

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?

Autism Spectrum Disorder is a term used to describe a range or a spectrum of autism, from very mild to very severe. Included in this range are Asperger Syndrome, PDD-NOS, and autism. This range is one of the reasons that autism is such a complex disorder to treat. You will rarely meet two people with autism that are the same in their abilities.

Even though each person with autism is unique, there are some characteristics common in most individuals. These include:

- communication/language impairment
- social/communication impairment
- repetitive behaviours
- learning disabilities
- sensory processing difficulties

Current research indicates that ASD occurs in approximately
1 out of every 94 births

It is estimated there are as many as 80,000 individuals in Ontario affected by autism

What does Autism Ontario - Peterborough Chapter do?

Our Chapter has been helping families in Peterborough, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton and Northumberland counties for over 30 years. The Chapter has a **Chapter Leadership Council** that oversees all operations, including managing finances and investments, establishing committees, meeting with Potential Programme staff to discuss local programming opportunities, creating services, circulating a newsletter, reporting to Autism Ontario and surveying our membership for their feedback and ideas.

The Peterborough Chapter offers:

- fundraisers that provide financial support for summer programs and yearly activities
- advocacy and assistance
- workshop information
- SEAC representation on local school boards
- social events
- learning opportunities
- and the latest news in ASD

What can I do to help?

▪ Become a member

The Peterborough Chapter encourages membership. Family membership with **Autism Ontario** is only \$50.00/year. As a member, you receive:

- our local e-news
- Autism Ontario's quarterly magazine, *Autism Matters*
- a membership card
- voting rights
- regular emails/notices of special events
- research updates
- mutual support and connections with others
- access to Autism Ontario post-secondary school scholarship opportunities

▪ Volunteer

Our Chapter is run by volunteers. We could not accomplish all the things we do without the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. The Chapter is always looking for volunteers. If you are interested in making a difference, please contact us.

▪ Make a donation

As a non-profit organization, donations are always welcome and appreciated.

Helpful acronyms

ABA – Applied Behavioural Analysis
AC – Augmentative Communication
AS – Asperger Syndrome
ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder
IBI – Intensive Behavioural Intervention
OT – Occupational Therapist
PDD – Pervasive Developmental Disorders
PDD-NOS – Pervasive Developmental Disorder (Not Otherwise Specified)
RDI – Relationship Development Intervention
SP – Sensory Processing

In Special Education:

EA – Educational Assistant
IEP – Individual Education Plan
IPRC – Identification, Placement, and Review Committee
ISA – Intensive Support Amount
LD – Learning Disability
PECS – Picture Exchange Communication System
SEAC – Special Education Advisory Committee
SEPPA – Special Education per Pupil Amount
VB – Verbal Behaviour

In the Community:

ACSD – Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities
SSAH – Special Services at Home

EVERYONE WELCOME!

AutismONTARIO – Peterborough

hosts a variety of social and learning opportunities throughout the year. These events are open to all (age restrictions vary depending on event) and pre-registration is often required.

Check the **events** section of our website for up-to-date information and online registration forms.

Don't want to miss any news?
Join our e-mail list.
See our chapter website for details.

AutismONTARIO – Peterborough

P.O. Box 443
Stn Main
Peterborough, ON, K9J 6Z3
905-723-8405
(Family Support Coordinator)

peterborough@autismontario.com
www.autismontario.com/peterborough

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Our Vision

Acceptance and opportunities for all individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Our Mission

To ensure that each individual with an Autism Spectrum Disorder is provided the means to achieve quality of life as a respected member of society.

Key Areas

- advocacy and support
- research
- public awareness