

# The Children's Link Society

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Phone:230-9158/ Fax:230-3252/ E-mail:child@nucleus.com  
Website: [www.childrenslink.ca](http://www.childrenslink.ca)

## General Resources

- ◆ **Autism Calgary – (403) 250-5033.** Autism Calgary is a support and information group with a comprehensive library and monthly support meetings. They also run a support group for parents who have children with High Functioning Autism, PDD and related disorders such as Asperger's Syndrome. They are an excellent resource for parents and have a resource manual that is extremely helpful listing resources in Calgary frequently used by families. Please call the above number for more information or visit their website at: <http://www.autismcalgary.com>
  
- ◆ **Autism Treatment Consortium** is a multi-disciplinary early intervention team for children with autism and other developmental challenges. They offer behaviour based intervention, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and psychology supports. They provide home and community programming as well as school collaboration.  
Suite 328, 7620 Elbow Drive S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2V 1K2 • 403-660-4554  
fax: 403-806-0111 • [shellytulloch@shaw.ca](mailto:shellytulloch@shaw.ca)
  
- ◆ **Autism Aspergers Friendship Society (AAFS)-Dean Svoboda- 608-5652.** The AAFS offers respite care in a recreational environment for families with children with Autism/Aspergers/PDD in the Calgary area. The Little Autism Aspergers Friendship Society (LAAFS) does the same for children ages 5-10. Regular events include Video Games Club, Arts/Film Club and Girls Club. See our website for a complete schedule.  
**Email:** [aafs@shaw.ca](mailto:aafs@shaw.ca)  
**Website:** <http://members.shaw.ca/aafs>
  
- Little Autism Aspergers Friendship Society (LAAFS) – (403) 608-5652.**  
**Email:** [laafs@shaw.ca](mailto:laafs@shaw.ca)  
**Website:** <http://members.shaw.ca/aafs>

The Children's Link Society neither endorses nor recommends any programs, services, supports, therapies, treatments, etc. but provides impartial and, to the best of our knowledge, factual information for families of children with special needs and service providers in the Calgary Rocky View Region.

- ◆ **Autism Partnership – (403) 205-2749.** Autism Partnership assists families in setting up an intensive behavioural intervention program utilizing discrete trial teaching and Applied Behaviour Analysis.  
[www.autismpartnership.com/wcan.htm](http://www.autismpartnership.com/wcan.htm)
- ◆ **Society for the Treatment of Autism – (403) 253-2291.** The Society offers a range of programs for the families that utilize their services. The Society's Early Intervention Program (EIP) serves children between the ages of two and six years old and is available twelve months a year, Children can attend full-day or half-day classroom based or community/home based programs Monday to Friday. The Society also provides residential (Margaret House), IBI and Family support Programs. <http://www.autism.ca>
- ◆ **Family Supports For Children with Disabilities (FSCD)**  
**Phone: (403) 297 - 6022**  
Websites: <http://www.child.gov.ab.ca/whatwedo/fscd/page.cfm?pg=index>  
[http://www.child.gov.ab.ca/whatwedo/fscd/pdf/FSCD\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.child.gov.ab.ca/whatwedo/fscd/pdf/FSCD_brochure.pdf)

The policy and procedures manual for FSCD is available online at the above websites. Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) provides support to families under Family Support Services and the Child Focused Services. Please read through the enclosed listing for more information on FSCD Services.

- ◆ **Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) – (403) 955- 6955.** AADL assists families raising a child with a long-term disability, chronic or terminal illness, with the extraordinary cost of medical equipment or supplies needed for day-to-day living. Please call the above number for more information or visit their website at: [www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/aadl/](http://www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/aadl/)
- ◆ **Alberta Child Health Benefit – 1-877-469-5437.** The Alberta Child Health Benefit is a health benefit plan for children in low-income families. The program offers coverage of dental, optical, emergency ambulance and prescription drug services. Please call the above number for more information or visit their website at: [www3.gov.ab.ca/hre/achb/](http://www3.gov.ab.ca/hre/achb/)
- ◆ **The Child Tax Benefit – 1-800-959-8281.** The Canada Child Tax Benefit is a tax-free monthly payment made to eligible families to help them with the cost of raising children under age 18. The CCTB may include the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS), a monthly benefit for low-income families with children, and the Child Disability Benefit (CDB), a monthly benefit providing financial assistance for qualified families caring for children with severe and prolonged mental or physical impairments (please see below for more information on CDB). For more information or to apply please call the above number or visit their website at: [www.cra-arc.gc.ca/taxcredit/individuals/menu-e.html](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/taxcredit/individuals/menu-e.html)

- ◆ **The Disability Tax Credit Information – 1-800-959-8281.** This is a non-refundable tax credit that you can use to reduce the amount of income tax you have to pay. Please see the enclosed information on how to apply for this credit and form - T2201A from Revenue Canada. For further information on how to apply call the above number or visit their website at: [www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pbg/tf/t2201/](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pbg/tf/t2201/)  
To order the Disability Tax Credit Forms please call **1-800-959-2221**.
- ◆ **Canada Child Disability Benefit - 1-800-387-1193.** The Child Disability Benefit (CDB) is a tax-free benefit of for low- and modest-income families, who care for a child under age 18 with a severe and prolonged mental or physical impairment. The CDB is paid as a monthly supplement to the Canada Child Tax Benefit. Families who are eligible for CCTB for a child will receive the CDB only if the child also qualifies for Disability Tax Credit (please see above for more information on DTC). For more information please call the above number or visit their website at: [www.cra-arc.gc.ca/taxcredit/individuals/menu-e.html](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/taxcredit/individuals/menu-e.html)
- ◆ **The Geneva Centre for Autism (Toronto) – (416) 322-7877 or visit their website at [www.autism.net](http://www.autism.net).** The Geneva Centre in Toronto is a training and information centre which hosts an international symposium every two years in Toronto. They have an extensive library and sponsor numerous information and training seminars across Canada. Please call or e-mail for information on their on-going training programs and seminars.
- ◆ **Respite List** - Enclosed is a list put together by The Children's Link Society that includes agencies and private care providers for relief and respite services. Many of the agencies bill FSCD directly. Please take the time to look over the various options, as some would be more suitable than others for your family. Also see our web site at [www.childrenslink.ca](http://www.childrenslink.ca) for up to date caregiver options.
- ◆ **Pediatricians List** – For an up to date listing of pediatricians in Calgary, go to [www.calgaryhealthregion.ca](http://www.calgaryhealthregion.ca) On the left margin “Search for Physician Services”; click on “By Specialties and Quadrant”; use the drop-down box to select “Pediatrics” (or Pediatrics – sub-specialty as appropriate); select quadrant of the city; click on box for only physicians accepting new patients; perform search. This is a very helpful site in that you can specify the area of the city close to you.
- ◆ **In-Home Supports for Parents and Children.** Often families raising children with special needs require in-home support for their family. As parents of children with special needs and having “been there”, we have enclosed a list of agencies that provide support in a number of capacities to families dealing with the day-to-day challenges of raising a child with special needs. Please see the enclosed list of agencies that may helpful for your family.
- ◆ **The Children's Link Society’s Family Link Program – (403) 230-9158.** The Children's Link Society offers the Family Link Program a program, which works at bringing families together to share their expertise, joys and frustrations and the special understanding of having a son or daughter with a disability. Monthly socials are held for this parent-to-parent connection. Childcare is available for the monthly

socials but please call ahead of time so that childcare arrangements can be made.  
(website: [www.childrenslink.ca](http://www.childrenslink.ca))

## **EDUCATION, SCHOOLS AND RELATED INFORMATION**

- ◆ **Special Education Funding – Program Unit Funding (PUF) – 1-780-422-6326 or toll free by dialing 310-0000 and then dialing 422-6326.** Preschool children that have special needs may be eligible for PUF funded preschool programs. Please see the criteria in the information enclosed.
- ◆ **Preschool Options List** – We have enclosed our preschools options list for your information. On this list, you will find preschools that specialize in programs for children with special needs and programs that integrate children with special needs. Many of the preschools listed on our list, also have support staff such as speech therapists, physical therapists and occupational therapists. They may also have a higher ratio of adults to children and the schools listed have had experience accessing PUF funding. Community preschools may also access PUF funding, but they must be an accredited ECS operator and an ECS teacher must oversee the program. Community preschools can contact Alberta Learning – Special Education Funding, at the above number for more information.
- ◆ **The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) – Parkdale Centre – (403) 777-7240.** Parkdale Centre is the School, Student and Services Centre that parents may call when placing their child with the CBE. (Website: [www.cbe.ab.ca/](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/))
- ◆ **The Calgary Catholic Board of Education -** Registration for students with special needs information for parents enclosed. If you need further information please contact Heather Rose, Supervisor, and Instructional Support Team at 291-1581 (Website: [www.cssd.ab.ca/](http://www.cssd.ab.ca/))
- **Private Schools in Calgary that accept children with Special Needs -** Enclosed is a list of private schools that accept children with special needs into their programs but please note that the criteria and enrolment procedures are different for every school. Admittance changes from year to year as do the number of students accepted into each program. Please call for information on the individual school.
- ◆ **Recreation Opportunities for Children with Special Needs.** We have a listing of recreational options but as these will be specific your child’s age, ability and interests, please contact our office for more information. We can also provide a number of options for day and residential **summer camps**.