

News Advertiser

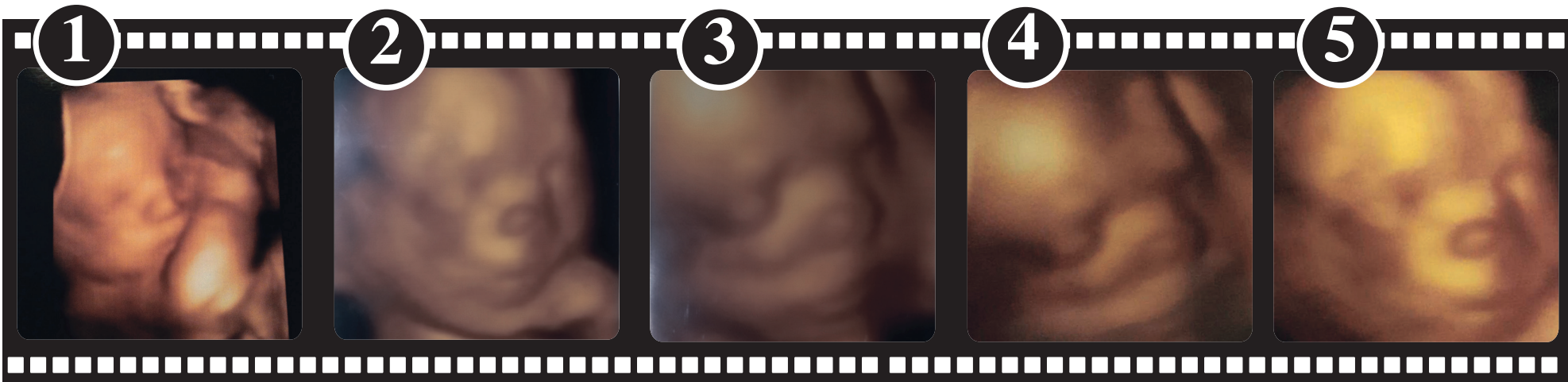
PICKERING

metrolandmedia
Connected to your community®

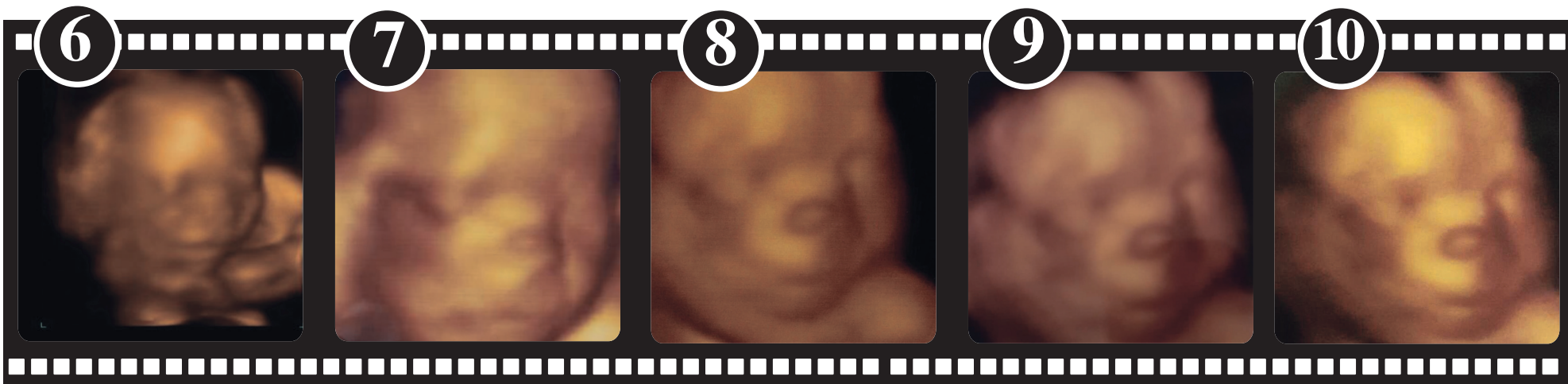
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016
durhamregion.com

Lifestyle
HOME PRODUCTS
100% CANADIAN
VISIT OUR AJAX SHOWROOM
232 FAIRALL STREET, AJAX
WWW.LIFESTYLESUNROOMS.COM

Saturday, May 28
Artfest
11am - 5pm Esplanade Park
Food Trucks
BluesFest
Local Artists & Artisans
Free Hands On Art
pickering.ca/greatevents



CAN YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE?



Submitted photos

Moms appalled after receiving same 3D baby image from Pickering business

Police aware of situation; company says technical glitch to blame.

[See page 10](#)



PRIVATE SALE

EXCLUSIVE INVITATION TO OUR PRIVATE SALE!
1 DAY ONLY!

May 19, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

AJAX HYUNDAI

170 Westney Road Ajax, just South of the 401 | 905.427.0111
See more Online at www.ajaxhyundai.ca

The Newest Addition to the Drive Auto Group Family of Dealerships



Moms appalled after receiving same 3D image from BabyView Prenatal Imaging

Police aware of situation that has 15 expecting mothers believing they were duped by Pickering business

Kristen Calis
kcalis@durhamregion.com

Louise Thompson is 25 weeks pregnant and like many other expecting mothers in Durham, she's been proudly showing friends and family 3D images of her baby-to-be.

Or at least she thought it was her baby. When she noticed a 3D image of a baby looking identical to hers on Facebook Tuesday night, she was in disbelief.

"It's very surreal," said the Oshawa resident. "I was very upset last night. I cried when I initially saw the post."

Ms. Thompson is one of a growing number of expecting mothers who believe they've been wronged by BabyView 3D Prenatal Imaging in Pickering.

"It's sickening," said Whitby resident Amber Bowden, who is 21 weeks pregnant. "This is so stressful and I'm so sad that this is happening."

It all started when members of a Facebook group for mothers expecting a baby in September 2016, started posting their 3D prenatal images. Two mothers realized they had the exact same photo, both from BabyView. It blew up from there.

One of the expecting mothers, Jenn Cusimano, created a Facebook group, Babyview 3D Scam, and it continues to grow, with nearly 630 members by noon on Wednesday. At least 15 expecting mothers have come forward, saying they have at least one image or several images that are identical to others they have now seen from other moms-to-be.

Ms. Bowden, who is one of them, had a stillbirth in the past.

"If this were to happen to me (again), this would be the only picture I could fall

So yes this just happened to me. This picture that I have been sharing with family and friends isn't my daughter. I am so sick to my stomach that someone could do this. Especially with me being high risk and anything could happen. This would be a picture that would always remind me of my baby... the company that did the 3d ultrasound was handing out the same pictures to all her client's KARMA. will get you. BABYVIEW 3d pickering. Please share



DURHAM -- The office of BabyView was closed Wednesday. Numerous women have complained that the 3D images of their babies-to-be are not images of their babies at all but rather the same image. This glitch was discovered on a Facebook mothers group, left.



back on," she said.

Some mothers commenting on the Facebook page are outraged, afraid the photos they received from the company are not in fact their babies.

Others are mothers who have used the service in the past, wondering if the images taken of their baby years ago, are now being passed off to expecting mothers.

This Week calls to BabyView went unanswered, but the business posted to its

“This is so stressful and I’m so sad that this is happening.”

-- Amber Bowden, Whitby mother

she said. "Apparently it was different owners at the time."

She said this time, the image pulled up on the machine when she got the scan done, was quite difficult to see. But the photos she was sent home with, were clear.

"God only knows who's baby that is," Ms. Thompson said of her photo.

She also purchased a teddy bear, which produces the baby's heartbeat when it's squeezed. Ms. Thompson noticed the heartbeat was not very audible when it was being recorded, yet it's loud and clear when she squeezes the teddy. Now she wonders if that is really her baby's heartbeat.

"The last time we went, we had talked about it afterwards," she said. "Even my grandmother said how shady it felt. It just didn't feel right."

Ms. Thompson went twice this time around, and said it cost her about \$200 altogether.

Ms. Bowden also used BabyView during an earlier pregnancy, when she said it was run by a different owner, and had a great experience. She said she received a discount and paid just under \$125 this time, but was disappointed.

"This is my fifth baby and I knew something was odd," she said.

She said she was told at BabyView she was having a boy, but when she went to Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, she learned she's carrying a girl. When she called BabyView, and asked how they got it wrong, she said they offered her a free scan. Then, when she went back, sure enough, she was told she's carrying a girl.

"I didn't get any money back," she said of her first visit. "Nothing."

Ms. Bowden has brought the matter to the police and "absolutely" plans to pursue legal action.

"This lady needs to be punished," she said. "Playing with all these moms' fathers' and sisters' and brothers' emotions, it's awful."

Durham Police Sgt. Bill Calder said police cannot give information until charges are laid.

"We're aware of it, we're looking into it," he said.

Facebook Wednesday morning: "Babyview would like to apologize to our valued customers for the recent situation that occurred. Due to a technical issue with the printing services provided (which has been resolved), several of our clients have become concerned regarding their babies images. Babyview is more than happy to adjust the situation and offer a re-scan of the services which were provided or a refund of 50% of the value of the package they purchased during their visit. Please call the clinic or email us and we would be more than happy to fix the situation. Again, we are sorry for the inconvenience."

Ms. Thompson will not take BabyView up on having the scan done again.

"I don't want them touching me," she said. "I don't want an ultrasound. I want them shut down. I want them out of business."

She had actually used the service two years ago with her first daughter.

"It was a great experience the first time,"

on Facebook as newsdurham
twitter.com/newsdurham
durhamregion.com