

Acton man wins big lottery prize Fairy Lake ice still not safe to walk on

Acton man Brandon Valente is \$72,171 richer thanks to a winning Pro Picks Pools ticket.

"I still don't believe I won. I'm ecstatic about the win!" Valente said.

The 26-year-old plans to pay off debt and buy a home with his wind-fall.

The winning ticket was purchased at Maxim Jug City in Haliburton.

Ice on area ponds and lakes and in particular, Fairy Lake in Acton, is still too thin for people to venture onto, says Halton Hills Fire Protection and Prevention Services.

Fairy Lake has a number of open-water areas for waterfowl and the dam making a number of locations very dangerous to be near.

Children are a little less wary than most adults and are often eager to get onto the ice to use the lake as a shortcut to school or home for example. But the lake is not a safe alternative to the sidewalk.

Halton Hills Fire Services Captain David Ford urges people to give the ice more freezing time before venturing out for shinny hockey, snowmobiling or ice-fishing.

"This is an opportune time for parents to have a family chat giving reminders about unsafe ice," said Ford.

Whether it be walking, snowmobiling or driving the vehicle to the fish hut, it is still too soon.

"To give you a little information about estimating ice thickness, Canada's Lifeguarding Experts recommend a minimum four inches for walking, six inches for snowmobile and a further eight to 12 inches for a vehicle," said Ford.

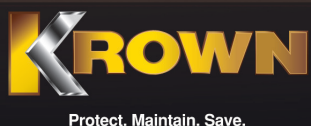


Save me daddy!

Little Sienna Fraser's legs seemed to give out as dad Darryl took her to the free public skating at Memorial Arena last week. There was free skating also offered at Mold-Masters SportsPlex and Acton Community Centre. The skating was sponsored by Acton Rotary Club, Georgetown Optimists Club and Coca Cola.

Photo by Ted Brown

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