



## SEARCH & RESCUE FOR AUTISM PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

### SEARCH AND RESCUE FOR AUTISM PROGRAM LAUNCH & LEARN

Toronto, Ontario – September 16, 2020

Autism Canada is pleased to announce that it will be hosting a free and virtual launch of its proprietary **Search and Rescue for Autism (SARA)** program on **Saturday, October 24, 2020** from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm EST.

**Search and Rescue for Autism**, the first program of its kind anywhere in the world, was created to help prevent people from becoming lost due to wandering and bolting. Built on a foundation of prevention materials and specially designed technical training, this program will help both families and Search and Rescue (SAR) professionals recognize the particular vulnerabilities of the autistic community. The **Search and Rescue for Autism** program presents a thorough guide through related topics like autistic behaviours, managing a search for an autistic and the safe preparation for events, day trips, and vacations. **Search and Rescue for Autism** training is for anyone who manages an environment in which autistics are participating including parks, forests, malls, schools and businesses.

The **Search and Rescue for Autism Launch and Learn** will have two components. Led by Shynyn Silinski, **Search and Rescue for Autism** Program Manager, the first session will be for First Responders and families/caregivers of autistics. The second session will primarily be for First Responders and SAR volunteers. The early session has an emphasis on prevention and community building, while the later has discussions around the technical training offered by Autism Canada and Search and Rescue for Autism.

#### **About Shynyn Silinski**

Shynyn Silinski is the **Search & Rescue for Autism** Program Manager. She is a retired Volunteer Fire Captain and Training Officer with a background in federal level emergency planning, research and development.

#### **About Autism Canada:**

Autism Canada, an Imagine Canada accredited organization, is the only Canadian organization with a national perspective on the issues currently facing those with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Our history is rich in education, advocacy, support and an unwavering dedication to improving the lives of those living with autism spectrum disorder, their families and caregivers. Seeing the Spectrum Differently since 1976.

To register and for more information about this **free and virtual session**, visit: <https://sarautism.ca/launch-and-learn/>

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Contact: Shynyn Silinski, **Search and Rescue for Autism** Program Manager

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