

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Children at Risk 24th Annual Celebrity Pumpkin Contest

WHAT: Local Celebrities, Politicians, Media Personalities and community-minded businesses will decorate/paint/bling-out/carve a Pumpkin for the cause – in the name of Autism! Over **100 pumpkins** will be transformed to Jack-O-Lantern works of art for one of Ottawa's most popular, annual, seasonal fundraising events! Helping to raise funds for Autistic children, Celebrity-Carvers include **Members of Ottawa City Council, Ottawa Senators, local MP's & MPP's, Sports Alumni** – as well as many **Local Businesses** - to name just a few. You can vote for the best pumpkin or your favourite personality by donating your spare change and purchasing Prize Ballots, as well as bidding on Pumpkin Prize Packages (on-line www.childrenatrisk.ca)

VONALITY ONLINE CHARITY AUCTIONS

WHEN: Thursday, October 24 to Sunday, October 27, 2019

WHERE: Merivale Mall, Carlingwood Shopping Centre, Place d'Orléans and Billings Bridge (Displays at Carlingwood, Place d'Orléans & Billings will start on October 25)

WHY: For over 40 years, **Children at Risk** has been helping children diagnosed within the Autism Spectrum Disorders & their families in the Ottawa Region. October is Autism Awareness Month and, to recognize this, **Children at Risk** will be hosting the pumpkin displays. Proceeds will fund **Community-Based Special Projects** such as our Summer Camp, **Camp Kaleidoscope**, Family Support Groups, Respite Sessions, Information Seminars, Educational Training Workshops - assists solely supported by fundraising and donations. To date, this event has raised **\$155,951!**

****NEW**** As our Auction for Pumpkin Celebrity's Pumpkin & Prizes is **TOTALLY** on-line – we have re-introduced 6 Silent Auction Items that will have bids **ONLY** at each Mall. Check out our Pumpkin Displays, make some Bids (On-Site & On-Line), Purchase Prize Ballots & support our Families raising a Child with Autism!

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: JOIN US AT 10 AM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, MERIVALE MALL (Farmboy Court) AS THE CELEBRITIES BRING IN THEIR PUMPKINS! ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY LOCAL SINGER/SONGWRITER DANIELLE ALLARD!