

the GRANGE

VOLUME SEVEN



LEGEND
OF THE MISSISSAUGA
MIRACLE



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LEGEND OF THE MISSISSAUGA MIRACLE

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CONTENT STORYLINE BY: HERITAGE MISSISSAUGA

PRODUCED BY SPENT PENCILS

FUNDING PROVIDED BY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MISSISSAUGA,
CULTURE DIVISION, CITY OF MISSISSAUGA,
AND HERITAGE MISSISSAUGA



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NOVEMBER, 2019.

CELEBRATION SQUARE,
MISSISSAUGA.

YOU KNOW
WHAT'S BORING?
CIVICS!

YEAH...

YOU KNOW WHAT
ELSE IS BORING?
CIVICS PROJECTS!

WHERE ARE
WE GOING TO FIND OUT
ABOUT EMERGENCIES
IN MISSISSAUGA?

WHOA... WAIT
A MINUTE. WHAT
ARE THEY SHOWING
UP THERE?

OH, MY
MOM TOLD
ME ABOUT
THIS.

SOME KIND OF
MASS EVACUATION
'CAUSE OF SOME
TRAIN DERAILMENT.

THAT'S AN
EMERGENCY IN
MISSISSAUGA!

SEEMS
LIKE THERE'S
LOTS OF STUFF
ON THIS TRAIN
DERAILMENT.

YEAH
WIKIPEDIA HAS
LOTS OF INFO.

SCORE!



ALRIGHT,
LET'S GET CRACKING
ON THIS TOMORROW
MORNING.

SURE.
WANNA SPLIT
AN UBER?

YEAH.



COULD YOU
IMAGINE BEING
THERE FOR THAT
TRAIN THING?

IT'D BE
LIKE BEING IN
A MOVIE!



SO COOL!

COOL?

IT WAS
SCARY TIMES
BACK THEN.

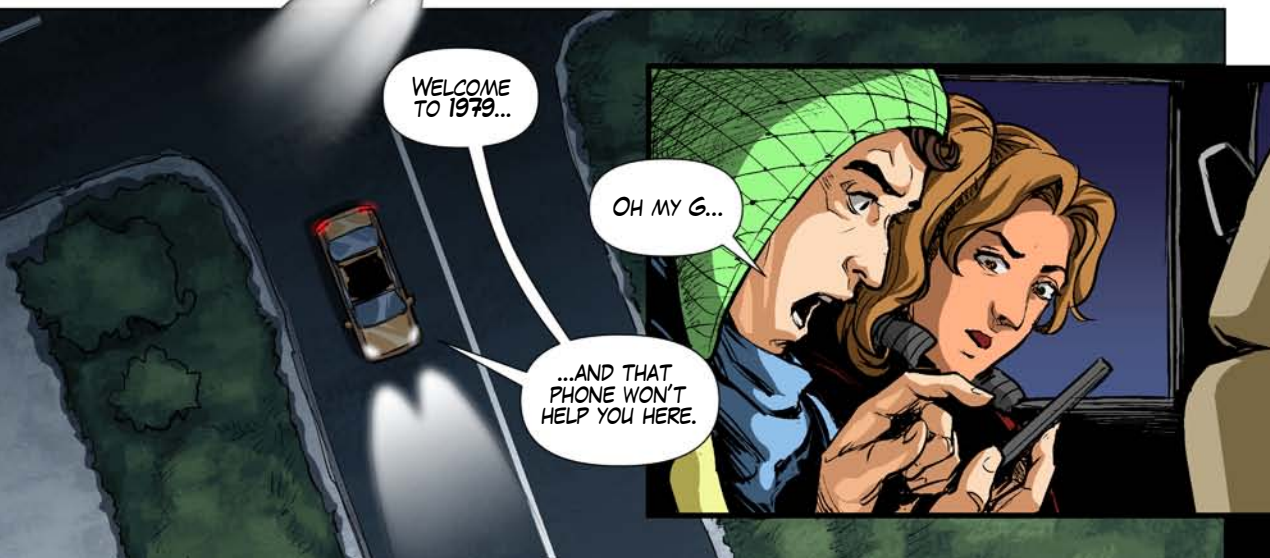


LARGEST
PEACETIME
EVACUATION EVER
AT THE TIME.

PEOPLE
PANICKED BUT
NO ONE WAS
HARMED.



UH DRIVER? I
THINK THIS IS THE
WRONG WAY. MY
APP IS TELLING ME...



WELCOME
TO 1979...

OH MY G...

...AND THAT
PHONE WON'T
HELP YOU HERE.



THERE'S
SOMETHING
SERIOUSLY WRONG
WITH THAT TR...

SKREEEE

10 NOVEMBER 1979. 11:55 PM

WHOA! LOOK
OUT FOR THAT
CAR!



11 NOVEMBER 1979. 12:01 AM



KRRRT HEAD TO
COOKSVILLE STATION
--BREAK *KRRT*

GO AHEAD

KRRRT
...TRAIN MANIFEST
KRRRT

COPY. ON
OUR WAY.

WHAT
ABOUT THE
...

WHERE'D THE
UBER GO?



THE TRAIN
ENGINEER AND
BRAKEMAN HAVE
DECOUPLED THE
REST OF THE
TRAIN

AND ARE
HEADED TO
COOKSVILLE
STATION.



WE HAVE BEEN
DISPATCHED TO RENDEZVOUS
THERE AND GET THE TRAIN
MANIFEST FROM THEM. IT'S
IMPORTANT WE KNOW WHAT'S
IN THOSE DERAILED CARS.



EVERYTHING
IS GOING
SO FAST!

IT'S NOT LIKE
THE MOVIES
AT ALL.

11 NOVEMBER 1979. 12:30 AM

ERINDALE STATION.





11 NOVEMBER 1979. 1:00 AM



EMERGENCY COMMAND CENTRE
MAVIS RD. NORTH OF DUNDAS ST.



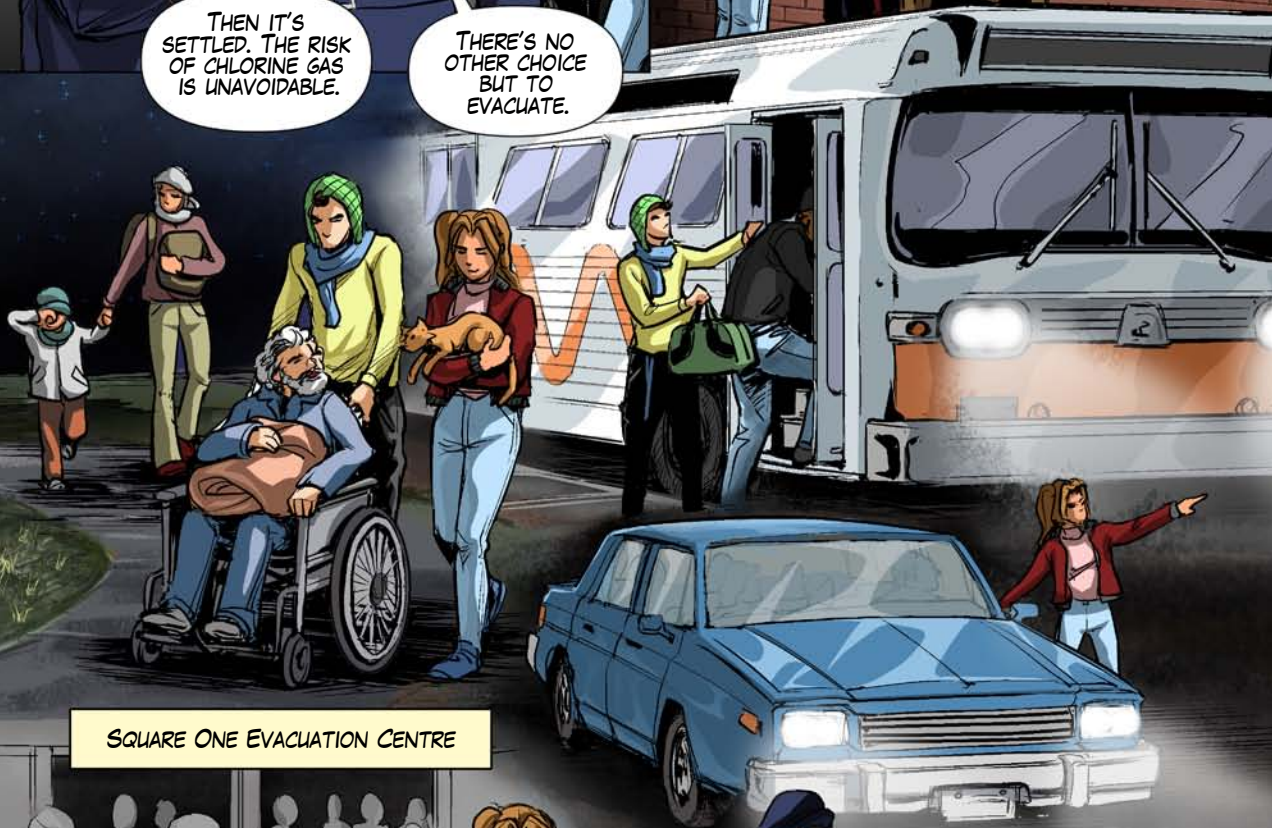


11 NOVEMBER 1979. 1:30 AM



THEN IT'S SETTLED. THE RISK OF CHLORINE GAS IS UNAVOIDABLE.

THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO EVACUATE.



SQUARE ONE EVACUATION CENTRE



WE DID A GOOD JOB HUH?

YEAH, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN THE STREETS SO BUSY AND THEN SUDDENLY SO EMPTY.



11 NOVEMBER 1979. 4:00 AM

11 NOVEMBER 1979. 10:00 AM

HEY, WHAT'S
GOING ON?

WE'VE
RECEIVED AN
ORDER TO EXPAND
THE EVACUATION
AREA.

WITH THE
INCREASING WINDS AND
THE THREAT OF TOXIC
GAS, THIS PLACE ISN'T
SAFE ANYMORE.

HOW CAN
WE HELP....

BOOM!!

THIS IS
BAD.

OH NO!

COME
WITH ME.

WE ARE
MOVING EVERYONE
FURTHER AWAY.



12 NOVEMBER 1979. 12:30 AM

BE CAREFUL
MAYOR, YOU
SPRAINED YOUR
ANKLE.

I'LL BE FINE!

2ND EMERGENCY COMMAND CENTRE, PRESS CONFERENCE

THE PRIMARY
WORRY IS STILL
THE CHLORINE
TANKER.

IF IT SPILLS
ITS CONTENTS OR
THE WIND SHIFTS,
WE HAVE TO BE
PREPARED.

IF THIS HAD
HAPPENED FARTHER
DOWN THE TRACK,
WE WOULD HAVE SEEN
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE
WIPED OUT.

IT'S A
MIRACLE IT
HAPPENED
HERE.

I AM
SOOO
TIRED.

SAME.
=YAWN=

THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR
EFFORT. YOU WERE
BOTH A GREAT
HELP!



ISN'T THERE ANYTHING ELSE WE CAN DO?

NO, YOU DESERVE A REST. THAT CAR THERE WILL TAKE YOU TO GET SOME FOOD AND GET YOU HOME.



THIS HAS BEEN A CRAZY EXPERIENCE.

SEEN ENOUGH?

I THINK IT'S TIME TO GET YOU HOME.



HEY WAIT, YOU'RE OUR UBER DRIVER!

SO WAS THIS ALL FOR REAL?



YOU'VE EXPERIENCED IT FIRST HAND, BUT SO MUCH MORE HAPPENED.

IN TOTAL, OVER 220,000 PEOPLE WERE EVACUATED.

POLICE COORDINATED THE EFFORT WITH THE HELP OF CITY BUSES, AMBULANCE, AND THE RED CROSS.



FIREFIIGHTERS FOUGHT THE PROPANE-FUELED BLAZE FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

CHEMICAL EXPERTS WERE CALLED IN TO HELP. AN ESTIMATED 75% OF THE CHLORINE ESCAPED INTO THE ATMOSPHERE AND ANOTHER 35 POUNDS CONTINUED TO LEAK EVEN AFTER THE FIRE WAS OUT.

IT TOOK 7 DAYS BEFORE IT WAS SAFE TO ALLOW EVACUEES TO RETURN HOME.

PRESENT DAY, NOVEMBER 2019.

IT TRULY
WAS AN
INCREDIBLE
EFFORT.

I'M JUST
THANKFUL NO
ONE WAS HURT.

GOOD LUCK
ON YOUR CIVICS
PROJECT!

JUST REMEMBER,
IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY,
IT TAKES COORDINATION AND
COOPERATION FROM OFFICIALS
AND CITIZENS ALIKE, TO
ENSURE THE SAFETY
OF EVERYONE.

IS IT JUST
ME OR DID THAT
DRIVER LOOK A LOT
LIKE THE MAYOR
AT THE PRESS
CONFERENCE?

NAH, THEY
LOOK TOTALLY
DIFFERENT!

HMM...
MAYBE YOU'RE
RIGHT.

A+ Good Work!!

BY GIUSEPPE AND ISABELLA

On the evening of November 10th, 1979, citizens in the young City of Mississauga were unaware that something catastrophic was about to occur.

1979 Train Derailment

Freight trains frequently carry hazardous materials through the City of Mississauga. CP train #54 was carrying 106 rail cars from Sarnia to Toronto on a weekly scheduled run. Thirty-eight cars were carrying cargo that the Canadian Transport Commission designated as hazardous materials, including liquid styrene, caustic soda, liquid petroleum products, including highly explosive propane and butane, and liquid chlorine.

At approximately 11:53 pm, as the train crossed Burnhamthorpe Road, an axle bearing failed and one rail car lost a pair of wheels. The train continued until, at approximately 11:56 pm at the Mavis Road crossing, 24 rail cars derailed. Massive explosions, caused by ruptures in butane- and propane-carrying rail cars, were seen more than 100 kilometres away. One explosion hurled a 90-ton tanker car filled with liquid propane more than 675 metres away from the derailment site. The night sky shone orange in the fire, and Mississauga residents could see, hear and feel the evolving emergency.

The initial cause of the derailment was a "hot box" – or an overheated journal box that connected the moving axle of the wheel to the car above. Car 33 had an older model journal box that had failed. When the dangling undercarriage of the damaged car left the rail tracks, 23 other cars followed it, 19 of which carried dangerous commodities.

In the midst of the burning wreckage was a leaking chlorine car. This, coupled with the magnitude of the accident and changing wind patterns, resulted in a series of expanding evacuations, which by Sunday evening had



encompassed much of the City of Mississauga. The emergency response saw an evacuation of more than 226,000 residents.

The first policeman on the scene, having seen the initial explosion, arrived at 11:58 pm, while firefighters arrived by 12:04 am. Emergency personnel initiated the Peel Regional Police Disaster Plan, which coordinated the immediate emergency response. Once the Peel Regional Police had established a Command Post, the Emergency Operations Control Group, dubbed the "Think Tank", began to evaluate the situation and direct mitigation procedures.

As the threat of the fires was quelled and the chlorine car eventually sealed, the evacuation orders were gradually lifted, and residents were allowed to return to their homes in stages beginning on Tuesday, November

13th. The final evacuation order was not lifted until Friday, November 16th, six days after the initial derailment.

The derailment tested our young City and our citizens as they had never been tested before. It forced our citizens to flee. This first major emergency faced by the young City tested its mettle, its leadership, its emergency services, its organization, and its citizens – all of which passed the test with flying colours. Referred to as the "Mississauga Miracle", there was no loss of life, and no permanent scarring on the land, the people, or the collective psyche.



the GRANGE



FOUNDED IN 1960, HERITAGE MISSISSAUGA IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARITY WHOSE FOCUS IS RESEARCHING, RECORDING AND CELEBRATING MISSISSAUGA'S VIBRANT AND DIVERSE HERITAGE. HERITAGE MISSISSAUGA IS KNOWN FOR ITS RESEARCH PROGRAMS, PUBLICATIONS, OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND UNIQUE EVENTS.

LOCATED IN THE HISTORIC ROBINSON-ADAMSON HOUSE, KNOWN AS "THE GRANGE" (BUILT CIRCA 1828), HERITAGE MISSISSAUGA IS A PASSIONATE ADVOCATE FOR HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA, OUR PARTNERS, MEMBERS, DONORS, CORPORATE SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS, HERITAGE MISSISSAUGA CONTINUES TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE OF PROMOTING AWARENESS OF OUR HERITAGE, AND A SENSE OF PLACE AND TIME IN OUR CITY.



WWW.HERITAGEMISSISSAUGA.COM