

## FACTSHEET: AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD), FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD), AND COMPLEX DEVELOPMENTAL BEHAVIOURAL CONDITIONS (CDBC)

### ASSESSMENT/DIAGNOSTIC RESOURCES

#### BC Autism Assessment Network (BCAAN)

##### BCAAN Autism Assessment

BCAAN provides diagnostic assessments for children and youth (to age 19 years) with suspected Autism Spectrum Disorder, and accepts referrals from all physicians.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for information on services and wait times and to access referral forms.

#### Asante Centre

##### Assessments for Individuals with Developmental Delays

The Asante Centre works with a variety of referral streams including options for:

- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
- Complex developmental conditions from a range of stressors
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); and
- Separate assessments for comprehensive psychology, medical, speech-language, and/or occupational therapy needs.

The Assante Centre has locations in Maple Ridge and Surrey, and virtual visits may be available. The Asante Centre is able to provide referral options for both publicly- or privately-funded services.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for further information.

#### Other Autism Assessment/Diagnostic Resources

Clinicians who are not part of BCAAN can also assess and diagnose children but they must follow the *Ministry of Health Standards and Guidelines for the Assessment and Diagnosis of Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in British Columbia (2003)* in order for the family to be eligible for Autism Funding from the province.

- ▶ If you would like more information about BCAAN or about the assessment and diagnosis of children who may have Autism, please send an e-mail to [autism@phsa.ca](mailto:autism@phsa.ca) or call the BCAAN Information Line at 604-453-8394.

Diagnostic assessment is an important first step in accessing needed resources.



### IS YOUR FIRST NATIONS PATIENT HAVING DIFFICULTY ACCESSING NEEDED SUPPORTS AND SERVICES?

[Jordan's Principle](#) is a federal program to ensure all First Nations children can access the products, services, and supports they need, when they need them. It can help with a wide range of health, social, and educational needs. This program applies to supports and services for First Nations youth age 19 or younger.

For more information, [click here](#).



### Complex Developmental Behavioural Conditions Assessment

#### Diagnostic Assessment through the CDBC and BCAAN Network

These diagnostic assessment services are intended for children and youth (ages 0-19 years) who have significant difficulties in multiple areas of functioning, including those with known or suspected history of exposure to substances with neurodevelopmental effects. Referral from pediatricians or child psychiatrists is required (with exceptions based on access). CDBC programs and BCAAN services are regionally coordinated and use a common referral form.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) and scroll down to find information on referral.

### SPECIALIZED PRIMARY CARE AND PHYSICIAN CONSULTATION – ASANTE CENTRE

Family physicians with additional training in developmental diversities see patients and build understanding of their unique healthcare needs. Physicians are available for ongoing service as the person's general practitioner, as well as consultation with community general practitioners to enhance patient care across BC. Virtual health options are available. Services are covered through MSP.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for further information.
- ▶ To refer a patient, please call reception at the Asante Centre's Surrey office 778-564-7101.

### FUNDING AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

#### MCFD Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) Program

Specialized service and funding options may be available for children or teens who have special needs and their families. Please note that, in most cases, certain eligibility requirements must be met in order to qualify. Contact CYSN staff to discuss what services might be available and provide other useful information or support.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for contact information for your local CYSN office.

### PATIENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Please note that access to these services is generally restricted to those with specific diagnoses.

### Support for Persons with Autism and their Families

#### Autism BC

Autism BC is a parent based and directed society that has been working to provide information and support to individuals and families affected by Autism since 1975. The mission is "To enhance and improve the lives of those affected by Autism in BC".

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for more information.



### Autism Community Training (ACT)

Autism Community Training provides information and training relevant to the Autism community internationally. Our goal is to enable parents, professionals, and para-professionals to support children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder to live productive, satisfying lives within their families and communities. ACT develops a wide-range of positive and practical information on everything from sleep problems and diet, to core issues such as diagnosis and aspects of intervention, including information on setting up intervention programs.

► Please [click here](#) for more information.

### Autism Information Services British Columbia

Autism Information Services British Columbia (AIS BC) is a provincial information centre for Autism and related disorders, and is part of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). AIS BC staff provide information on best practice treatments, supports and training to families, service providers and community professionals across the province. AIS BC also manages the Registry of Autism Service Providers (RASP) – a listing of qualified professionals.

► Please [click here](#) for more information.

**BC Parent's Guide to Autism Programs:** The Ministry of Children and Family Development has an online Parent's Guide resource that provides information on Autism programs and how to establish eligibility for services in BC. Please [click here](#) to access the handbook.

**BC Government Autism Funding:** Funding is available to help eligible families with the cost of purchasing intervention services that will promote their child's communication, social-emotional, academic, and functional life skills development. Please [click here](#) for more information on this provincial program.

**BC Autism Support Network:** The BC Autism Support Network provides a variety of supports for individuals and families. Please [click here](#) for information about the BC Autism Support Network.

### Canuck Autism Network

Canucks Autism Network (CAN) provides year-round sports and recreation programs to individuals and families living with autism, while increasing awareness and providing training in communities across British Columbia.

► Please [click here](#) for more information.

### Pacific Autism Family Network (PFAN)

The Pacific Autism Family Network is a centre of excellence and network of supports for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families across the province. PFAN offers a variety of programs, and their GoodLife Fitness Family Autism Hub provides a "one stop shop" for families. They also act as a collaborative network for Autism service providers, organizations, clinicians, and researchers.

► Please [click here](#) for more information.



### SUPPORT FOR PERSONS WITH FASD AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for information on support for children and families with suspected FASD.

#### Key Worker and Parent Support Program

The Key Worker and Parent Support Program is intended for families of children and youth under age 19 who have confirmed or suspected FASD, or who have a similar neurodevelopmental condition. See program information link below for eligibility criteria. Support from a key worker is free and families can contact one at any time, even before an assessment.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for information on the Key Worker and Parent Support Program.
- ▶ Please [click here](#) to find a key worker or parent support in your community.

### SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

#### Family Support Institute of BC

The purpose of the Family Support Institute of BC is to strengthen, connect, and build communities and resources with families of people with disabilities in BC. Directed by families, the Family Support Institute of BC provides information, training, and province-wide networking to assist families and their communities to build upon and share their strengths.

- ▶ Please [click here](#) for more information.