, and community connection with the Autism Society of the RMWB and McDonald's Canada!





"Connecting the pieces of our community"

This is a private, closed event. Registration is required to help ensure a comfortable and sensory-friendly experience for all attendees.

Contact





6 587-452-9334 community@autismrmwb.org



Please register all family members as guest. This will allow us to determine how much food that we need to order.

Register for event on WildApricot Member App.

Upcoming Community Event: Member Christmas Party



Please register all family members as guests.

This will allow us to determine how much food we need to order.

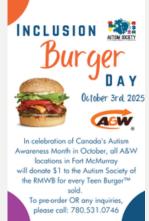
Please email us with any dietary restrictions

We will have vegetarian and gluten-free options

Community Involvemnent

Inclusion Burger Day







A heartfelt thank you to the organizers of the A&W Inclusion Burger Day. We were so excited to take part in Inclusion Burger Day, an incredible event created by A&W Fort McMurray for our organization and community! Their team went above and beyond by staffing extra team members and coordinating across all local locations to make this day a success.





When we walked in, we were met with the most beautiful display: bright balloons, decorations, and a welcoming atmosphere. The effort and care the A&W Fort McMurray team put into creating such a vibrant, inclusive space was incredible.

Please visit our website <u>www.autismrmwb.org</u> and follow us on social media to stay up to date on everything the Autism Society has to offer!

Community Involvement





Thank you to CASA Mental Health for inviting us to your wonderful breakfast event! We truly appreciated the opportunity to connect while learning more about CASA Mental Health.



A heartfelt thank you to Heritage Society and **Ptarmigan Events** for generously donating the leftover pumpkins from the Fall Festival! Our practicum students helped us bring the pumpkins down to our office and prepare loot bags for our Halloween party on October 25th.



We had an amazing time at the Conklin Halloween Event this year! Our booth featured a Bluey-themed table that was a big hit with families. Kids had a blast playing tic-tac-toe and checking out our bowl of spooky fidgets.





Our practicum students put their skills into action by visiting local doctors' offices, psychologists, and community organizations to share information about our programs and services.





We appreciate being invited to Career Leap for their career fair. We enjoyed spending time discussing programming, supports and inclusion with employers and job seekers.

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped us make our events and connections possible! From volunteers and donors to our practicum students and community partners, your support truly makes a difference.

It takes a village, and we are so grateful for each and every one of you for helping us create memorable experiences for our community.



Wellness Wednesday Janvier -September 10th, 2025

We had the pleasure of attending Women's Wellness Wednesday in Janvier at Chipewyan Prairie First Nation Multiplex!



Inter Pipeline Fort McMurray Marathon - September 21st, 2025

We are very thankful for a lovely fall morning for the Inter Pipeline Fort McMurray Marathon ♣ ♣ Shoutout to all the runners racing for a reason and a big thank you to our partner volunteers from Tridon Communications for keeping everyone hydrated with water support!



We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you who helped us set up for this year's Annual Community BBQ. Your time, energy, and teamwork made all the difference in bringing our event to life. From setting up tables and sensory tent to organizing supplies and welcoming guests, your support made everything run smoothly.



Teddy Bear Fair – September 5th, 2025

We are incredibly honoured to have attended the Teddy Bear Fair on September 10th at the 468 First Nation, in the beautiful new Nikinan Centre!





ANNUAL COMMUNITY BBQ

























Program Highlight Transitioning to Adulthood Program 16+







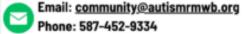


TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD **PROGRAM 16+**

The Transitions Program helps neurodiverse youth and adults develop life skills, build social connections, and gain confidence to thrive in their community.



- Team Building
- Transferable Skills
- Financial Literacy
- Social Cues & Conflict Resolution
- Essential Daily Living Skills
- Pathways to Success
- Pathways to Work
- Community Engagement & Volunteerism
- Health & Well-Being
- Resilience-Building















Games













ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

12-Week Learning Series

Physical Activity & Movement

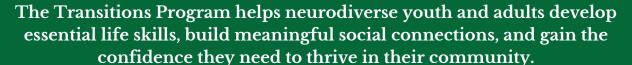
Games & Activities Night

Sensory-Friendly Movies

Pizza Parties with Crafts &

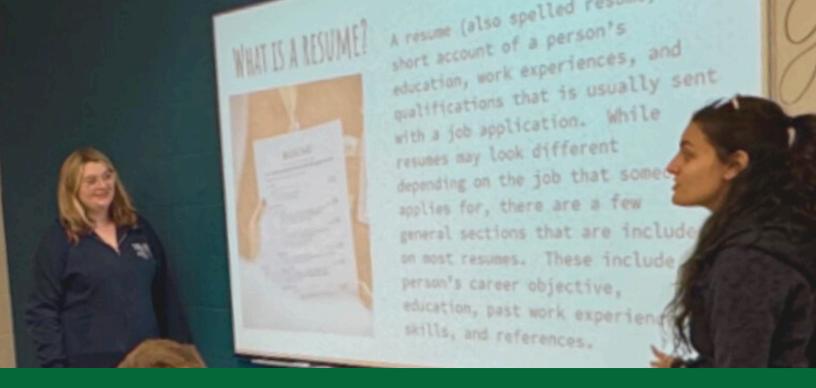
Bowling/Swimming





Registration Open For January

Click on the poster to register!



Pictured above: Cassidy Menezes, and Jasmine Lauzon in a local school presenting resume making "life skill" to students. We are thankful for the opportunity to partner with Amy Hrovat and her team (Inclusive Education, FMPSD) to bring this session to students!

Transitioning to Adulthood 16+ years old **Programming**

Does this sound like something your teen would enjoy learning about?

Take a glance at our new program called "Transitioning to Adulthood 16+ years old.

> This is a 12-week program beginning in January!

> Here is the link to sign up.

Click HERE!

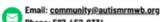
TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD PROGRAM 16+

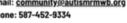
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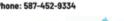




- Team Building
- Transferable Skills
- Financial Literacy
- Social Cues & Conflict Resolution
- Essential Daily Living Skills
- Pathways to Success
- Pathways to Work
- Community Engagement & Volunteerism
- Health & Well-Being
- Resilience-Building









REGISTER NOW

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

12-Week Learning Series

Games & Activities Night

Sensory-Friendly Movies

Pizza Parties with Crafts &

Bowling/Swimming

Physical Activity & Movement











Calendars Adult Chat 'n Chill







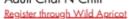


Sunday	Monday	TueSday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4 Bingo	5	6 Chat N Chill @	7	
9		12:00-2:00pm		Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm		
7	10	CLOSED	12	Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	14	
16	П	18 Baking 12:00pm-2:00pm	19	Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	21	
23	24	25 Board Games 12:00-2:00pm	26	27 Chat N Chill ® Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	28	

Dates, times and events are subject to change

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











Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Holiday Crafts 12:00-2:00pm	3	4 Chot N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	5	6
7	8	Gingerbread Houses 12:00-2:00pm	10	Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	12	13
14	15	16 Holiday Party 1 2:00pm-2:00pm	17	18 Chat N Chill @ Apartment 6:00-8:00 pm	19	20
21	22	CLOSED 23	24	25 CLOSED	26	27
28	29	30 CLOSED	31			

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

Sign up is mandatory for these events Sign up on Wild Apricot 16+ years old

Fundraising



Take a look at this raffle!
For more information on ticket sales, please contact Robert Todd 780-370-4570



RAFFLE TIME!

Win a Macsimizer Tool Cart from the <u>Fort McMurray Masons</u> and help make a difference!

All proceeds go to our Social Respite Program, which supports families and individuals who need a break and helps to create meaningful connections.

Please get in touch with Todd or stop by our office for tickets.

Todd: 780-370-4570

Fundraising



Bottle Drive November 9th, will raise funds for our programming drivers will be out 9 am to 2pm.

Arrange pick up by emailing autismsupport@autismrmwb.org or text 780-715-7585

Thank you for all of the support.

Volunteers Needed

Autism Society of the RMWB: Bottle

Drive - November 9th, 2025



Become a Member

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 \$20 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.

Click link for more information:

https://autismrmwb.org/become-a-member/

Contribute to our Cause

If you are interested in helping support our organization, please consider our volunteer and or sponsorship opportunities.









A huge thank you to the Fort McMurray Masons for hosting their incredible golf tournament in support of our Respite Program! We are so lucky and fortunate to have your generosity behind us, helping provide much-needed support for families in our community.

From all of us, thank you for making an impact!



Foundation







An immense thank you for supporting our Transitions Program!



Connecting you to resources, organizations, workshops and events.

Highlighting different organizations and resources within our region that help support our region. This month we're highlighting the Access 2 Card and Mac Island Day Passes! These programs help ensure that individuals with disabilities and those facing financial barriers can still take part in recreational activities.



Access 2 Card

The Access 2 Pass helps individuals with permanent disabilities access fun activities across Canada by providing free or discounted admission for their support person.

How does it work?

Cardholder pays regular admission.

Support person gets in for free or at a discount.

Where?

Accepted at specific movie theatres, museums, attractions, etc.

Who can apply?

Canadian residents with a permanent disability who require a support person

<u>How to apply:</u>

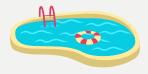
Apply online at www.access2card.ca



BRE wood buffalo regional library

MacIsland Day Pass

You can borrow a FREE day pass to MacDonald Island Park from the Wood Buffalo Regional Library using your library card!



Enjoy access to:

Swimming pool Fitness centre

Indoor track

Important to Know:

Passes are first come, first serve

Limited quantities available, they may not always be in stock. Just like borrowing a book, visit the library to check one out!

Connecting you to resources, organizations, workshops and events.

KidSport Wood Buffalo





FULL SPORT REGISTRATION
FEES PROVIDED FOR
ELIGIBLE KIDS IN
WOOD BUFFALO AND

Questions? Email us woodbuffalo@kidsport.ab.ca



SURROUNDING AREAS

Learn More & pply for Athlete Funding



So ALL Kids Can Play!

Whether it's hockey, soccer, gymnastics, or any other sport, KidSport Wood Buffalo believes every child deserves the chance to join a sport regardless of their financial situation. To learn more or to apply for support, visit

KIDSPORT Wood Buffalo

KidSport Wood Buffalo is a local non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring all children in our region have the opportunity to participate in organized sports. By providing financial assistance for registration fees and equipment, KidSport helps break down the barriers that prevent kids from getting involved in healthy, active lifestyles.







FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

https://kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/wood-buffalo/apply-for-a-grant/

Connecting you to resources, organizations, workshops and events.

Rapid Access Counselling (RAC)

RAC offers free, single-session virtual counselling for caregivers with children under 18 and youth themselves.
Sessions are available province-wide via phone or secure video, with multiple daytime and some evening appointments typically available within 3 business days.



Parking Placard

If you or someone you support has difficulty walking more than 50 metres (164 feet), you may be eligible to apply for a parking placard through Service Alberta that lets you use designated accessible parking stalls.

Scan the QR code below to access more information.



If you are in need of urgent support, please connect with one of the following resources (all are 24 hours per day/7 days per week):

Suicide Crisis Helpline - 988 (call or text)
Calgary Distress Line - 403-266-HELP (4357) (call, text, or <u>live chat</u>).
Edmonton Distress Line - 780-482-HELP (4357)
Alberta Mental Health Line - 1-877-303-2642

If it is an emergency or if your safety is at immediate risk, please call 911.



Connecting you to resources, organizations, workshops and events.

Red Arrow Bussing:

If you or someone you care for requires assistance while travelling, Red Arrow provides a free seat for a support person (attendant) when a passenger is non-self-reliant due to a physical or mental disability.

To apply, simply complete the Request for Attendant Seating Form, which includes a short section from a healthcare professional. Once approved, the form is valid for two years, making future travel even easier!



A collaboration between Calgary Counselling Centre and the

Low-Cost Virtual Counselling Alberta

Government of Alberta, Counselling Alberta offers affordable, judgmentfree counselling for individuals, couples, and families. They provide virtual sessions with no waitlist and a sliding fee scale to accommodate financial situations.



Need help but not sure where to start?

211 is a free, confidential service that connects you to community, social, and government supports across Alberta available 24/7 by phone, text, or online chat. Whether you're looking for mental health resources, financial assistance, food supports, or community programs, trained specialists are ready to listen and help you find the right services close to home.

AUTISM SOCIETY

Airline Accommodations:

Air Canada:

Air Canada may offer an attendant/support-person fare that is discounted or free in certain circumstances when a passenger requires significant assistance.



West et: WestJet may provide a

"companion/supportperson travels free or at reduced fare" option under specific approved conditions.



Our Programming

Click on each poster for direct links to more information and registration











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.

Click a date to register for above training:

November 27th, 2025

Now
Accepting
Applications
for our
transitioning to
adulthood
Program 16+
years old



Please visit our website www.autismrmwb.org and follow us on social media to stay up to date on everything the Autism Society has to offer!

Make a one time donation or become a monthly donor!

It is largely through the generous support of our donors that we are able to offer and grow our programs and services. By contributing today, you could make special events possible, provide equipment for programs and camp, support the continued growth through our acceptance and education resource, and most of all support individuals in our community have support to inclusive and supported opportunities in our region.



For direct link to donate please click on photo.

Vision

A region where autistic individuals and al 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.

Contact us:

Phone: 587-452-9334

Email: community@autismrmwb.org
Website: www.autismrmwb.org

21B-10019 MacDonald Ave- Lower level Unifor Building Fort McMurray, AB T9H 1S9