

The logo features the word "ULTIMATE" in gold, "50/50" in large white font with a gold slash, and "PLAY TO WIN!" in gold, all set against a black background with a red curtain texture.

ULTIMATE **50/50** PLAY TO WIN!

*Longtime Theatre Patron, Donor, Community Builder  
Shawky Fahel is the Lucky Winner of  
Drayton Entertainment's April Ultimate 50/50*

Monday, May 3, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April is known for its rainfall, but for one lucky Drayton Entertainment theatre patron, it will be remembered for its windfall.

**Shawky Fahel** of Waterloo is the winner of Drayton Entertainment's April online Ultimate 50/50 raffle, taking home an incredible prize of **\$139,020**. The winning number was 99410583034. Over 10,000 transactions were completed and 200,000 tickets sold during the month-long raffle.

"I didn't think twice about buying tickets to show support, but I never thought about the possibility of winning," said **Mr. Fahel**. "Drayton Entertainment was one of the first to close its doors during the start of the pandemic, and it will likely be among the very last to reopen, so I'm thrilled to see how people have been participating in the 50/50. I'm hopeful the Provincial and Federal Governments will find a way to support as well because this is one of the most valuable and important arts organizations in Ontario."

While Mr. Fahel has not yet decided how to spend his winnings, upon receipt of the prize, he immediately pledged **\$15,000** towards Drayton Entertainment's youth education and outreach initiatives to advance inclusion for marginalized and underrepresented groups in the community.

As part of the organization's post-pandemic recovery, it has exciting plans underway to remove the cultural, economic, communication, and physical barriers which impede arts participation for youth identifying as Black, Indigenous, and/or Persons of Colour (BIPOC), LGBTQ+, new Canadians, and Persons with Disabilities.

Fahel and his family have been attending productions faithfully at the St. Jacobs Country Playhouse since its opening in 2005, as well as the Hamilton Family Theatre Cambridge and Drayton Festival Theatre. He has supported the organization personally through capital campaign donations, and professionally as a corporate sponsor.

Shawky Fahel came to Canada with a desire for a better life for his family. He became a successful businessman and community leader, spending the better part of the last four decades working with various

governments to provide advice and participate in meetings and events pertaining to economic development, trade, culture, human rights, and peace and security in the Middle East.

His lengthy list of community service has resulted in Rotary International's prestigious Paul Harris Award, Kitchener-Waterloo Millennium Citizen of the Year, and the Canada-Arab Federation Community Leadership Award, among others.

At the cheque presentation ceremony earlier today, **Patricia Ziegler-Ignor**, President of Drayton Entertainment's volunteer Board of Directors said, "The 50/50 raffle is a quintessential component of the Drayton Experience at each of our theatres, and we have been overwhelmed by the positive response after moving it online. We truly have the best audience – which includes Shawky Fahel. He is well-known throughout the Region of Waterloo for his countless acts of personal and corporate philanthropy, benefiting many organizations in the arts, social services, healthcare, and education. We congratulate him on winning this jackpot."

The April jackpot grew exponentially in the final days leading up to the raffle – jumping a whopping \$50,000 in the final 48 hours.

Audiences will once again have the opportunity to win a jackpot, enjoy some entertainment value, and support a worthy cause with Drayton Entertainment's online 50/50 raffle in May. Tickets are available for purchase now online at <https://drayton5050.com>, with a cut-off of 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 31, with the draw occurring at 12:00 p.m. The jackpot is updated online in real-time and grows as more people participate – the published amount is the winner's take home prize.

Participants can select from the following three ticket pack options:

- Regular: 3 tickets for \$10
- Discount: 10 tickets for \$20
- Ultimate Savings: 50 tickets for \$50

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 will be 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 #RAF1206047. Please play responsibly. Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline 1-888-230-3505 or visit [www.connexontario.ca](http://www.connexontario.ca).

For complete details including rules of participation and frequently asked questions, please visit: <https://drayton5050.com>.

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