

**Arden C. Fiala**  
**Director, Autism Society Canada**



Hi, I am Arden Fiala, and I will be representing Saskatchewan on the ASC Board. I live in Shaunavon, Saskatchewan with my husband Calvin and children, Elene (11) and Hartley (10).

Our daughter was diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome four years ago, just before she started Grade 3. I hold a Bachelor of Education Degree, (with a major of Special Education ~ Level II Certification) and two certificates in the human services field. In the spring of 2008, I was named to the Provincial Autism Advisory Committee. It was at those meetings were I met Tim Verklan (President of SASKFEAT) and soon thereafter became a director for SASKFEAT.

I balance three “jobs”, being a Childcare and Home Management Specialist (a.k.a. Mom), a substitute teacher and a photographer with my business *SNAPS and Productions by A.C.*

There are many challenges facing persons with Autism but two are most important to me. The first is the challenge of building Autism awareness, for to me, awareness is the foundation/key – especially with Autism being an “invisible” disability. The other is the challenge of increasing people’s ability to access services and qualified professionals in rural and northern Saskatchewan.

I am looking forward to my tenure on the ASC Board!