

# NEURODIVERSITY IS POWERFUL

**Be yourself. We like it like way.**

**Diversity fuels the Autism Edmonton spirit. Diversity is an integral part of our history, culture and identity. Autism Edmonton strives to create an equitable and inclusive culture that celebrates all.**



Issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion affect everyone. A world where all autistic individuals live a life full of possibilities is only possible if everyone is part of the solution.

Autism Edmonton is committed to ensuring that these issues are at the organization's heart and top of mind in all that we do. Equity ensures that as we make steps towards an inclusive world, no one is left behind, diverse perspectives create a space for meaningful and appropriate engagement for everyone, and inclusivity empowers a sense of belonging and connection in our community.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are critical in driving innovative solutions to service gaps, helping us inform systems change, and promoting promising practices. We believe there is always room to grow, there is always more that we can do to be an equitable and inclusive organization, and we pledge to lead by example.

## AUTISM EDMONTON WILL:

Autism Edmonton continues to fill service gaps where it can to provide support programs and services to meet the needs of autistic people, their families, allies, and communities.

- **Encourage and engage a more diverse, equitable and inclusive organizational culture.**
  - Provide our staff and volunteers with the tools and knowledge to practice inclusive behaviours in everything they do on behalf of Autism Edmonton.
  - Review our organizational processes to remove barriers, increase accessibility and expand diverse representation within Autism Edmonton.
- **Apply an equity, diversity, and inclusion lens to our activities, including programming, fundraising, advocacy, research, and community engagement.**
  - Continue to be led by the voices of autistic individuals in our community.
  - Continue to identify the voices of autistic individuals who are underrepresented in our community today and understand and address the unique challenges they may face.
- **Make space for continuous dialogue and storytelling.**
  - Continue to engage with our community regularly to collect feedback and identify opportunities that better support our community.
  - Document and share stories that showcase a broad range of lived experiences and identities.

