# ASRMWB Newsletter

www.autismrmwb.org

November 2026

Autism Society OF THE RMWB

Dear Members,

What an incredible kick-off to fall! With so many events and celebrations we are brewing this year, we wanted to highlight our 10th Anniversary on September 20th, 2026. It's been a decade with the society, and we still have so much we would like to offer our community! This year, we launched our brand-new logo with the same mission, but with more inclusive, more diverse thinking. Our look might be changing, but who we are remains the same. As we enter our next decade, we remain committed to:

**Connecting people, building pathways, and strengthening inclusive communities across our region.**

For a decade's worth of memories and friendship, we are glad you are here. A future of possibilities lies ahead, and we cannot wait to continue serving the RMWB.

Please enjoy this letter for more information.

A friendly reminder to register on Wild Apricot to secure your spot for the events you wish to attend. Our next newsletter will be available in the new year, so make sure to visit our website for all the programming you are attending or the WA app. And if you're looking for a volunteering opportunity, please check www.woodbuffalovolunteers.ca/calendar/2026/12 and sign up to decorate a cookie with us.

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.

# Celebrating Our Journey

10 Years. One Community.

For the past 10 years, our logo has represented more than an organization —it has represented community, connection, and belonging.

It has been there as families navigated new diagnoses, celebrated milestones, found support, and discovered new opportunities.

It has reflected our commitment to creating inclusive communities where autistic and neurodiverse individuals and their families can connect, participate, and thrive.



**Corinna O'Hanley**
Board Chair President



**Tina Delainey**
Executive Director



**Gerrie-Ann Fielder**
Board Chair Vice-President



**Paula Bowen**
Program Director

# Autism Society OF THE RMWB

**Connecting people, building pathways, and strengthening inclusive communities across our region.**

- for 10 years of milestones and memories
- for the families and individuals who you have shaped journey
- for the partnerships that have strengthened our community
- for the programs and opportunities that have grown with our community
- and for the people who have contributed their time, passion, and support

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!

# Staff through the years

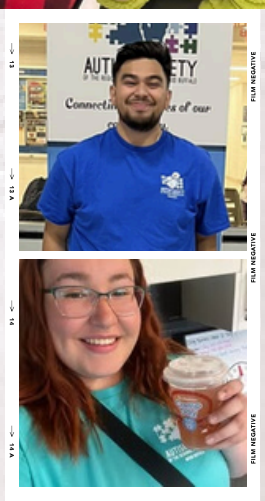


















## Board Members 2026



Amy Hrovat | Jennifer Dela Paz | David Hurley | Chau Phuong Vo | Fernanda Dutra | Hannie Maraan | Amanda Downey

## Family,staff and volunteers during our 10th year Anniversary




Thank you for your dedication!

# Our programs





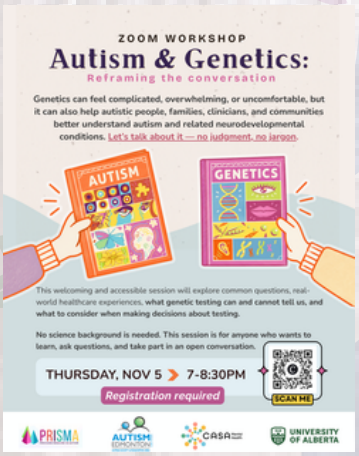


























## CHAT N CHILL & LIFESKILLS

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










**Transitions to Adulthood Program:**

**Now accepting registration for the January 11th, 2027 cohort**

# Upcoming Events



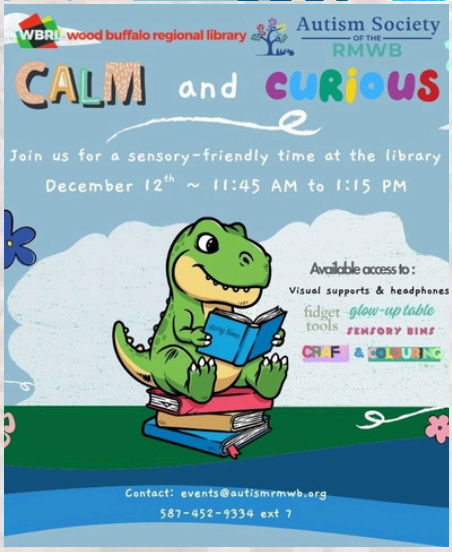
















[Holiday Cookie Decorating - NorthStar Ford Wood Buffalo Volunteer Centre | FuseSocial]




## Sensory-friendly Family Event Calm & Curious WBRL Oct 17th



## Sensory-friendly Family Event at Play On Space Oct 3rd



## Sensory-friendly Family Event Halloween Party UNIFOR Oct 24th



## Sensory-friendly Family Event Thanksgiving Dinner at McDonalds Gregoire Oct 7th & 8th



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!

We need help decorating Holiday Smile Cookies at each Tim Hortons location in **Fort McMurray from November 30th to Dec 6th!**

**Eagle Ridge** **Downtown** **Quary Ridge**

Each shift is 2 hours and involves repetitive movements (putting an icing smile on many, many cookies). No cookie-decorating experience is required, but please make the best cookies you can; we need to see that they are smiley faces! Please arrive 5-10 minutes before your shift so volunteers can receive proper instruction and hand off to the next shift. Just look for a Tim Hortons staff member when you arrive.

All volunteers MUST follow Tim Hortons staff instructions on safe food-handling guidelines. 50% of proceeds from cookies sold go to Autism Society RMWB programs, and 50% goes to Tim Hortons Youth Foundation!!

holiday smile cookie™



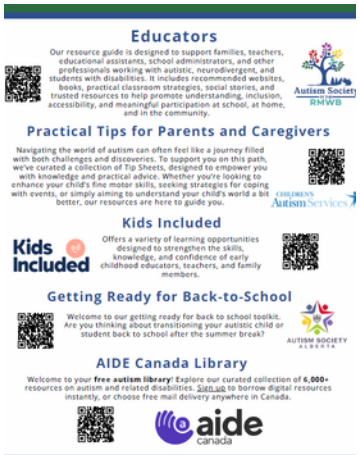
If you can no longer make your shift, please contact events@autismrmwb.org

# Community Resources




























Economic inclusion is vital for Autistic Albertans. Economic Inclusion means having access, as needed, to the income, education, employment, housing, and supports people need to live with security, choice, and connection in their communities.

To learn from a broad group of people, The Sinneave Family Foundation and Autism Society Alberta have partnered to create the Economic Inclusion Insight Community.

This initiative brings together Autistic individuals, family, and neurodivergent students to share real-life experiences. This collaborative network allows you to share your unique perspective on work, money, housing, and education after high school.

This will help us build practical recommendations for community partners across Alberta and Canada's Autism Strategy.

To launch this new Insight Community, we will be using a new Rival platform – a mobile friendly tool so you can share your ideas easily.

**For more information and to register visit https://autismalberta.ca/alliance/economic-inclusion/**




**Autism RMWB needs YOUR vote! We're excited to share our idea, "Regulate, Connect: Sensory Backpacks for Rural & Remote Families," through the Field Law Community Fund.**

**VOTE HERE: https://www.fieldlaw.com/.../regulate-connect-sensory...**







## QUESTION?

Phone: 587-452-9334
General Inquiries:
autismsupport@autismrmwb.org

# Community Engagement

FORT MCKAY | FORT CHIPEWYAN | 468 FIRST NATION | ANZAC | CONKLIN | JANVIER

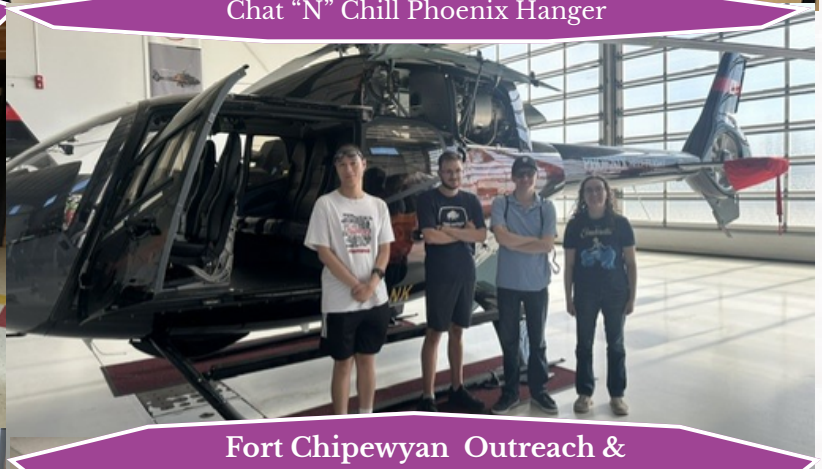
## Sports and recreation at Anzac Rec Center



## Wellness Wednesday in Janvier with other nonprofit organizations




## Chat "N" Chill Phoenix Hanger



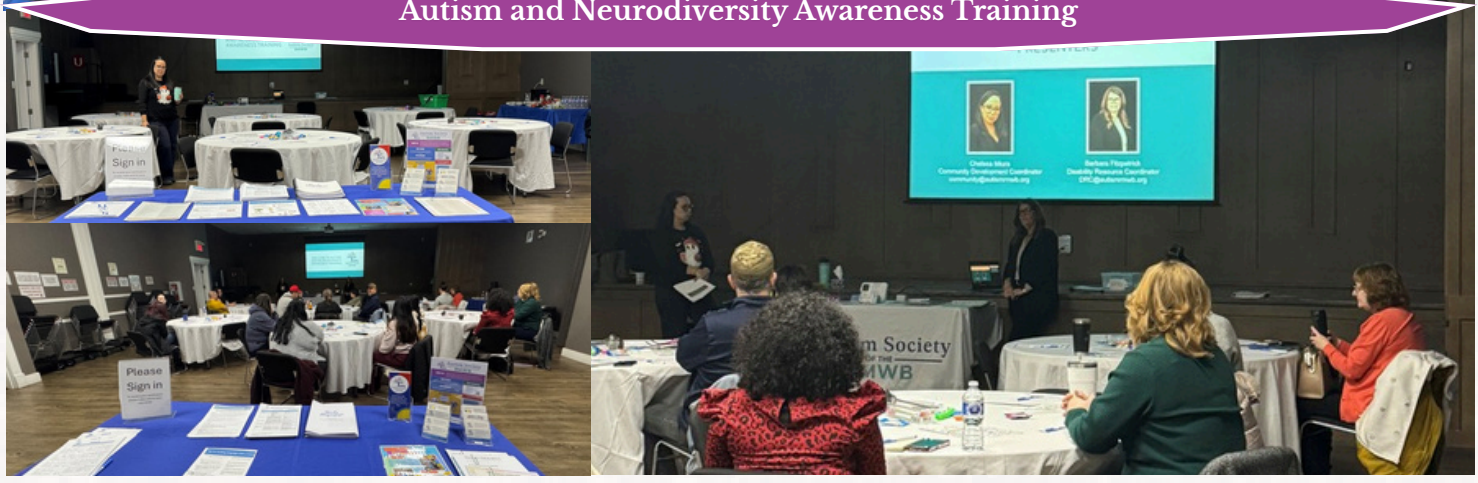
## Fort Chipewyan Outreach & Presentation




## Chat "N" Chill baking at Unifor 707A



## Autism and Neurodiversity Awareness Training




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# Thank You!




Petro Canada's Strides for Caregivers is raising funds in support of the Autism Society.



Chasing 180's Dart Tournament held by The Den & Quality Hotel on August 22.



MLA Tany Yao (right) presenting LAA Certificate in recognition for the Autism Society's decade of serving the RMWB with Corrina (right) and Tina (middle).




Teagan Humphries (left) and her team from Keyano College Volunteers during our 10th year anniversary.

## Thank You,

## Fort McMurray Public School Division

For the Partners in Education recognition we were honour to attend and be recognized alongside so many wonderful individuals and organizations making a difference in our community.
We are proud to work alongside our education partners to build more inclusive, supportive communities for all. Thank you for recognizing the importance of this work!










7th Annual Poker Run Hosted by Chozen Breed RC Wood Buffalo.

Thank you McDonalds Fort McMurray for helping us celebrate Thanksgiving dinner with your Happy Meal at the Gregoire location







Interested in organizing to raise funds for the Autism Society?
contact: events@autismsocietyrmwb.org

# 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 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.
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

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