

MEMBER AT LARGE - BOARD POSITION

VISION

All autistic people have a life full of possibilities.

MISSION

To enhance the lives of autistic people through knowledge, services and inclusive opportunities.

Autism Edmonton is inviting caring individuals to serve on its Board of Directors! We are searching for those who will represent Autism Edmonton and will be advocates for its mission and vision.

- * All nominees are considered.
- * Board position will start upon acceptance by the Board but will require ratification at the next Annual General Meeting AGM (September 2026).
- * Successful candidates will be asked to serve a 2-year term and are eligible for re-election for an additional two 2-year terms.

About the Board

The Autism Edmonton Board of Directors is a volunteer-based governance Board that determines the organization's long-term strategic direction. The Board hires an Executive Director (ED) to implement the strategic plan and manage the organization's day-to-day operations. The ED is accountable to the Board, and staff and volunteers who implement programs and services are accountable to the ED.

Board Director Requirements

1. Commitment to the work of the organization – being informed on the programs and services and other organizational matters, as well as participating in discussions and decisions at Board meetings
2. Attendance at Board meetings, held virtually the third Tuesday in February, June, September, and December (approximately 2 hours)
3. Attendance at Annual General Meeting ("AGM") every September
4. Willingness to serve on a minimum of one committee and attend committee meetings, held quarterly and as needed. Standing committees include the following:
 - Finance Committee
 - Executive Director Oversight Committee
 - Governance Committee
 - Recruitment and Nominations Committee
5. Attendance/participation at a minimum of 2 Autism Edmonton events
6. Have an active membership with Autism Edmonton
7. Include Autism Edmonton as a charity of choice in personal philanthropy
8. Read and understand the Board Policy Manual and Bylaws

CORE VALUES

ACCEPTANCE

We welcome and embrace inclusivity and diversity of all people, ideas and perspectives in building community.

INTEGRITY

We believe in mutual trust, honesty, transparency, and accountability amongst ourselves, allies and stakeholders.

RESPECT

We treat one another and all people with empathy, courtesy and kindness.

Board of Directors Selection and Nomination Process

Directors on Autism Edmonton's Board are elected based upon experience, background and skills the Board deems important. The Autism Edmonton Board is open to individuals from all walks of life. Various backgrounds and skillsets are sought for representation on the Board to attain diverse viewpoints that represent our community.

Qualifications

We seek candidates who demonstrate understanding of the impact of Autism Spectrum Disorder on families and individuals and can devote sufficient time (approximately 8-10 hours a month) to Board member duties.

This year, we are interested in nominees that may particularly offer the following skills and experience:

- A legal background, with the ability to advise on regulatory, organizational governance, and risk management matters.
- Fundraising or philanthropic experience, including building fund development strategies and managing relationships with donors and partners.
- Community development experience, including engaging stakeholders and advancing community initiatives.
- Media and public relations experience, including external communications, presentations, and speaking engagements.
- Strong influence and advocacy skills across stakeholder groups, including both public and private sector.
- Board governance, recruitment, and development skills and experience.

Please **email your resume** and a **2-3 sentence statement** on why you would like to join the board and what **specific skills** you are bringing to: info@autismedmonton.org.

Message from the Board Chair & Executive Director

Dear Prospective Board Member,

Thank you for your interest in joining the Board of Directors at Autism Edmonton.

Since 1971, Autism Edmonton has been walking alongside autistic people, their families, and the communities that support them, providing trusted information, meaningful programs, community connections, and opportunities that help people thrive. As Alberta's oldest autism organization, we have continually evolved to meet the changing needs of our community while remaining committed to our mission of enhancing the lives of autistic people through knowledge, services, and inclusive opportunities.

Our Board plays a vital role in shaping the future of Autism Edmonton. Working in partnership with the Executive Director, the Board provides strategic leadership, sound governance, and stewardship of the organization's mission and resources. As we deliver on our Strategic Plan, we are focused on strengthening organizational sustainability, fostering meaningful community partnerships, and ensuring our programs and services continue to evolve alongside the needs of the autistic community.

Serving on the Board is both rewarding and meaningful. It is an opportunity to contribute your expertise while working alongside a thoughtful and engaged group of volunteers who share a commitment to strong governance and lasting community impact. To complement the skills and experience already represented on our Board, we are particularly interested in individuals with expertise in non-profit leadership, fund development, law, finance, governance, or strategic planning. At the same time, we know that our strongest decisions come from a diversity of perspectives, lived experiences, and a shared commitment to our mission.

This is an exciting time to join Autism Edmonton. We are strengthening our foundation, investing in our future, and positioning the organization to continue serving our community for generations to come. As we navigate both opportunities and challenges, we are seeking leaders who are thoughtful, collaborative, and committed to helping guide the organization through its next chapter.

The decisions made around our board table today will help shape the experiences of autistic people and their families tomorrow. If you believe your experience, perspective, and passion can make a difference, we would be honoured to have you explore this opportunity with us.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve. We look forward to learning more about you and the unique perspective you could bring to Autism Edmonton.

Warm regards,

Bobbi Elliott
Board Chair

Cassandra Rasko
Executive Director

For more information about Autism Edmonton, please visit: <https://www.autismedmonton.org/>.