

## NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • August 26, 2024

## <u>Cross-country move ends in \$1.3M LIGHTNING LOTTO win for new Calgarians!</u>

"We stopped at every gas station on the way to Calgary to buy a lottery ticket!"

Ge Ann Bareng is officially the first millionaire LIGHTNING LOTTO winner and the largest in the west!

The Calgary winner won a whopping \$1,360,265.70 on the instant win jackpot and could not believe her eyes.

Bareng purchased her LIGHTNING LOTTO ticket from Save-On Foods at 70-3915 51 Street NW in Calgary. She won her prize by matching the five numbers selected in the July 16 LIGHTNING LOTTO draw: **7**, **26**, **28**, **43**, **45**.

"I bought [the ticket] while I was out shopping with my kids," she explained. "We had just moved to Calgary from Montreal and were looking to furnish a new apartment, now we will be looking at *buying* a house!"

"When we looked at the numbers, we couldn't believe how many zeroes we saw," she laughed, joking: "It took us three days to figure it out!"

The story ends with a million-dollar win but it starts much further back, as the family drove together across the country toward their new home.

"We stopped at every gas station on the way to Calgary to buy a lottery ticket," explained Bareng. "We were trying to change our lives with a move to Alberta, and here we are with a life-changing win after not even two full weeks in Calgary!"

"If we'd won in Winnipeg, we might have stayed there," joked her husband.

The family is most excited about their fresh start in Calgary and what it means for their kids.

"We now have the funds to send them to university in the future," Bareng said. "I knew I made the right choice to move to Calgary, but now we can reset our lives here."

"We're going to pay off our debt, buy a house and a car and put the rest away for our kids' education," she added.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT •

Emily Olsen, Western Canada Lottery Corporation 204-946-1477

Revenues generated by Alberta Gaming, Liquor & Cannabis benefit communities throughout the province by providing programs and services that Albertans rely on every day.

Lottery tickets can be purchased from retail locations throughout the province or online at PlayAlberta.ca

If you gamble, use your GameSense.



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LIGHTNING LOTTO is a new game that launched this spring for players in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the northern Territories. With a \$3 Quick Pick LIGHTNING LOTTO ticket, players know instantly, in-store, if their ticket is a winner. They can even validate/claim prizes up to \$1,000 right then and there (no forgetting to check!). LIGHTNING LOTTO tickets are available exclusively by quick pick, and only at Lotto Spot retailers across the region.

For more information please visit – LIGHTNING LOTTO landing page.

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