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Oprah to face legal battle

Money P6

Learn how you can draw an income out of the money that you invest. Check out our Personal Finance columnists.

Auto P24

Throw away all of your old notions about smelly old diesels. The new Volkswagen Jetta is a lean, clean machine.

CITY HALL P3

Crackdown launched on parking violations

QMI AGENCY — Serial parking violators beware — three strikes and your vehicle gets towed.

Vehicles that have received two tickets for the same parking violation in the same area will be automatically towed if drivers commit the same infraction for a third time.

Coun. Karen Leibovici supports the new rule, adding it's not just an inconvenience that these violators are creating for parking enforcement officers.

Leibovici said her office receives complaints on a continual basis about people parking illegally.

She hopes this new rule sends out a message to the offenders.

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TELEVISION AUDITIONS IN EDMONTON **P4**

Entrepreneurs willing to face the Dragons

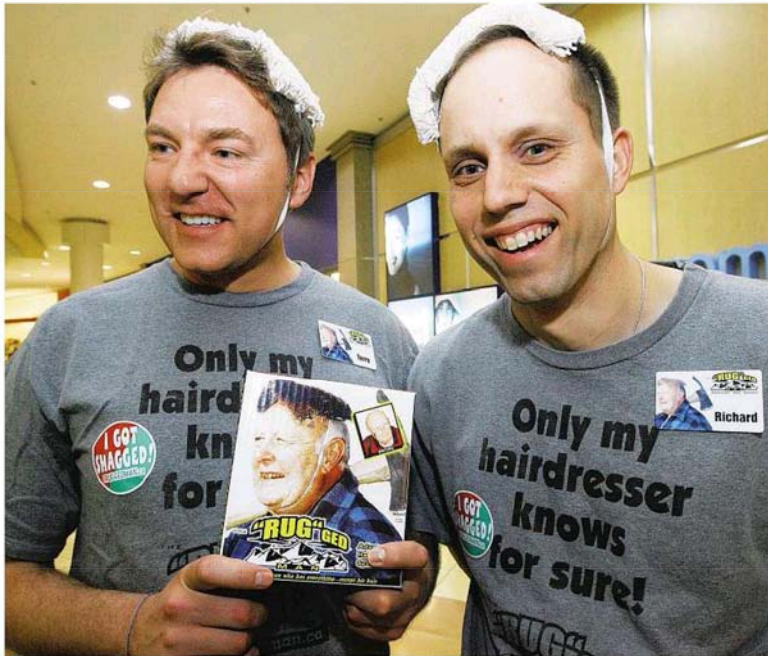


PHOTO: DAVID BLOOM QMI AGENCY

Terry Syvenky and Richard Korbyl display their gag gift, the "Rug"ged Man, while waiting to take part in open auditions for the CBC TV show, *Dragons' Den*, on Tuesday.

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> **Breaking News**

TV hopefuls audition for hit CBC show

24 HOURS NEWS SERVICES — Terry Syvenky and Richard Korbyl were full of hope as they waited at Edmonton City Centre with patches of carpet strapped to their heads.

The pair was among at least 50 people who lined up Tuesday to pitch their inventions and business ideas to producers from popular CBC show *Dragons' Den*.

Syvenky, 44, and Korbyl, 40, came to flog their invention called "Rug"ged Man, a piece of rug attached to elastic and worn on the head, which Syvenky described as an "advanced hair system."

"It's a gag gift," he explained. "It's an opportunity for people to gently tease and make fun of their bald relatives."

Producers from *Dragons' Den* are on a 40-city tour looking for people with ideas good enough to pitch to the "Dragons" — a panel of wealthy Canadian business moguls looking for lucrative investment opportunities.

Syvenky and Korbyl plan to ask the tycoons for \$50,000 for distribution of their product and redesigning the box.

Giorgio Lupinacci, 42, wore a suit and gold sneakers as he came out to pitch his Filtro Max — an attachment for the end of a car's oil filter.

"It attracts the particulate that an oil filter cannot," he said.

Lupinacci said his invention is already being sold at Canadian Tire. He wants to convince the Dragons to pony up \$250,000 for 40% of his

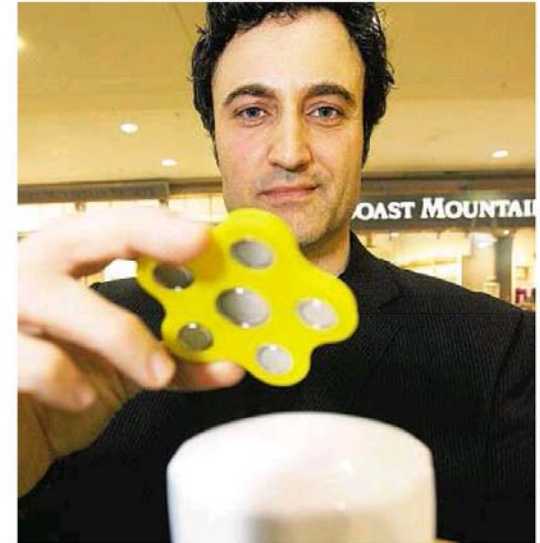


PHOTO: QMI AGENCY

Giorgio Lupinacci displays his Filtro Max, a device that helps increase the filtration power of a vehicle's oil filter.

company, which would allow him to get into bigger retailers in the U.S.

Executive producer Tracie Tighe, who was vetting the hopefuls Tuesday, said there are always people with "wild ideas" at the auditions.

"We're looking for a range of deals for the Dragons — great innovations, unique, never seen before, addresses a need," she said, adding the show's popularity might be due in part to the recession as people get more interested in becoming self-employed.

People who make the cut at

the Edmonton tryouts next go to Toronto to make their pitch in front of the Dragons themselves — and possibly get on TV.

"It's not only about the money — you can't buy that type of publicity," said Felicia Dewar, 34, who wants \$75,000 to turn her online company, thesinglegirl.ca, into a physical store on 104 St.

But it's no easy feat getting the support of the notoriously ruthless Dragons. Tighe said out of the 240 pitches the Dragons saw last year, they made only 40 deals.