



Georgetown residents, friends and neighbors Dennis Norton (left) and Earl Seltzer had a firm grip on the cheque for \$1,133,151.30, part of the winnings in the Aug. 11 Lotto 649 draw.  
Ontario Lottery Corporation Photo

## August - Region slashes spending

Halton regional council beat the province's Aug. 1 deadline, approving a fiscal restraint program that will cut \$3 million from regional spending this year. That doesn't include additional cuts of nearly \$2 million approved by the Halton Police Services Board, bringing total spending cuts for the region to nearly \$5 million.

In fact, the region cut \$800,000 more than was required in order to provide a cushion. This will soften the blow if the province decides to demand even more spending cuts or if some departments can't meet restraint targets.

The cutbacks had already been accepted by a committee representing about 600 non-union workers at Halton region. Their approval made Halton eligible for a 20 per cent reduction in the total spending cuts it is required to make. The restraint program was also accepted by 127 road, water and sewer workers who are members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Halton had yet to reach an agreement with about 275 other unionized employees. Many of those were nurses whose unions were waiting for a deal between the health sector and the province. The rest were landfill employees represented by a union but who do not have their collective agreement in place. No layoffs were forecast under Halton's restraint agreement. Instead, the savings will come from eliminating 66 regional positions and freezing the

wages and salaries of the remaining 1,014 staff members. Many of the spending cuts were made to items such as office supplies, mementos, printing a glossy annual report and information programs. However, some major programs will be reviewed,

including the Pegasus transportation system for the disabled. No work will be done on the Lake Ontario waterfront this year. Agencies and boards will be required to trim 2.2 per cent from their budgets this year and another 3.4 per cent in 1994.



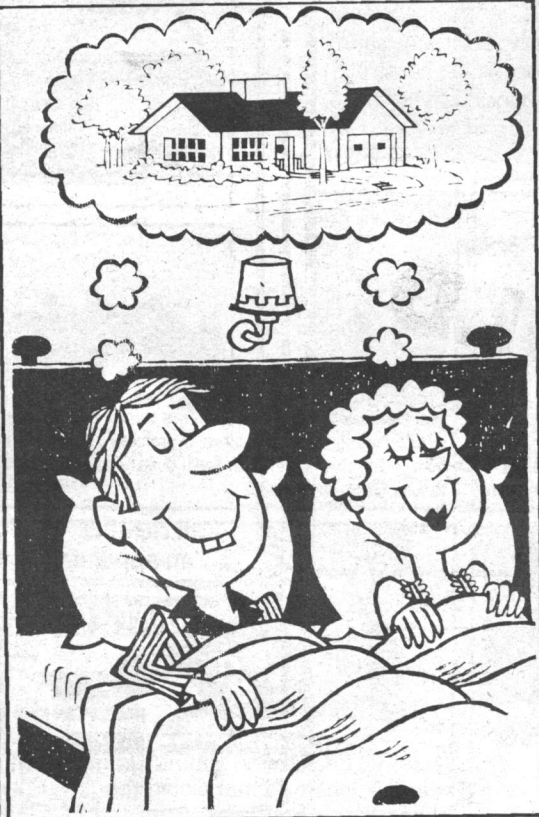
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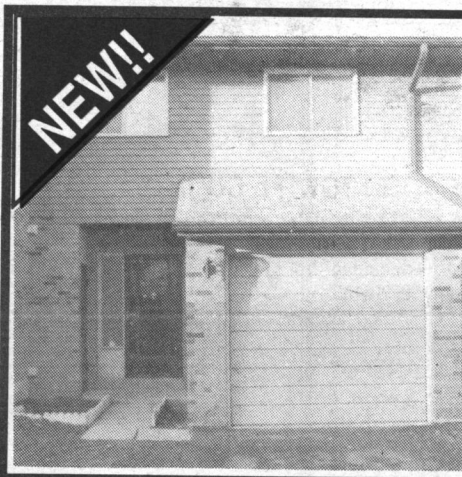
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