

## Registration Form:

*(space is limited please register by  
Friday January 13, 2006)*

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PC: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

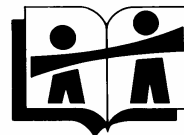
I am a:

- Parent
- Childcare Provider
- Professional (other)

Please send registration and \$5  
cheque payable to School District 23  
to:

Sue Rampone  
Speech-Language Pathologist  
Dehart Student Support Services  
785 Dehart Avenue  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 6A2  
(250) 979-0029, ext 111

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23



CENTRAL OKANAGAN  
"Together We Learn"

# STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

School District 23 (Central Okanagan)

Presents:

**Fostering Mutual Friendships  
for Children with ASD**

**The Friend 2 Friend Model**

Presented by Heather McCracken



Tuesday – January 17, 2006

6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Hollywood Road Education Services  
1040 Hollywood Road  
Kelowna, BC

## Seminar Description:

The purpose of this session is to illustrate the principles and practices of the Friend 2 Friend Program, designed to foster mutual friendships between children on the autism spectrum and their typical peers. The goal of this workshop is to help participants empathize with "what it feels like to have autism" and implement strategies in homes, schools and daycares that will foster mutual friendships between children with autism and their peers.

Participants will play a sensory/communication simulation game to experience the frame of mind of a child with autism. In addition, participants will learn the importance of friendships for children with autism, and receive practical tips and suggestions on supporting children to build mutual friendships and establishing inclusive classrooms and community environments. Using video, overheads, stories and personal experiences, we will illustrate how to promote acceptance, understanding and friendships for children with autism within their peer group.



## Join Us To Discover:

- ⊗ The Importance of Friendships
- ⊗ The Nature of Friendships
- ⊗ The Benefits of Friendships
- ⊗ The Principals and Practices of the F2F model
- ⊗ How to support mutual friendships between children with Autism and their peers, siblings, and classmates

## Evening Agenda:

### 1. What Does it Feel Like to Have Autism?

- Friend 2 Friend Simulation Game
- The Senses and Autism
- Communication and Autism
- I have the Kind of Mind .....
- I Want Friends

Questions and Answers

### Break (15 minutes)

### 2. Friend 2 Friend Program Model

- Friend 2 Friend Philosophy
- Friend 2 Friend Mandate
- Friend 2 Friend Programs

### 3. Incorporating Friend 2 Friend at Home and School

- The importance of autism demystification
- Supporting peer socialization and friendships
- Supporting mutual friendships
- Regular & continuous support (IPG Model)

Questions and Answers



## Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society

Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society is a non-profit charity located in North Vancouver BC. Friend 2 Friend has one mandate— to promote mutually rewarding friendships between children on the autism spectrum and related disorders and their peers, siblings and classmates. With the help of Friend 2 Friend Programs, children enjoy learning about disabilities such as autism spectrum and how they can be an important part of the social success of their peers, siblings, and classmates on the autism spectrum.

For more information please visit the website at [www.friend2friendsociety.org](http://www.friend2friendsociety.org)

## About the Speaker

**Heather McCracken** is a mother of three children, one of whom is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. She is the creator of the Friend 2 Friend Program model and founder and executive director of the Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society. Heather provides presentations on autism spectrum disorder at post-secondary institutions throughout B.C. She is a published author and speaker at professional conferences on the topic of the importance of fostering mutual friendships for children with ASD and the F2F model. Heather has received distinguished recognition for her work, which has been featured on radio and television news broadcasts, as well as in printed media.