

Group Availability Management Policy for Autistic Individuals at TUOI

This policy was adopted in June 2015 by the Board of Directors. It defines the basis of service offering and management of available spaces in groups dedicated to autistic individuals at TUOI. The policy was written according to practices that had been in place for a number of years at TUOI. The following explanatory text describes the main points of the policy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The four main guiding principles outlining this policy are grouped in two types: the first defines the service offering, while the second guides management of available spaces within these services.

First Principle: A continuity of services for ASD members (autistic profile and Asperger profile)

Programming spans all four seasons and includes activities for all participant profiles. This continuity encourages ownership, a sense of belonging and relationships; it also supports continuous learning and development of skills and abilities required for social integration. Following this principle, during the registration period, priority is given to members already participating in the groups; a second session is programmed to distribute remaining spaces and make it possible for new participants to join groups.

Second Principle: Integration of autistic individuals in an environment optimized for normalization

TUOI offers services and activities complementary to those available in the community. The staff and parents at TUOI work in partnership with providers to encourage the inclusion of autistic individuals. In order for every member to get an equitable chance to participate socially, whatever their profile and level of independence, TUOI reserves part of its human resources to provide services to individuals who, because of their age, behaviour profile or level of support needed, have more limited access to services provided in the community. This includes youth over 12 years of age who do not have access to day camps, and for whom group activities and care services become more limited. School-age children who need 1-1 or 1-2 support or individual programming are also part of this category for which additional human resources are reserved.

Third Principle: A fair distribution of available spaces

When demand is higher than the service offering, registration steps are implemented to ensure equitable distribution of services per days/week. This explains why in certain situations, children of parents who register first may not be included in all schedule slots.

Fourth Principle: A goal of maximizing the service offering

Remaining available spaces are offered to members on the waiting list, while maintaining group composition and ratios, as well as priority rankings.