

January 2026

Society Newsletter



www.autismrmwb.org



Dear Members,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2026! We are excited to share a full lineup of upcoming events, so we encourage everyone to register early as several activities have limited spaces available.

We know the cold weather is here, and we are looking forward to bringing everyone together with fun and welcoming indoor events. Join us for an afternoon movie on January 18th at the Unifor Hall, an Awesome Khaos event just for members on February 7th, and on April 25th a delicious pancake breakfast to enjoy together. We have also planned our annual tubing event on March 14th and are hopeful the weather will be a little warmer by then.

We are also beginning to look for sponsors for our upcoming Autism Awareness and Acceptance event at Mac Island on Sunday, March 29th, 2026. This event reflects our commitment to Autism Awareness and Acceptance Day, with a goal of connecting over 1,000 community members. By sharing resources and raising awareness, we aim to help build a more inclusive and accepting community. The day will include access to swimming, bouncy castles, games, face painting, and our portable sensory room.

If you would like more information or are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact us at:

Email: autismsupport@autismrmwb.org

Warm regards,

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.

2026

Save
The
Date



Caregivers Coffee

Come enjoy a cup of coffee and a light snack while connecting with parents and caregivers.



REGISTER HERE

2026 Schedule:

9:00AM - 11:00AM

January 21st

February 4th

March 4th

April 1st

May 6th

June 3rd

Autism Society Apartment

For questions or more information, please contact:

Jasmine Lauzon- Community Development Coordinator

Phone: 587-452-9334

Email: community@autismrmwb.org

or

Barb Fitzpatrick- Disability Resource Coordinator

Phone: 780-215-2459

Email: drc@autismrmwb.org



Grab your coffee or tea and log in!

JOIN US!

VIRTUAL CAREGIVERS COFFEE

9:00am - 10:30am

2026 Dates:

January 7th

February 11th

March 25th

April 15th

May 20th

June 17th

Are you a caregiver supporting someone on the autism spectrum or with diverse needs?

Join us for a relaxed, virtual gathering where you can connect with others who understand the journey.

SCAN ME



End of Session:
3 min mindfulness activity

Facilitators:

Jasmine Lauzon- Community Development Coordinator

Phone: 587-452-9334

Email: community@autismrmwb.org

and

Barb Fitzpatrick- Disability Resource Coordinator

Phone: 780-215-2459

Email: drc@autismrmwb.org

Click to register



Community Involvement

Thank you! ✨ ✨



Our sincerest thanks to Mandla's Foundation for connecting with us and providing a variety of sensory fidgets. The foundation was created in loving memory of Mandla.

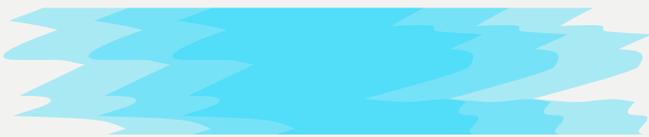
We are grateful for the opportunity to learn more about Mandla's story and the meaningful work her family continues to do in her honour.



A huge thank you to McDonald's for hosting four sensory-friendly evenings for our families and covering the cost of Happy Meals.

These nights created a welcoming, inclusive space where families could simply enjoy being together.

We were happy to recognize McDonald's with a Certificate of Appreciation.



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!

Community Involvement



We have had 29 requests in 2025 for our Education Inclusion Bins. Marcelina, our practicum student, enjoyed bringing the bins to the schools that put in a request.

We are incredibly thankful for the opportunity to have the Education Inclusion bins to lend to schools across RMWB.



We're proud to share that our team took home 2nd place at Chew for Charity hosted by Boston Pizza! From balancing and stacking Oreos on our foreheads, to racing through a plate of pasta with tiny forks, tackling scrambled word challenges, and more, it was a night full of laughter and teamwork.

A huge thank you to Support 4 Moms and our board member for joining us and cheering us on!

Cassidy and Jasmine visited the sensory room at The Hub at Shell Place, exploring this inclusive space.



The YMM Airport hosted a sensory-friendly event, and we were pleased to join by providing fidgets to individuals and families.

We also handed out stickers and had the opportunity to connect with families through meaningful conversations, sharing resources and building relationships in a welcoming, inclusive environment.

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.

Fundraising



A heartfelt thank you to the organizers of the A&W Inclusion Burger Day. The A&W team raised funds for our society and we are incredibly grateful. Thank you to each and everyone that purchased a burger and/or donated to A&W.

Thank you!



Thank you to all that collected bottles for our bottle drive.



A huge thank you to all that bought ticket for our 50/50 fundraiser. The winner was drawn on December 15th 2025.

Congratulations, Sheila!

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Highlighting: Inclusive Community Events

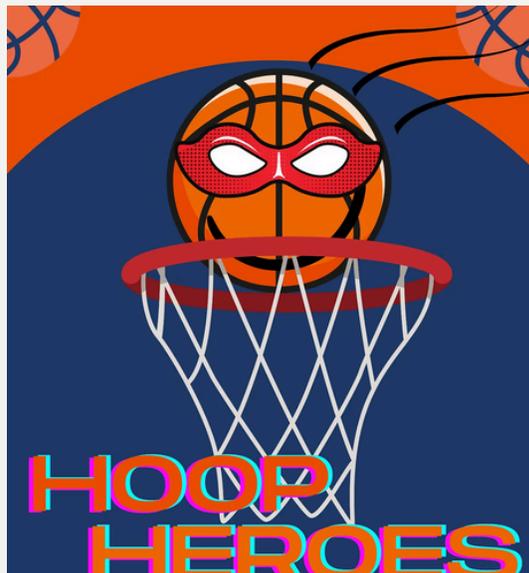
REGISTRATION-SEASON 7 (SPRING 2026)

[Click below to register for the upcoming season!](#)

The Hoop Heroes Inclusive Basketball Association is a program for children ages 5-18 with extraordinary needs. The goals of the program are to expose children of all abilities to the game of basketball, allowing them to learn skills and interact with others in a safe, fun and positive way.

Players will be buddied up with a community volunteer or volunteer athlete each week so that the parents of the players can enjoy watching their child participate in a sport.

[Click Here](#)



Are you interested in hosting an inclusive event within your organization during the month of April?

Click on the link below to be added to our event calendar.



**AUTISM AND
NEURODIVERSITY
AWARENESS**

Community
Events

Together, we can build a world that is more inclusive and welcoming for all.

To add an event for the month of April
email: autismsupport@autismrmwb.org
or
<https://forms.office.com/r/dYDwz4EuLi>

[CLICK HERE](#)

Autism Awareness and Acceptance Sponsorship Opportunities 2026



Autism Awareness and Acceptance Sponsorship Opportunities

Our commitment for April Awareness and Acceptance Day, Sunday, March 29th, 2026, is to connect over 1,000 community members. By providing resources and raising awareness and understanding of the unique challenges individuals face, we will help create a more inclusive and accepting community. Our day includes access to swimming, bouncy castles, games, face painting, and our sensory room.

More Info
autismsupport@autismrmwb.org

- Sponsorship opportunities
- Monetary donations
- Volunteer support
- In-kind donations



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For more information, please contact:

Email:
autismsupport@autismrmwb.org
Phone:
780-715-7585

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/>





Chat 'n Chill
Christmas Party

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 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.

Contact us:

Phone: 587-452-9334

Email: community@autismrmwb.org

Website: www.autismrmwb.org

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