



## Inside This Issue

Page 1

- \* Foundation Goals & Mission Statement
- \* Upcoming Events
- \* Exciting News

Page 2

- \* Ask the Expert ~ A Study at the Rutherford Lab

Page 3

- \* Interesting Information ~ CNAF Supports 2008 ~ An Opportunity for Father's of Children with Autism

Page 4

- \* Exciting News
- \* How to Contact Us
- \* How you can Help
- \* In the Next Issue

## Foundation Goals

The objectives of the Canadian National Autism Foundation are charitable. The Canadian National Autism Foundation has been formed to provide funding for:

- \* Educating the general public and professionals;
- \* Providing information and resources to families of children with autism;
- \* Providing funding for Canadian based research and development; and
- \* Promoting national autism awareness

## Mission Statement

The Canadian National Autism Foundation promotes the positive improvement and quality of life for people with autism in Canada.

### Upcoming Events

## **Autism NHL Night**

*Meet and Greet*

**For Autism Research**

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner & Dance with Live Auction**

**CNAF GOODWILL AMBASSADOR**

**WALTER GRETZKY**

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

**HARRY HOWELL ~ BILL FRIDAY ~ GAY STEWART**

**JOHN MISZUK ~ RIC NATTRESS**

## *Exciting News!*

The Canadian National Autism Foundation has exciting news to share! Two of the research studies that we have funded over the past 3 years have been in the news around the world! The "Autism Genome Project" by Dr. Peter Szatmari, Dr. Stephen Scherer and many others, as well as the "Early Detection of Autism" by Dr. Mel Rutherford at Hamilton's McMaster University are receiving worldwide acclaim for their preliminary findings. We look forward to being able to share more of their results as they become available!

Mailing Address: 1227 Barton Street East, PO Box 47577, Hamilton, Ontario, L8H 2V0  
Phone: 905-643-7183 Fax: 905-643-0969

## Ask the Expert

This is your time to actually be in a study that has made medical breakthroughs and ask questions of the professionals.

The Rutherford Lab invites you to take part in

# The Sticker Study

We are studying verbal 4-7 year olds with autism to see how they solve problems!

- Each child will work with the experimenters to make a picture with stickers.
- The child is given simple instructions and a problem to solve.
- Each child is paid for participating.

Ultimately we want to see how children differ in their problem solving skills.

Please help us by taking part!



### Rutherford Lab

McMaster University  
Department of Psychology,  
Neuroscience and Behaviour  
Phone: 905 525 9140  
Ext. 26032



## Interesting Information

**This year the Canadian National Autism Foundation has disbursed funds to:**

- 1) The Autism Treatment Network (ATN) led by Dr. Wendy Roberts co-director of the Autism Research Unit at Sick Kids Toronto ~ \$3,000.00 (Toronto will become the first Canadian ATN site)
- 2) The Autism Genome Project with Dr. Stephen Scherer of Toronto's Sick Kids ~ \$5,000.00
- 3) Dr. David Nicholas of The Hospital for Sick Kids Toronto with the research study "Roles and Experiences Of Mothers & Fathers of Children with Autism ~ \$7,000.00
- 4) Dr. Mel Rutherford from Hamilton's McMaster University for continuation of the Early Autism Study ~ \$5,000.00

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**This is an email from a father from the UK that would like some help from Fathers of children with Autism.**

To whom it may concern

May I introduce myself; my name is Neil and I am the father of a six-year-old daughter with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. I am in the process of writing about her but not through the usual narrative of how my family has coped with her condition or offering any academic, scientific solutions.

Instead, I want to make contact with other fathers whose offspring are Autistic, to write letters based on the premise, "If I had a magic wand, I would ... " and put them together in book form.

I have sent out a proposal to several book publishers, with this idea and am awaiting their response, and have the backing of The National Autistic Society, the Kent Autistic Trust, Dr. Paul Shattock OBE and one of leading experts in the field, Tony Attwood (his enthusiastic PA, at least!).

The letters can be honest, explaining you'll never change the child; they can be frank, wanting to alter only some parts or all parts, contain humorous anecdotes, doodles, poems, scribbles, anything that another father might relate to, to garner inspiration and a small nugget of relief. Or, even show the wishes of the child. Fathers come across as having very little escape from the rigours of caring for disabled children.

As Autism does not only affect laymen, I will be doing my utmost to contact male celebrities and anyone, financially successful, whose money and privilege do not prevent them experiencing the same problems as other fathers.

Some of the proceeds for the book are earmarked for The Kent Autistic Trust and The Fathers Club in Kent, a group offering advice to fathers of Autistic children.

Yours truly,  
Neil Weston

Letters and enquiries can be e-mailed in confidence to: [neilweston@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:neilweston@tiscali.co.uk)

## How to Contact Us

### ***Mailing Address***

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info@cnaaf.net

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### ***Charitable Organization***

#867189243 RR0001

## How You Can Help

As a charitable organization, the Canadian National Autism Foundation strives to raise funds to achieve our goals and it is with the support of generous organizations, companies and people that we are able to put together fundraising events such as those we have had in the past in order to raise the funding needed.

At this time we are looking for financial support, and this can come in various forms:

- Sponsorship of portions of our events
- Donations of prizes for our events
- Purchase of tickets to our events
- Financial contributions directly towards our goals (i.e. research)
- Hold an Autism Awareness Day at your establishment
- Casual Dress Days
- Payroll Deductions
- Host a Golf Tournament or Hockey Tournament
- Sponsor or run a Walk-a-thon
- And any other great ideas that you may have, big or small!



### Ongoing Fundraisers

Do you buy books about Autism or any other topics online?  
Buy them through the Amazon.ca link on our site, and the CNAF will receive a percentage of your sale from Amazon.ca

### Disclaimer

The Canadian National Autism Foundation (CNAF) does not support, endorse or recommend any method, treatment, product, program or person for people suffering with autism spectrum disorders. The goal of our site and our responses to your questions is to provide accurate and up-to-date information about autism spectrum disorders. We believe everyone has the right to access all of the information available to them, allowing them to make their own individual choice.