



## **National Autism Network Strategic Priority Committee Expression of Interest Overview**

### **About the Network**

The National Autism Network is a new, independent community-led group supported by the Government of Canada.

The Network was created to make sure that Autistic people and their families help shape community priorities and guide actions to bring Canada's Autism Strategy to life.

People involved in the Network include:

- Autistic people
- Family members
- Experts
- Community partners from across the country

To read more about Canada's Autism Strategy, visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/canada-autism-strategy.html>

### **What Is the Mission?**

The Network's mission is to make sure that Autistic people and their families guide the decisions that shape autism policy in Canada.

### **What Is the Vision?**

A Canada where the real-life experiences of Autistic people and their families shape:

- Policies
- Services
- Communities

So that Autistic people have:

- Inclusion
- Equity
- Opportunities  
At every age and stage of life

### **What Is a Strategic Priority Committee?**

Strategic Priority Committees are small groups of people who help turn the big goals in Canada's Autism Strategy into real, workable solutions across the country.

The committees:

- Share knowledge
- Recommend helpful actions
- Support partnerships across systems (like health, education, or jobs)
- Help government understand what's needed for long-term change

### **What Do Committees Focus On?**

There are five committees, each based on one of the five focus areas across the lifespan in Canada's Autism Strategy:

1. Screening, Diagnosis, and Services
2. Economic Inclusion
3. Data Collection, Public Health Surveillance, and Research
4. Public Awareness, Understanding, and Acceptance
5. Tools and Resources

### **Who Should Apply?**

We are looking for people who have:

- Experience working in these areas
- Professional or research knowledge
- Real-life experience in one of the five focus areas

You might be:

- An Autistic person with work or research experience

- A family member who works in the system
- A clinician, educator, advocate, or subject expert
- A policymaker, data specialist, or strategist

## **What Do Committees Do?**

Each committee looks at the goals in its area and helps answer:

*"What will it take to make this happen across Canada in a fair, effective, and lasting way?"*

The committees will:

- Review each action item in the strategy
- Identify what supports, tools, or partnerships are needed
- Suggest what should happen first, and what has the most impact
- Recommend who should lead each part, and how to track success
- Point out risks, gaps, or overlaps
- Offer improvements and new ideas

This work turns big ideas into practical, real actions that help Autistic people and their communities.

## **Time Commitment and Support**

- Each committee will meet about 6 times per year.
- Total time is about 42 hours per year, including:
  - Prep time
  - Meeting time
  - Follow-up work

You will be supported by a Committee and Council Engagement Coordinator who will help with:

- Scheduling
- Background information
- Follow-up after meetings

## **How to Apply**

You must be a member of the Network to apply. Membership is free.  
The membership and application form are combined into one.

You will be asked about:

- Your background
- Your experiences
- Which area you want to help with

You can ask a support person to help you with the form.

To apply online, visit:

<https://redcap.link/kfxofq9k>

**Deadline to apply: September 15, 2025**

## **Other Ways to Apply**

You don't have to apply online if that doesn't work for you.

You can also:

- Schedule a phone or video interview
- Fill out a Word or PDF form and email or mail it
- Send a video, audio file, or PowerPoint
- Suggest your own format that works for you

To ask about another way to apply, email:

[info@nan-rna.ca](mailto:info@nan-rna.ca)

## **Questions or Want to Learn More?**

We're here to help.

If you have questions or want to talk to someone, email:

[info@nan-rna.ca](mailto:info@nan-rna.ca)