

Autism Manitoba along with Polo Park Shopping Centre, once again are pleased to announce a very special event for young and old this Christmas season.

In order to give our children, (young and old) the opportunity to have their picture taken with Santa on their own or with their siblings we are pleased to present Winnipeg's second annual **SENSITIVE SANTA** event.

Most malls, with bright lights, crowds, music, bell ringers, racing children and a loud Santa, make it almost impossible for families with children living with ASD to visit during regular mall hours at any time during the holiday season.

Working with the wonderful and understanding staff at Polo Park we have arranged to open the mall early on Sunday, December 2nd just for our kids (young and old) and their families. There will be Christmas activities and Santa in a sensory friendly environment.

SENSITIVE SANTA will be briefed on sensory and other issues he may encounter.

There will be minimal noise as the mall does not open until 11am. There will be the opening of store doors etc before 11 am but there is less noise at this time. Three time slots are available and children can colour, explore etc. while they wait for their turn with Santa.

Parents will be assigned a number and a form to fill out with the child's name, 3 things he or she would like for Christmas, and anything else parents want ***Sensitive Santa*** to know. The wait is brief.

If a child prefers not to sit on Santa's lap, he/she may sit next to him. There is even a chair for Mom or Dad to sit close to Santa to help if needed.

Registration is limited. Members of Autism Manitoba will have first access to registration and time preference. We will then offer the remaining spots to others who have registered. We do anticipate a wait list so early registration is suggested.

The event is free but due to high demand, pre-registration by November 26th is mandatory in order to gain entry into the mall and visit Santa. Unfortunately there will be no exception to this requirement.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2, 2012 Polo Park Shopping Centre Winnipeg

Time slot preferred, not guaranteed

8am – 9am

9 am – 10 am

10 am – 11am

For more information or to register your family please contact info@autismmanitoba.com or call 204-783-9563

PHOTO PACKAGES AVAILABLE FOR A FEE FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHER.

