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**April 9, 2021 – Marlene Hlewka (\$16,975)**

**“It feels fabulous, fabulous,” laughed Marlene. “I’m just excited. When I viewed the other winners I thought, oh my, wouldn’t it be fun?”**

What a ride for Team Canada. They made Alberta proud with their comradery and unwavering support of each other and reminded us all exactly why we love this sport.

Curling Alberta’s 50/50 jackpot skyrocketed to \$33,950 throughout the day, and lucky fan Marlene Hlewka of Two Hills scored the big cash prize of \$16,975.

“I’m sitting here in awe thinking is this really happening?” said Marlene. “I had to check my numbers about five times to make sure I wasn’t making a mistake.”

Curling has always played a significant role in her life. Marlene has skipped teams at her local rink and volunteered on several occasions at the men’s world championships and the Brier. Her travels have taken her to the Continental Cup in Las Vegas a couple of times and she only gave up the broom two years ago due to hip surgery. She continues to watch it faithfully and supports her local Two Hills Curling Club whenever she can.

Marlene and her husband have two grown sons and three beautiful granddaughters they take immense pride in. Most of Marlene’s time is spent caring for her husband who hasn’t been well, and with her family whether it be in person or via Zoom and Facetime.

A retired elementary school teacher and administrator, Marlene spent her entire career in Two Hills. Since retirement, she has traveled extensively with a friend from Vancouver. From New York City to Rome, Istanbul to Paris, they have seen the world and are looking forward to the day they can plan another adventure.

“Winning the 50/50 just made my day, my week, and my month,” said Marlene. “It feels fabulous. Just fabulous. When I viewed the other winner’s stories, I thought, wouldn’t it be fun?” This time, Marlene, the fun story is yours. Congratulations on your big cash win.

Gerald Frizzley is the lucky winner of Friday’s Early Bird Prize of a signed Team Canada jersey and a \$150 Guusto e-gift card. Congratulations, Gerald.

Thank you, Marlene, Gerald and to all the fans across the province for showcasing their Canadian pride and true curling spirit by purchasing 50/50 tickets in support of grassroots curling. Funds raised will directly benefit the growth, access, development, and leadership of curling, right here in Alberta, and allow our future champions to flourish.