



Makers Making Change

Clubs that Care
Toy Build Event

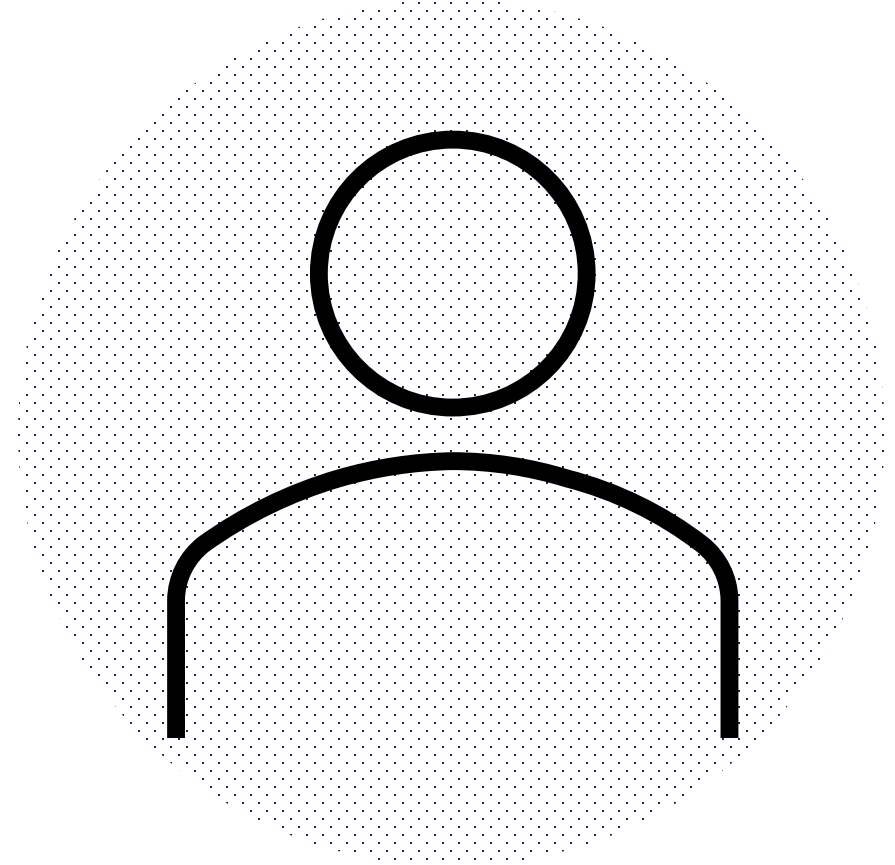
neilsquire.ca

makersmakingchange.com



**Makers Making
Change**
A Neil Squire Program

Clubs that Care Leader



Neil Squire

Neil Squire was a 21-year-old university student who was injured in a car accident in 1980. He sustained a C1/brainstem injury, leaving him paralyzed from the neck down, unable to move his arms or legs and unable to breath independently or speak.



Neil Squire

Neil's family, along with some dedicated professionals, created a ground-breaking device which enabled him to speak through a computer.

After Neil passed, the small but mighty group formed the Neil Squire Society in his name to keep improving the lives of people with disabilities through technology.



Neil Squire Society

We are a Canadian national not-for-profit organization. Our work is focused on four distinct areas: Innovation, Digital Literacy, Employment, and Assistive Technology.

Through our collaborations, we can do more to empower people with disabilities.



Innovation



Digital Literacy



Employment



Assistive Technology



Collaboration



What is Assistive Technology?

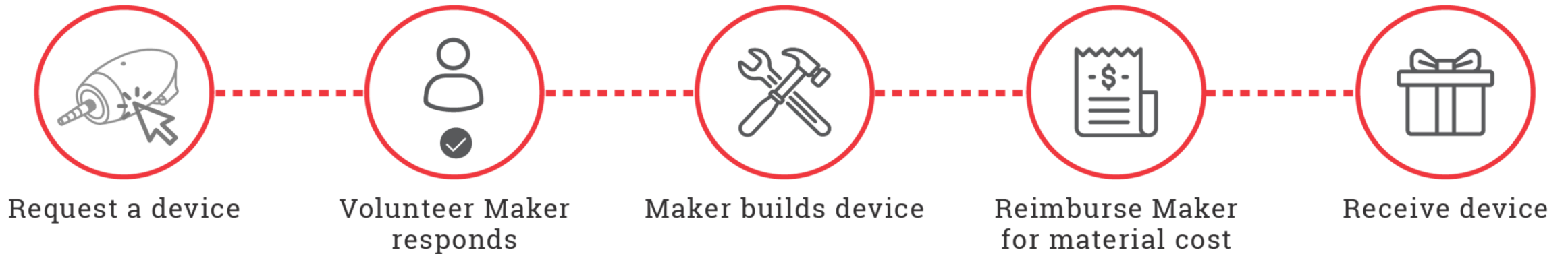
- A device that helps individuals with disabilities perform daily tasks and helps to improve their quality of life

What is Makers Making Change?

Connect volunteer makers to people with disabilities who need low cost assistive technologies.

Makers volunteer their time and skills to build assistive devices.

People with disabilities only pay the cost of materials (and shipping if applicable)



Why Is There a Need For Makers Making Change?

Commercially available assistive technology is expensive!

- Assistive technology when purchased commercially has a mark up of 300%
- 80% of Canadians will need an Assistive Device at some point in their lifetime



Jelly Bean Switch: \$98



Interact Switch: \$10

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AbleNet Mini Cup Switch: **\$85**

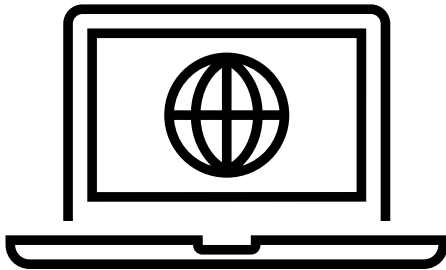


Raindrop Switch: **\$10**

How Makers Making Change Works

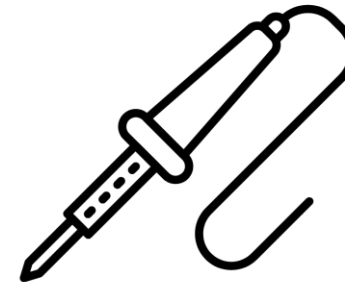
MakersMakingChange.com

- One on one volunteer making and requesting through AT library
- Cost of materials & shipping, with MMC supporting
- Users can submit ideas for volunteers to develop



Build Events

- Groups of volunteers working together during a set time and place
- Allows for crowd sourcing, and large donations to Rehabs & Children's Hospitals, etc.



Clubs That Care

Micro-grants for youth leaders ages 15-30 to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities.

Successful applicants will:

- Receive a \$3,000 micro-grant
- Engage 10 volunteers through build events
- Deliver 20 assistive technologies to Canadians with disabilities
- Purchase tools, 3D printers, and supplies to host build events

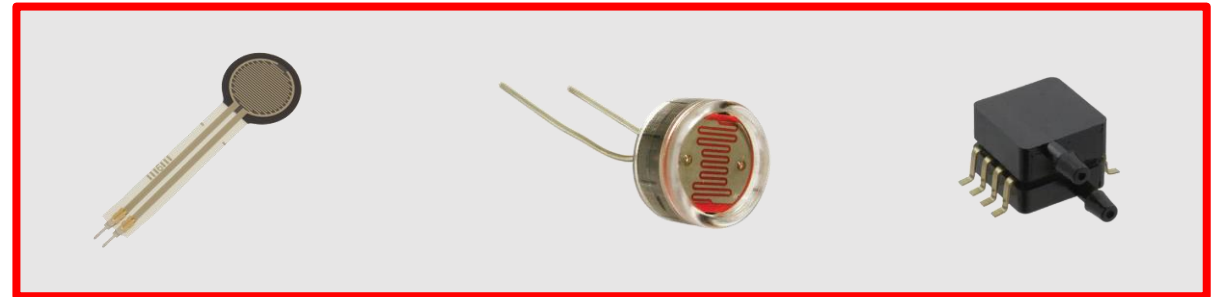
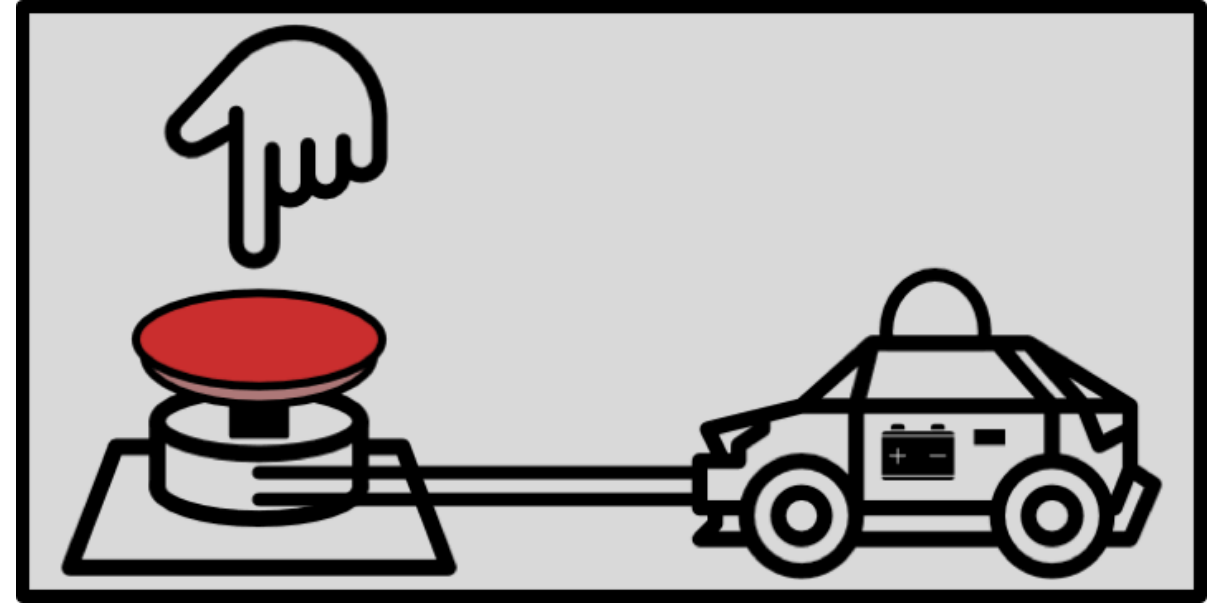


Apply: makersmakingchange.com/clubs-that-care



Assistive Switches

- Switches are used to create access to devices for users with mobility difficulties
- Switches can be used to control:
 - Toys
 - Environmental control units
 - Computers / tablets
 - Communication devices



Why Switch Adapted Toys?

Allows for more accessible play

- Many toys have hard to reach or small buttons
 - Requires fine motor skills
- Some toys need to be held or grasped
- Adding an assistive switch gives the user an easier way to control a toy



Why Switch Adapted Toys?

Toys are how kids learn

- Learn to use AT for communication, environment, cause and effect
- Allows for independent play

A variety of toys can be switch adapted!



Why Switch Adapted Toys?

Commercial switch adapted toys are expensive

Buying a Toy to Switch Adapt:

\$10 - \$30



Buying an already
Adapted Toy:

\$100+



Felix Playing

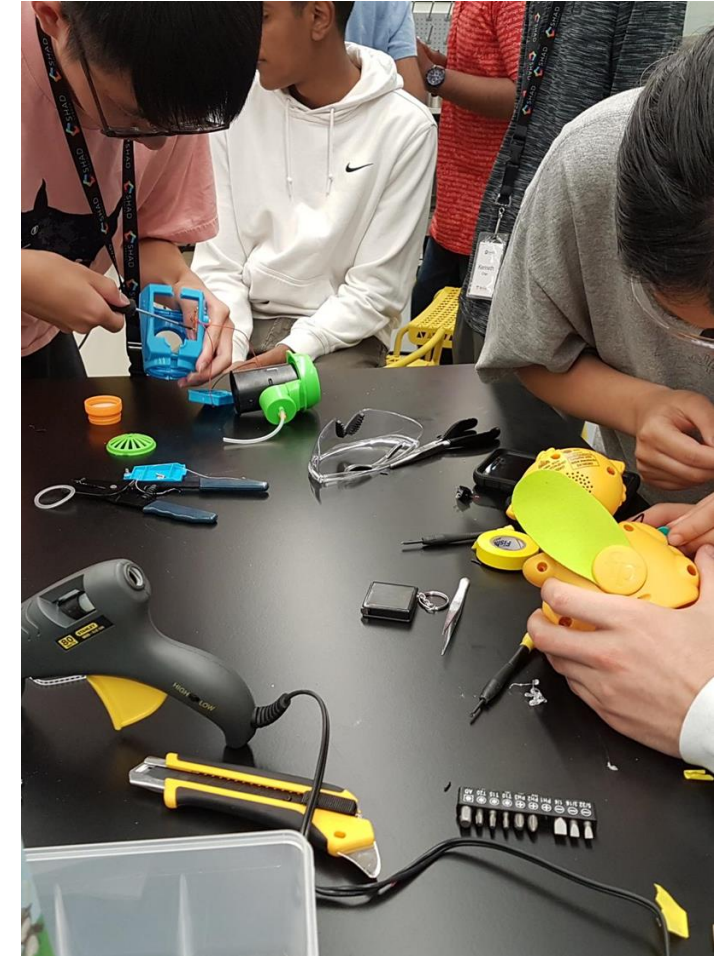


Chester's Story

"We hunt for toys for him, and it's so hard," says his father Darren. "Like the dinosaur is a toy I've seen at Walmart, but I would never buy it for him because he would never be able to press the buttons to control it. But once it's converted to be adapted to be a switch toy, he can play with it like any other kid would be able to press the buttons — he can now do that with an everyday toy," explains Cheryl

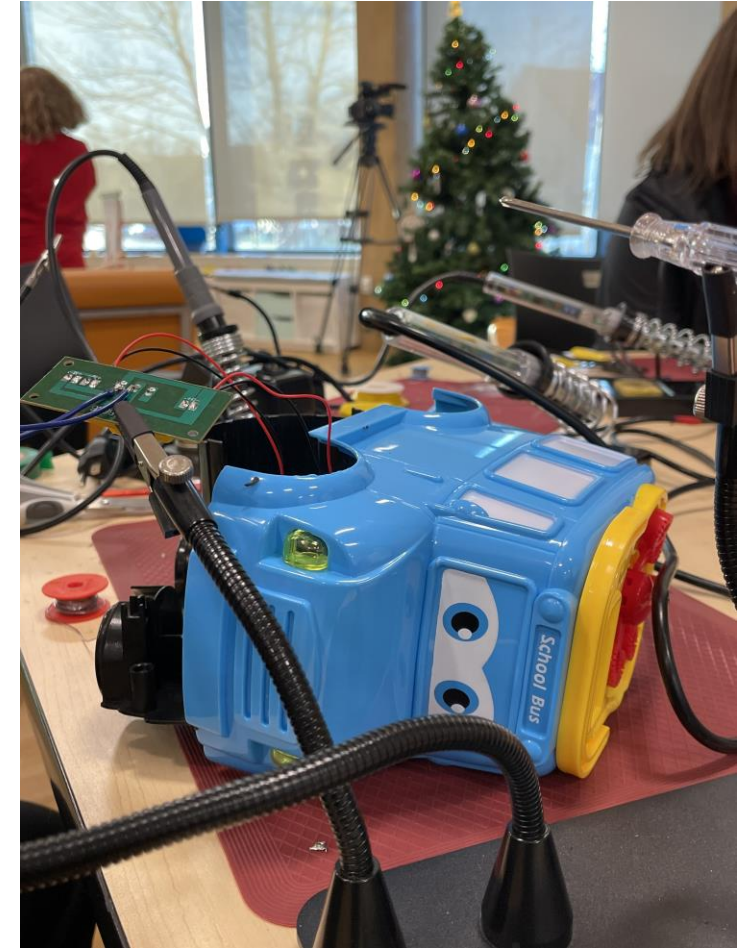
Considerations when Toy Adapting

- Take pictures or videos along the way
 - Parts may shift or move as you are working
 - Will help you put the toy back together
- Be gentle when opening toy
 - You may pull off existing wires accidentally
- Check that space exists for mono jacks or cables, and length of wires for reaching all joints and location of drilled hole for output
- Keep the packaging in good condition
 - Repackage the toy once adapted!



Reassembling Toys

- Check that added or new wires do not interfere with existing mechanisms, like a fan
- Check that wires are not pinched when reassembled or detach from boards when reassembling
- Check that batteries are secure
- Test using an assistive switch before and after reassembling



Safety



- Wear safety goggles



- Tie up your hair



- Do not touch metal on soldering iron

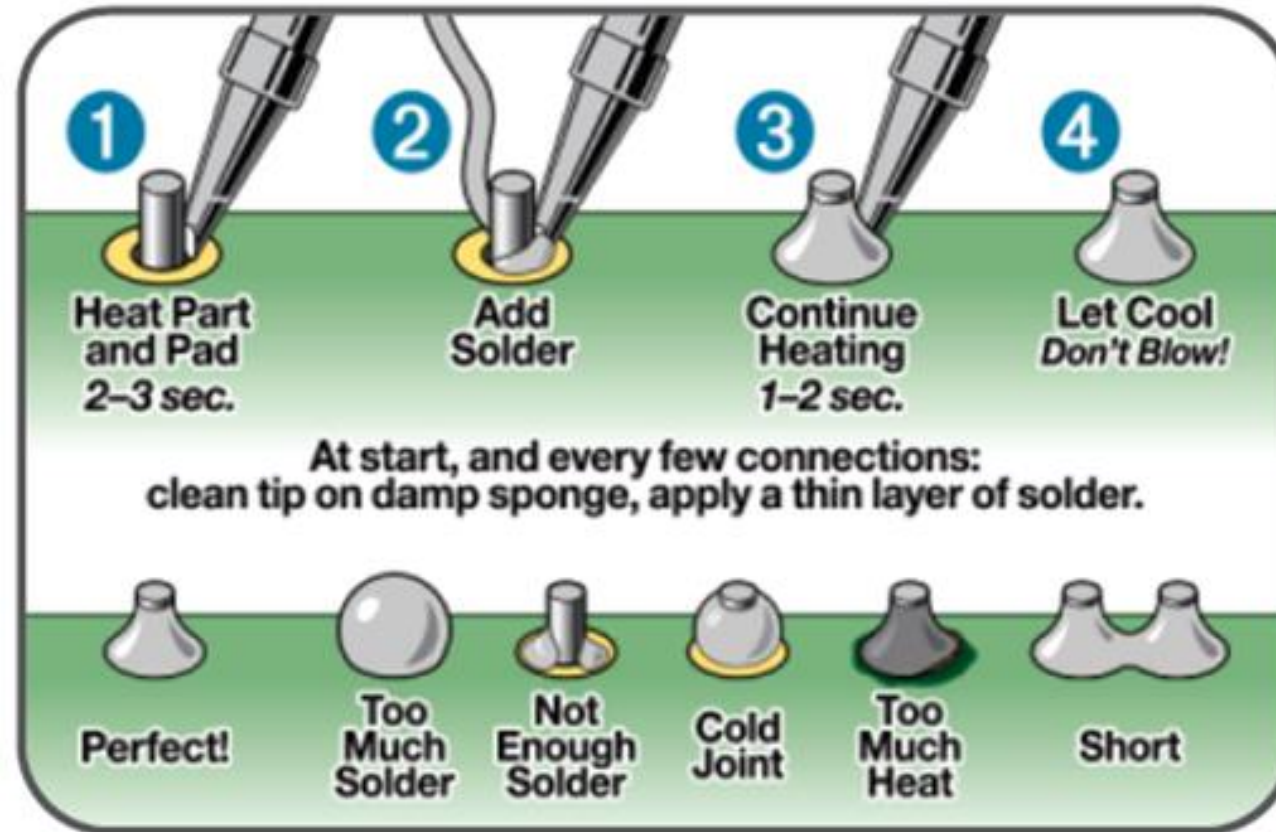


- Store soldering iron in stand between uses
- Pay attention to the hot end of the soldering iron while using
 - Be careful not to melt the cord or burn your other hand!



- Wash your hands after soldering

Safety



Contact Us!

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Clubs that Care Leader –



@makersmakingchange



Makers Making Change

Let's Build!

