



Harriston Resident Wins \$36,010 in March 50/50 *Winner met her husband on a blind date at the theatre 28 years ago*

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – **Kelly Lenselink** from Harriston thought it might be a joke when she got a call on April 1 and was told that she was the lucky winner of Drayton Entertainment’s March Ultimate 50/50 Draw. Despite the April Fool’s Day timing, Artistic Director **Alex Mustakas** was not kidding, and Lenselink did indeed win the jackpot taking home a final prize of **\$36,010** with the ticket **#99465956049**.

“What a day to be told you’ve won something! This is the best April Fool’s moment I’ve ever had. I was thrilled to hear from Alex,” said Lenselink. “But, immediately after I hung up the phone with him, I panicked and thought it might be a prank call, so I rushed to the website to double check the winning number – and it was mine! Phew!”

Lenselink has a special fondness for the theatre because she and her now-husband Rick were set up on a blind date at the Drayton Festival Theatre in 1994. They attended the romantic comedy *The Affections of May*, and three months later they were engaged. The couple has been married for 27 years now. Kelly and Rick have attended many shows since that first night in Drayton; they even organized a group of friends to see *The Affections of May* at the St. Jacobs Country Playhouse when it was produced again in 2014 to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of their first date.

“Drayton is so special to us. We’ve been entering the 50/50 draw since it started because we wanted to be sure that the theatres would be around for years to come,” she said. “I am a theatre fan, and it’s important to me to support the arts, but I never thought for a moment that I would win the jackpot. I am absolutely shocked – in the best way.”

Lenselink is looking forward to the return of live theatre and plans to attend some upcoming 2022 shows.

“I’m so glad that live theatre is finally coming back,” said Lenselink. “We are excited to go to shows with friends and enjoy that special energy of being at the theatre in person. It’s going to be so fun.”

Drayton Entertainment recently announced the 2022 Season including 15 shows on seven stages across the province: *American Son*, *Billy Bishop Goes To War*, *Buying The Farm*, *The Crooner*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Fiddler on the Loose*, *Good Ol’ Country Gospel*, *It Runs in the Family*, *Mamma Mia!*, *On Golden*

Pond, Sorry I'm Canadian Too 2, The Sound of Music, The Sweet Delilah Swim Club, We'll Meet Again, and Wizard of Oz: The Panto.

“Kelly’s story about meeting her husband at the Drayton Festival Theatre reminds me just how much our theatres are part of people’s lives. We cannot wait to welcome audiences back – we’ve missed you as much as you’ve missed us,” said Mustakas. “Our season went on sale last Monday and we have been very busy taking orders – it’s wonderful that people are so eager to book tickets and get back to live theatre. It’s been a tough two years, but we are cautiously optimistic.”

Tickets for the 2022 Season are on sale now to everyone by phone at **1-855-372-9866**, in person at select Box Office locations (Hamilton Family Theatre Cambridge and St. Jacobs Country Playhouse only), and online 24/7 at www.draytonentertainment.com.

Although performances are returning live and in person, the 50/50 draw will remain online for the rest of the year. The April raffle has already started and will run through 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, April 30 with a Grand Prize draw at noon on Sunday, May 1. There will be two early bird prizes of \$1,000. Tickets are available for purchase online at <https://drayton5050.com>. The jackpot is updated online in real-time and grows as more people participate – the published amount is the winner’s take-home prize.

Tickets may be purchased by individuals 18 years or older and located in the Province of Ontario at the time of purchase. All ticket sales are final and ticket buyers will receive a receipt via email after purchasing that will list all numbers associated with the purchased tickets. Tickets are sold using an electronic raffle system approved by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) and supplied by Bump Worldwide Inc. Raffle License AGCO #RAF1240180. Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline 1-888-230-3505 or visit www.connexontario.ca. For complete details including rules of participation and frequently asked questions, please visit <https://drayton5050.com>.

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About Drayton Entertainment

Drayton Entertainment is an award-winning, not-for-profit charitable arts organization (12591 1313 RR0001) operating six professional live theatre venues in five Ontario communities – the original Drayton Festival Theatre in Drayton, Huron Country Playhouse (Mainstage and South Huron Stage) in Grand Bend, King’s Wharf Theatre in Penetanguishene, St. Jacobs Country Playhouse and Schoolhouse Theatre in St. Jacobs, and the Hamilton Family Theatre in Cambridge.

Drayton Entertainment is one of the largest employers of professional artists in the country across all artistic disciplines with over 400 artist contracts issued annually. The organization’s sustainable theatre model has emerged as a powerful force for culture and tourism in the province and has been recognized by the office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario as well as the Ontario Innovation Excellence Awards.