## Real estate association offers mortgage insurance

A home is an enormous personal investment, and probably represents the biggest financial commitment you'll ever make. But, in today's uncertain economic climate, homeowners need a way to guarantee that mortagage payments can be met in the event of job loss or layoffs.

This is where Always Home Job Loss Mortgage Insurance comes to the rescue. For those insured with Always Home, mortgage payments will be covered until a new job is found for a maximum period of 12 months. The plan was developed by the Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) in conjunction with Pafco Insurance Company Limited and Thompson, Thompson & Associates, Ltd.

Coverage is extremely affordable, costing only \$4.85 for every \$100 of monthly mortgage payment insured. Up to \$2,500 coverage can be purchased. The bulk of the homeowners will qualify, with the requirements being that they must be Canadian residents aged 18 to 65, have worked for the previous 12 months for a minimum of 30 hours per week, are not self-employed, and are purchasing a new or resale home through an Ontario realtor who is a member of a local real estate board.

Self-employed individuals are not eligible, but, if one partner's type of employment qualifies, he or she can obtain single coverage. In such situations, 100 per cent of the monthly benefit is paid if the insured partner becomes unemployed.

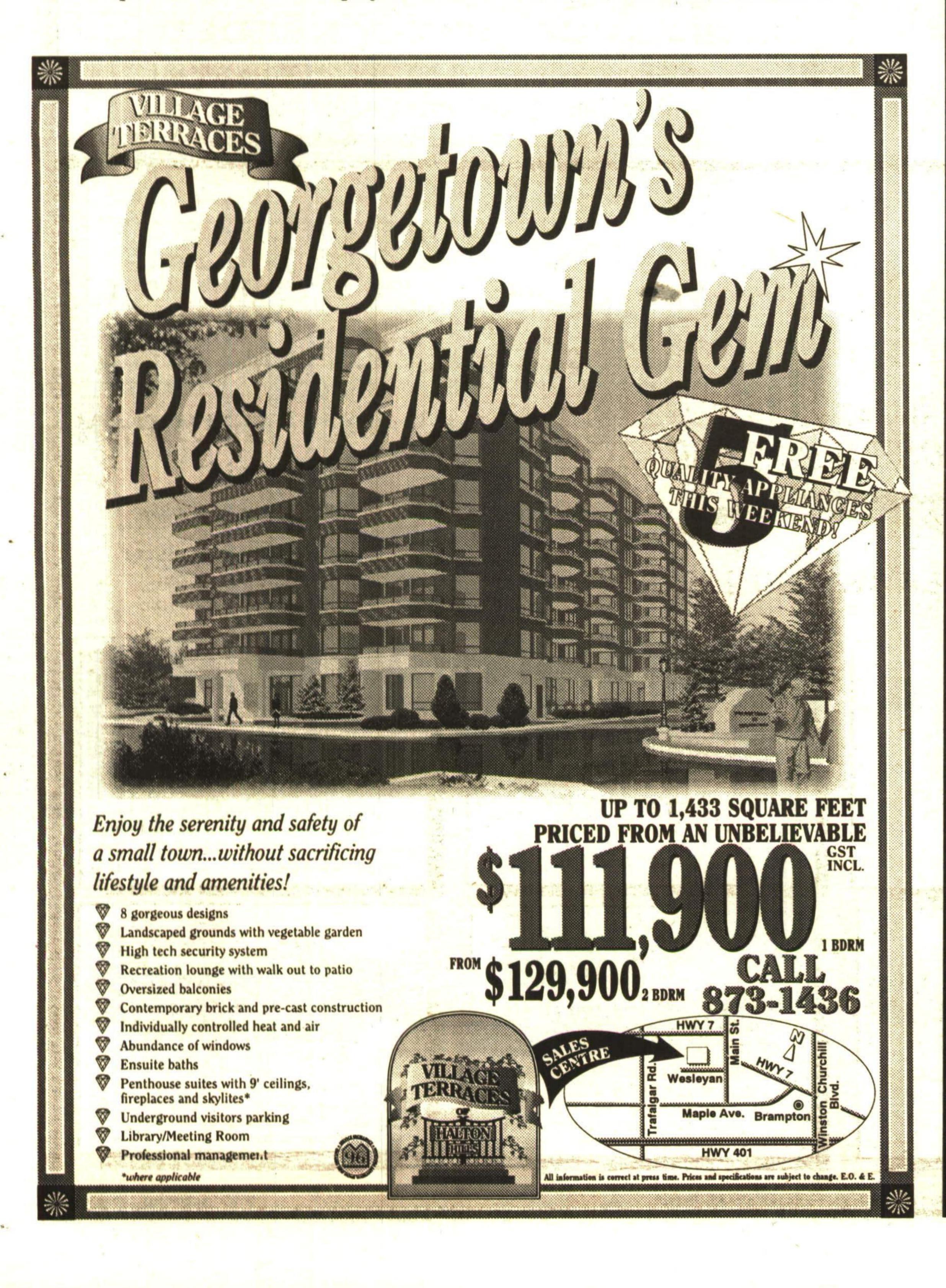
Recently, changes have been made to the plan that clarify the terms of coverage for jointly owned properties. Under the new revisions, joint coverage is now mandatory if both partners' names are on the mortgage agreement and both meet the eligibility requirements. If one partner becomes unemployed, payments will be proportional to the income lost. If both lose their jobs, then the entire insured amount will be paid.

Always Home represents a comprehensive and flexible solution to the worries that exist in today's economy. For many, it can make the difference between owning a home and staying out of the market.

"This plan is the response of Ontario Realtors to the home buyer's concerns about job loss," says Richard Wood, OREA president. "It is designed to give people the protection they need to make a purchase with confidence."

Signing up is a snap. Prospective homeowners can simply obtain an application form from OREA or Thompson, Thompson & Associates, and mail it in. If eligible, coverage can start as early as when your offer to purchase is accepted by the seller.

Always Home may be purchased from the date of the agreement of purchase and sale has been accepted to 60 days after closing. For information, call 1-800-665-5511, or 622-4512 in the Greater Toronto Area.





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