



Dear Members,

We hope that you have had a wonderful summer and are geared up for the school year! The Autism Society had a delightful summer and is now recharged for the school year and excited to plan activities for our children. As the cool autumn air begins to settle in, with the scent of pumpkin spice in the air and apple cider on the horizon, we are thrilled to share the exciting fall events planned for our families and members. A friendly reminder to register on [Wild Apricot](#) to secure your spot for the events you wish to attend. We aim to improve accessibility and ease navigation for families and individuals seeking support.

If you're looking for inclusive sports and recreation options in our region, we encourage you to take a look here: [Sports & Recreation – Autism RMWB](#).

If you are looking for some action, team building, or simply a family-friendly productive hangout, we have a few volunteering opportunities. Please contact us by email at events@autismrmwb.org or call 587-452-9334 ext 7.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

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.

Upcoming Events

EVENTS SCHEDULE 2026

SEPTEMBER

AWESOME KHAOS **10AM TO 12 PM**

#5A-225 Macalpine Crescent, Fort McMurray

SAT
12th

SUN
20th

10 YEARS ANNIVERSARY **11AM TO 2PM**

UNIFOR Local 707A, 10019 MacDonald Ave, Fort McMurray AB T9H1S9

OCTOBER

PLAY ON SPACE **9:30AM TO 11:30PM**

8130 Manning Ave, Fort McMurray AB T9H1V7

SAT
3rd

THANKSGIVING DINNER **5PM TO 6PM**

450 Gregoire drive, Fort McMurray AB T9H3R2

OCT
7th & 8th

HALLOWEEN PARTY **11AM TO 3:30PM @ UNIFOR**

SAT
24th

call:

587-452-9334 ext 7

email:

events@autismrmwb.org

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!

Upcoming Events



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2026
11:00AM TO 2:00PM
10019 MACDONALD AVE

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
EVENTS@AUTISM RMWB.ORG

You're Invited to Celebrate With Us!

- FREE Community BBQ featuring beef hot dogs, hamburgers, cake, snacks, and refreshments (Gluten-free options available)
- Games and Activities
- Resource Center
- Sensory Friendly Zone



YOU'RE INVITED

MEMBER EVENT
AWESOME KHAOS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
10:00AM-12:00PM

Enjoy a 2-hour sensory-friendly experience at Awesome Khaos with full access to all play areas. Please bring grippy socks or purchase a pair, and the restaurant will be open for purchase of food and drinks. Families and siblings are welcome, and adults must stay in the facility throughout the event.

Access to the entire facility | Trampoline Park | Food available for purchase | Rock Climbing

Location: 235 Macalpine Crescent
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 4A5
Registration cost: 13\$/child through Wild Apricot

Leslie Samson
Events & Fundraising Assistant
events@autismrmwb.org



COME JOIN US FOR A FUN TIME AND EXPLORE

Play ON SPACE

OCT 3RD 2026
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
SATURDAY

3-HOUR FACILITY ACCESS WITH FREE-PAID PIZZAS & DRINKS

MEMBER FAMILY EVENT WHERE YOU AND YOUR CHILD CAN PARADE YOUR FAVORITE COSTUME IN A SENSORY-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

Leslie Samson
Events & Fundraising Assistant
events@autismrmwb.org

You're invited to a sensory-friendly McDonalds Event

Join us at McDonalds Fort McMurray Gregoire Location (450 Gregoire Drive) for a Thanksgiving Happy Meal Family Dinner

October 7th and 8th
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

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 | 587-452-9334 ext 7 | events@autismrmwb.org



MEMBER HALLOWEEN PARTY

OCT 24, UNIFOR BUILDING

TIMESLOTS:
11:00AM-12:30PM
12:30PM-2:00PM
2:00PM-3:30PM

PUMPKIN CARVING, CRAFTS, PIZZA AND MORE...

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
RESERVE A TIMESLOT ON WILDAPRICOT

10019 MacDonald Avenue



JOIN US FOR A SENSORY-FRIENDLY SCREENING OF THE CAT IN THE HAT

SPONSORED BY: Syncrude

This event is FREE for our member families and includes admission and concession. Please reserve your spot through the Wild Apricot app.

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2026
9:30 AM SHOWING



JOIN US!

VIRTUAL CAREGIVERS COFFEE

2026 Dates:
Sept 16th
Oct 28th
Nov 18th
Dec 16th

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.

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

Register

NOW



Caregivers Coffee

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

2026 Schedule:
9:00AM - 11:00AM
September 2nd
October 21st
November 4th
December 2nd

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

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



A heartfelt THANK YOU to the Sarah with Teddy Bear Fair for hosting another wonderful event!

It was truly an honour to be part of special days filled with connections and fun in the community of FORT MCKAY, Chipewyan Prairie First Nation, Fort Chipewyan and Fort McMurray 468 First Nation. We are so grateful for the opportunity to be involved and celebrate alongside our amazing community!



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

FORT MCKAY

FORT CHIPEWYAN

468 FIRST NATION

ANZAC

CONKLIN

JANVIER



one child
every child

Listening and Learning to Improve Autism Diagnosis in Indigenous Communities



We are wanting to know the diagnosis experiences of Indigenous caregivers raising Autistic children in Alberta

Participant Criteria

Indigenous caregivers of Indigenous Autistic children assessed within the past 5 years, willing to complete a one-on-one interview (virtual, phone, or in person) to share insights on Indigenous experiences of autism diagnosis; honorarium provided (\$50 gift card).

Principal Investigator: Dr. Lonnie Zwaigenbaum
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Grant Bruno

If you are interested in participating, please contact
chaynoa@ualberta.ca or gcbruno@ualberta.ca

This study has been approved by the Research Ethics Board at the University of Alberta, Pro00142733



Education Inclusion Program

The Education Inclusion Program is a free, community-wide resource accessible to everyone. It was created to promote awareness and provide education about Autism and Neurodiversity, fostering a more inclusive and informed community.

This Program Offers:

- Autism and Neurodiversity Awareness Training Certificate
- Educational Inclusion Classroom Resource Bins
- Community Sensory Room Bookings
- Local Resources
- Sensory Family Events
- Professional Presentations
- Lending Shelf
- Sensory Store

For Inquiries Contact:

587-452-9334
community@autismrmwb.org
58-10019 MacDonald Ave



Autism and Neurodiversity Related Indigenous Resources



The Autism Society of the RMWB offers Indigenous resources on autism and neurodiversity that honor cultural knowledge, promote inclusion, and support individuals, families, and communities.



Indigenous Relations Circle

The Autism Society of Alberta would like to introduce the Indigenous Relations Circle. Rooted in respect, the circle's goals are to bring together diverse perspectives on the experiences of Indigenous peoples and autism in Alberta. The circle is a central concept to Indigenous peoples across Turtle Island and the Indigenous Relations Circle will listen, learn, share, connect and advocate for Indigenous autistic people and families.

— Dr. Grant Bruno, Chair



Supporting the Mental Health of Autistic People Living in Rural and Remote Communities

This is a six-module course aimed at people in rural, remote, and northern Canada who work with or are considering working with children with special needs. Also includes a 3-part series aimed at promoting positive mental health in rural and remote communities. Together with autistic people, parents and caregivers of autistic people, and mental health professionals, the authors created various activities that include information and evidence-informed strategies that can be used at any time.



COMMUNITY SENSORY PAINT & PLAY WORKSHOP

We have visited our rural communities for a fun and safe sensory play experience for children and youth.



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!

CHAT N CHILL

DAY CAMP



LIFESKILLS



September

Adult Chat N Chill
Register through Wild Apricot



Sunday	Monday	Tue.Sday	Wedne.Sday	Thurs.Sday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Phoenix Hall Flight 1:00-3:00pm	2	3 Life Skills - Clothing & Laundry Night 6:00-8:00pm	4 Employment Program 10:00-12:00pm	5
	6	7 CLOSED	8 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Visit Horse Stables - 1:00-3:00pm	9	10 Life Skills - Bowling & Social Skills 6:00-8:00pm	11
12		13	14 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Aracac Rac Center - 1:00-3:00pm	15	16 Salvation Army 1:00-3:00pm Life Skills - Budgeting & Cooking 6:00-8:00pm	17
18		19	20	21 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Baking Day 1:00-3:00pm	22	23 Life Skills - Video Game Night 6:00-8:00pm
24		25 Employment Program 10:00-12:00pm	26	27	28 Beading Activity @ Nisawayou 5:00-8:00pm	29
30		31 Games @ the Office 1:00-3:00pm	CLOSED			



October

Adult Chat N Chill
Register through Wild Apricot



Sunday	Monday	Tue.Sday	Wedne.Sday	Thurs.Sday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Life Skills - Confidence with Managing Money 6:00-8:00pm	2 Employment Program 10:00-12:00pm	3
4	5	6 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Squash @ Mac Island 1:00-3:00pm	7	8 Life Skills - Thanksgiving Potluck 6:00-8:00pm	9 Employment Program 10:00-12:00pm	10
11	12 CLOSED	13 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 College Art Project 1:00-3:00pm	14	15 Salvation Army 1:00-3:00pm Life Skills - Clothing & Laundry Skills 6:00-8:00pm	16	17
18	19 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Pumpkin Carving 1:00-3:00pm	20	21	22 Life Skills - Knits & Team Building 6:00-8:00pm	23 Employment Program 10:00-12:00pm	24
25	26 Employment Program 10:00-12:00 Halloween Party 1:00-3:00pm	27	28 Halloween Karaoke @ Office 5:00-7:00pm	29 Life Skills - Halloween Escape Room 6:00-8:00pm	30 Employment Program 10:00-12:00pm	31

Adult Programs:
 Chat n Chill
 Life Skills
 Employment Program
 Volunteering

Dates, times, and events are subject to change
For more information please contact
Community Development Officer- Jasmine Lauzon
community@autismmmbw.org 587-452-9334



Check the calendars for our Adult Programs Chat N Chill & Lifeskills

Community Involvement

COME CONNECT WITH US!
SEPTEMBER 9TH & 23RD, 2026
JANVIER MULTIPLEX

Come chat with our Disability Resource Coordinator and or our Community Development Coordinator.

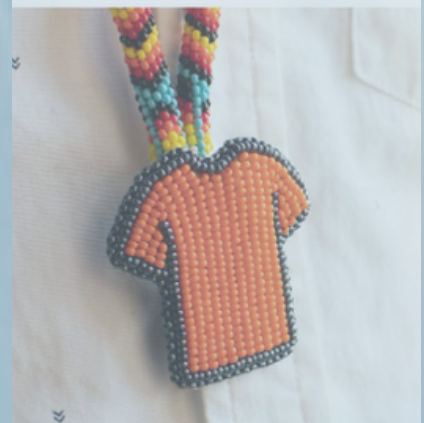
Explore our resources, like our Newly Diagnosed Handbook and learn more about how we support individuals, families, and communities.

11AM to 2PM

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

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO **Syncrude**

National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation
September 30



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30 recognizes the tragic legacy of residential schools, the missing children, the families left behind and the Survivors of these institutions.

The first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was held in 2021. The day coincides with Orange Shirt Day, which was first honoured in 2013 by the founding non-profit organization, the Orange Shirt Society.

COME CONNECT WITH US!
SEPTEMBER 10TH & 24TH, 2026
CONKLIN MULTIPLEX

Come chat with our Disability Resource Coordinator and or our Community Development Coordinator.

Explore our resources, like our Newly Diagnosed Handbook and learn more about how we support individuals, families, and communities.

12AM to 2:30PM

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

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO **Syncrude**

COME CONNECT WITH US!
SEPTEMBER 21ST 2026
FORT MCKAY FAMILY SUPPORT BUILDING

Come chat with our Disability Resource Coordinator and or our Community Development Coordinator.

Explore our resources, like our Newly Diagnosed Handbook and learn more about how we support individuals, families, and communities.

1PM to 3PM

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

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO **Syncrude**

Autism and Neurodiversity Awareness Training

This is a 2 and a half hour training session is facilitated by the Autism Society of the RMWB. During this session, you will learn how to support individuals of all ages living with disabilities throughout their lifespan. 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.

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

COME CONNECT WITH US!
SEPTEMBER 14TH & 28TH, 2026
ANZAC REC CENTER

Come chat with our Disability Resource Coordinator and or our Community Development Coordinator.

Explore our resources, like our Newly Diagnosed Handbook and learn more about how we support individuals, families, and communities.

10AM to 12PM

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

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO **Syncrude**



Air Canada takes additional measures to make travel easier for customers travelling with Mobility Aids. More information can be found on [Air Canada's website here](https://www.aircanada.com/en/air-carry-on/mobility-aids).

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!

Thank You!



Our back to School backpack was a huge success! Thanks to our donors and volunteers.



A huge thanks to Homehardware for providing us hotdogs and refreshments!



What an incredible way to raise fund for the society, congratulations to McDonalds Gregoire location for winning the float during the Canada Day Parade 2026 and Thank you!

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!

Thank You!



A big THANKS to everyone who came out to support Chasing 180s Dart Tournament at The Den!



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!

Our programs

Social-Respite Program



About the Program

Our Social Respite Program provides respite for families of neurodiverse children in our community. As well as respite, the program offers opportunities for children to learn and practice crucial social skills that are needed to make and maintain long-term friendships.



Program Groups

JUNIOR

This group is for children aged 3-5 years old (typically ECCE/EM/Intergenerators). Sessions are 2hrs long with 3-4 children in group. Activities include play in Program Room & Sensory Room.

KINDER

SENIOR

This group is for children aged 5-8 years old. Sessions are 2hrs long and have 3-5 children in group. Activities include play in Program Room & Sensory Room, swimming, rock-climbing, parks and outdoor playgrounds, walks in local community, spray parks, etc.

TWEEN & TEEN

This group is for youth aged 9-17 years old. Sessions are 2hrs long and have 3-5 youth in each group. Activities include meal planning, grocery shopping, cooking, simple budgeting, household cleaning, laundry, etc.

Why Choose Us As Your Family's Respite Provider?

- All our staff are fully screened (RCMP & IJC)
- Our Support Workers are supported by agency and liability insured
- Direct billing to FSCD available
- We take care of employee payroll (inc. WCB, CPP, EI T4s etc.)
- Staff are required to complete mandatory training (eg. First Aid & NCVI)

For more details or to register: www.autismrmwb.org

REGISTER NOW



www.autismrmwb.org

PEERS INSPIRED Social Skills and Friendship Group

THE PROGRAM

A 6-week facilitator-led program (based on PEERS UCLA Program) for neurodiverse youth aged 10-14 yrs. Youth will learn and practice skills during sessions and have activities/skills to practice at home in-between sessions.

ELIGIBILITY TO JOIN PROGRAM WILL BE DETERMINED VIA PHONECALL/VISIT WITH PEERS FACILITATOR. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL 6-SESSIONS.

PEERS-FOCUSED SKILLS INCLUDE:
Use of appropriate conversational skills, finding friends with similar interests, appropriate use of humour, how to handle arguments and disagreements, playing safe online, and how to handle rejection, teasing and bullying.

TO REGISTER, EMAIL programdirector@autismrmwb.org

ASD:NVCI

Autism Spectrum Disorder:
Nonviolent Crisis Intervention



This course is intended for professionals, support workers and caregivers who support individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and/or other social communication disorders who would like to enhance their skills in a crisis.

- ✓ Learn to recognize behaviour levels
- ✓ Practice preventative strategies
- ✓ Learn verbal de-escalation techniques
- ✓ Assess levels of risk of harm
- ✓ Learn and practice disengagement skills

2-day Certificate Course
ASRMWB Members: \$100
Non-Members: \$150
Group Rates available for organizational bookings

nonviolent crisis intervention

Register at www.autismrmwb.org/whats-going-on/
Email programdirector@autismrmwb.org or call 780-531-5777 for more details

Save your

SPOT

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



TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD PROGRAM 16+

Start Date: Sept 14 2026. 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

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- ✓ 12-Topic Learning Series
- ✓ Physical Activity & Movement
- ✓ Games & Activities Night
- ✓ Sensory-Friendly Movies
- ✓ Bowling/Swimming
- ✓ Pizza Parties with Crafts & Games



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

REGISTER NOW



Neurodiverse

ADULT SOCIAL GROUP

Social program for 16 years plus. The program focuses on building and maintaining friendship skills in group activities.



TUESDAYS
1:00-3:00 PM



LOWER LEVEL OF THE LOCAL 707A UNIFORM BUILDING
218-10019 MACDONALD AVE.
FORT MCMURRAY, AB
T9H 1S9



PHONE: 587-452-9334



EMAIL: COMMUNITY@AUTISMRMWB.ORG



WEBSITE: WWW.AUTISMRMWB.ORG

Transitions to Adulthood Program:

Now accepting registration for the September 14th cohort

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

Three sessions a week for a duration of 12 sessions.

Make a one time donation or become a monthly donor!

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 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.



[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

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