

November 09, 2017

Autism Society Begins Sticker Program to Celebrate More than Doubling Community Outreach Since 2015

St. John's, NL- Following the completion of Autism Society, Newfoundland Labrador (ASNL) Annual General Meeting (AGM) this past Saturday the organization is excited to release that they have more than doubled the number of individuals they have reached through community awareness and understanding sessions since 2015. At the 2015 AGM, the organization reported reaching 7,056 people; at this years AGM that number had grown to 17,674 people. These sessions include classrooms, businesses, health care staff, first responders, and community organizations. To mark this occasion ASNL has begun distributing 'We Are Autism Aware' stickers and encourage people to display the sticker in a visible location after completing autism awareness and understanding sessions with ASNL outreach staff.

"Over the past two years, requests from the community to have our staff complete autism education sessions had increased tremendously. However, we always want to do more. With every presentation, our organization encourages empathy, understanding, acceptance and inclusion."

-Scott Crocker, CEO Autism Society, Newfoundland Labrador

ASNL has reached more than 2,500 students for classroom awareness and understanding sessions this year. These sessions are tailored to specific age groups and/or grades and designed to help students understand their peers on the spectrum. By educating the younger generation, ASNL hopes the future of our province will be filled with policy makers, educators, employers and employees who are understanding and welcoming of the differences that an autism diagnosis can present.

"As a parent, I feel the more people in our province who listen to the Autism Society presentations, the better. Hopefully these stickers will encourage other organizations/ businesses to contact outreach staff to learn more about autism and how they can be more inclusive in their day to day operations."

-Parent, Grand-Falls Windsor

Anyone interested in having outreach staff present at their workplace, organization or school is encouraged to e mail info@autism.nf.net and they will be connected with outreach staff on the Avalon, Eastern, South-Central, Western/Labrador Regions.

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