



Autism Society Canada  
Soci t  canadienne de l'autisme

**ASC Today**  
Changing the face of autism...

## Welcome to Our Newsletter

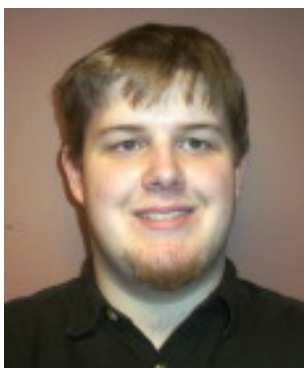
March, 2007

Autism Society Canada's first quarterly newsletter distribution was a great success and we have many new subscribers. Thank you to our readers for all your encouragement and support. **ASC Today** will keep you informed about ASC's activities and provide you with current information and links to the latest Canadian ASD community news. **PDF**

## ASC's Advisory Committee of Adults with ASD submits report to ASC Board

Autism Society Canada was very pleased to receive the first formal report of its Advisory Committee of Adults with ASD at the ASC Board of Directors meeting in February, 2007. This document sets an important precedent for ASC, allowing us to hear directly from our members with ASD. The report calls for a better understanding of the needs of adults with ASDs and increased services to meet these needs...

[Read Report](#)



## Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology: Autism Hearings

The Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology met with numerous stakeholders in the autism community during the months of November and December to receive advice and information regarding all aspects of autism treatment in Canada. On November 23, 2006, ASC President Jo-Lynn Fenton presented an excellent report to the Senate Standing Committee outlining the need for a

## Thank You to Our Newest Supporters



Autism Society Canada is delighted to acknowledge the increased awareness and support for ASC's programs from the corporate sector. These partnerships help us to keep ASD issues in the public spotlight.

**TST Overland Express** partnered with Autism Society Canada during Canadian Autism Awareness Month (CAAM) to raise awareness and understanding of ASD. The company's 1,100 employees from across the country received educational brochures and posters on autism prepared by TST Overland Express. Employees also participated enthusiastically in a variety of creative fundraising activities: from bingos, candy grams, chili cook-offs, and raffles to dances and pecan pie sales! A big thank you for this tremendous support.

## Upcoming Events

comprehensive Autism Strategy. [Read Presentation.](#) ASC Executive Director, Louise Fleming, also took part in the hearings at a Roundtable Discussion on Autism Treatment.

On December 6, 2006, Kristian Hooker presented a personal view of life with ASD to the Senate Standing Committee.

[Read Presentation](#)

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## Canadian Autism Awareness Month (CAAM)

Thank you for helping us to Change the Face of Autism during the month of October. Friends and colleagues across the country joined together to raise awareness about ASD during October, 2006. Thousands of supporters from across the country attended ASD events. ASC has enjoyed working with all of you and we look forward to working with you again next year.

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## Research News

**Mapping autism risk loci using genetic linkage and chromosomal rearrangements.** The Autism Genome Project Consortium, in Nature Genetics, (advance online version), February 19, 2007...[PDF](#)

### **CDC Releases New Data on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) from Multiple Communities in the United States - Autism Prevalence Now 1 in 150, According to CDC.**

CDC, February 8, 2007: CDC Releases New Data on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) from Multiple Communities in the United States; Majority of Children with ASDs in the Areas Studied had Developmental Concerns Before Age Three...[Link](#)

### **Check out the Early Warning Signs of Autism**

The **Canadian Autism Intervention Research Network (CAIRN)** is running an excellent autism awareness campaign called "***The sooner you know, the sooner you can help***": <http://www.cairn-site.com/news/aac2.html> The campaign targets both parents and family physicians with information designed to improve early screening and referral and a **full-color poster highlighting early signs** that physicians can display in their waiting rooms. The poster, available in English and French, can also be ordered free of charge from the CAIRN web site, [www.cairn-site.com](http://www.cairn-site.com)

## Dan's Motorcycle Mission for Autism!

Dan Powaschuk plans to ride his motorcycle from Regina to the Arctic Ocean and back to raise awareness of autism. "The reason I am doing this ride is to help more people learn about autism, including the dramatic rise in reported cases. If people have more knowledge about ASD, then when they see a child with unusual behaviours or speech difficulties, they might consider the possibility of autism and be more understanding and helpful." Dan's son has autism. For more info on Dan's ride, check out his site: [www.rideupforautism.ca](http://www.rideupforautism.ca).

## Autism Society Manitoba's 19th ANNUAL AUTISM CONFERENCE-

April 20, 2007. The Annual Autism Conference is a joint endeavour of Autism Society Manitoba and the Health Sciences Centre Autism Program. Dr. Temple Grandin, Ph.D. will be speaking on Visual Thinking, Careers, Sensory Problems, and The Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships. For more information please visit: <http://www.autismmanitoba.com/>

See our website for [autism events across Canada](#)

[Read current ASD News Stories](#)

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## Raise Awareness



**[Order Your ASC Puzzle Pin Today](#)**

ASC's Autism Awareness Puzzle Pins are 1 1/2 inch



lapel pins with the ASC logo in the centre.

See our website for [more research news](#)

## Book Review

**Hopes and Dreams: An IEP Guide for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders** by Kirby Lentz, AAPC, 2004. Reviewed by Maureen Bennie, Director, Autism Awareness Centre Inc.

### **Donate Now!**

ASC is committed to creating better lives and opportunities for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders, their families and communities. We need your support to continue providing vital services to people affected by ASDs. You can make a difference by donating to ASC. Please help us so we can continue to help others.

[Click to donate](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

### **Autism Society Canada (ASC)**

is a national incorporated non-profit charitable organization, founded in 1976. ASC is a federation of Canada-wide provincial and territorial autism societies or their equivalent. ASC represents the largest collective voice of the autism community in Canada. The **Provincial and Territorial Autism Societies** and their member groups in each region provide direct support to people with ASDs and their families.

### **More about ASC**

### **Our Vision**

That people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) achieve their individual potential and that they and their families have universal access to the resources they require.

### **Our Goals**

- Increase awareness and understanding of ASDs and participation of individuals with ASDs.
- Promote federal policies, programs, and legislation that respond to the needs of the Autism community.
- Promote evidence-based services/treatment, best practices and standards.
- Promote ASD research