

Pivot Point Newsletter



National Youth Week: Every Young Person Deserves to Be Seen

National Youth Week (May 1 – 7), is an annual, nationwide celebration focusing on youth and highlighting their positive contributions to community through arts, sports, and civic engagement. Across Canada, communities come together every May to say something simple but powerful: *young people matter*.

At Pivot Point, we celebrate that message wholeheartedly. And we also know that for Autistic and neurodiverse children and youth, truly being celebrated - not just tolerated - can feel like a far-off destination rather than a daily reality. Evidence consistently shows that when neurodiverse youth receive person-centred support early and continuously, the impact is life-changing. Stronger self-identity, greater independence, and a genuine sense of belonging that carries into adulthood.

Neurodiverse youth experience the world with remarkable depth, creativity, and perspective. They don't need to be "fixed" into worthiness. They need environments that see them clearly and make room for their strengths, through individualized planning, neuro-affirming communication, and supports that address sensory, social, emotional, and developmental needs as a whole picture. That shift, from deficit-focused thinking to strengths-based belonging, is at the heart of what meaningful youth support looks like.

Belonging doesn't happen automatically. For neurodiverse youth, accessing community spaces often requires intentional, individualized support, sensory-friendly environments, trusted adult allies, and peer connection built on shared interests rather than forced social scripts. These are not extras. They are essentials.

Real inclusion is built day by day, through consistent, evidence-based support that meets each young person exactly where they are. When neurodiverse youth feel safe, understood, and genuinely celebrated, they develop confidence, find community, and grow into the self-advocates their world needs. The foundation built in childhood and youth doesn't just shape who they become, it determines how fully they are able to participate, contribute, and thrive as adults.

Every young person in our community belongs here - curious, courageous, and exactly as they are.

For more than 22 years, Pivot Point's team of dedicated professionals and staff have shared their extensive experience in supporting individuals with Autism and Diverse Abilities. [Our services](#) are client-centred, family-oriented, and evidence-based, drawing from Applied Behavior Analysis, Mental Health, Education, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Psychiatry, Neurofeedback, and other interventions as needed. All creating Positive Change!

Newsletter Content Submissions

If you would like to participate in writing content, sending in photographs and/or sharing ideas for the staff newsletter, please contact Rochelle at: marketing@pivotpoint.ca

Newsletter Feedback

Rochelle would like to hear from you! Please provide her with your feedback or let her know of specific topics that you would like to see in upcoming newsletters by completing our [Feedback & Suggestion Form](#). Thank you for your input!

Community in Action - Vernon Neurodiverse Family Fun Day

April 27th, our Okanagan team represented Pivot Point beautifully at Vernon's Neurodiverse Family Fun Day. Shannon Moorhead (Okanagan Regional Manager), Paige Morrison (BCBA), Heather McIntosh (L.I.F.E. Services Coach), and Avery Kugler (BC-p) spent the day connecting with families, community partners, and even some of our own clients.

We are thrilled to share that Paige is currently accepting new clients in Vernon, bringing evidence-based behaviour analytic support to more North Okanagan families.



Our team offers [L.I.F.E. Services coaching](#), child and youth care, and more to support individuals and families at every stage - visit [PivotPoint.ca](#) to discover if we are the right fit for you.

Community Classroom Openings: Could This Be Your Child's Place to Thrive?

These faces say it all. ❤️

Our community classrooms are small, intentional, and built around each student - because when the environment is right, these incredible young people don't just cope, they thrive. We currently have openings in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Cloverdale, and Victoria.

Spots are limited, [discover more and register](#) for a complimentary consultation today.

Every learner deserves a place to belong, and a chance to shine.

A grid of nine small photographs showing diverse young learners in various settings, smiling and engaged. The photos are arranged in a 3x3 grid on a green background.

LearningCentres.PivotPoint.ca

Seen. Heard. Valued. Loved. National Child & Youth Mental Health Day

Every May 7, Canada pauses to focus on something that should never be an afterthought - the mental health and emotional wellbeing of our children and youth. Established to spark meaningful conversations and remind us that small, intentional moments of connection can have a lasting impact, this day belongs to every young person. Neurotypical, neurodiverse, Autistic - no exceptions.

And in today's world, that reminder has never been more necessary. Children and youth are navigating a rapidly shifting landscape - social pressures, digital overload and global uncertainty at a pace their developing minds were never designed to absorb alone. The weight of that is real, and it shows up differently in every child.

For Autistic and neurodiverse children and youth, mental health challenges are often layered. Anxiety, emotional dysregulation, sensory overwhelm, and the daily effort of navigating a world not built for their neurotype can quietly erode a young person's sense of self-worth. When those struggles go unseen or misunderstood, the impact compounds. When they are recognized and met with the right support, the trajectory changes entirely.

What every child needs, regardless of neurotype, is the same at its core: to feel seen, heard, valued, and genuinely loved by the adults in their lives. Research consistently tells us that caring, connected relationships are among the strongest protective factors for youth mental health. It doesn't always require a clinical intervention. Sometimes it begins with simply showing up, consistently and without judgment.

At Pivot Point, we understand that mental health and neurodiversity are not separate conversations. They are one, and we are here to support the whole child, and the whole family, every step of the way.

Request a Meeting

Navigating support for a loved one? You don't have to navigate this journey alone. Book your [complimentary consultation](#) with our team today.