

BEST BUDDIES CANADA

INFORMATION SESSION 2018-2019

BEST BUDDIES[®]



CANADA

BEST BUDDIES CANADA

Best Buddies Canada is a national charity that helps to create friendships between people with special needs and students in elementary schools, high schools, universities, and colleges.

Founded in the United States by Anthony Kennedy Shriver, Best Buddies was established in Canada in 1995. Today Best Buddies operates in more than 450 schools across Canada, and in 52 countries worldwide.



BEST BUDDIES AT MY SCHOOL

As a volunteer you may be interested holding one of the following positions:

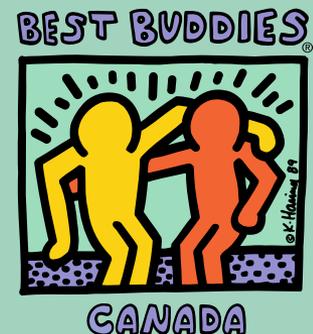
Buddy: a student or individual with an intellectual disability

Peer Buddy: a full time student

Buddy Pair: a buddy and a peer buddy matched in a one-to-one friendship based on similar interests.

Associate Member: a member of Best Buddies not paired in a one-to-one friendship, attends group events and helps out the chapter

If you are looking for more of a leadership role, you may also be interested in getting involved with the Chapter Leadership Team who organize and facilitate your Best Buddies chapter!



BUDDY PAIRS- WHAT IS EXPECTED

'Buddy Pairs' are expected to communicate weekly and spend time together a minimum of twice a month.

Best Buddies is about being a friend. This new friendship will be just like the relationships you have with your friends now.

Throughout the year, the whole chapter will be invited to fun group activities, which will be planned by the Chapter Leadership Team. Ex. Halloween Party, bowling, scavenger hunt.

- Eating lunch together
- Going to the movies
- Attend a school event
- Watch a sporting event
- Go to a dance
- Play board games



BEST BUDDIES SPECIAL EVENTS

Best Buddies hosts fun events across the country!

- Best Buddies Month- **MARCH** is a month to celebrate Best Buddies with special activities
- Hooping It Up- is a free-throw competition with a \$500 grand prize awarded to the Top Male, Female and Buddy in Canada
- **Leadership and Development Conference-** Open to all students! The Conference brings together students from across the region to learn valuable leadership skills and network with other awesome students.

Anyone can plan events with the help of the Chapter Leadership Team!



AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships: To recognize the efforts of our exceptional volunteers we offer scholarships to assist Peer Buddies and Buddies with their post-secondary education.

Spirit of Friendship Award: Recognizes those pairs whose match have become ambassadors of the Best Buddies program and encompasses the true meaning of friendship.

Deadline: May 31st, 2019



Spirit of Friendship Award Winners, 2016



Spirit of Friendship Award Winners, 2017



WHY JOIN BEST BUDDIES?

- It's fun! **Everybody needs a friend!**
- Create a once in a lifetime friendship with someone new from your school.
- Develop valuable leadership skills that you will have for the rest of your life.
- Promote social inclusion throughout your school and community.



BEST BUDDIES®



CANADA

STEPS TO JOINING

1. Talk to your staff advisor to join Best Buddies
2. Have an interview with your Chapter Leadership Team, you will be contacted when you are accepted
3. Attend the Meet and Greet where you will meet your Buddy, everyone must attend
4. Start spending time with your Buddy!



FOLLOW US!

Join Best Buddies and invite your friends to like our pages!



BestBuddiesCanada



Best Buddies Canada



BestBuddiesCND

Keep an eye out for prizes and fun contests on social media!

