

# Ninth Line barn fire causes \$200,000 damage, two cows die

By Eamonn Maher  
emaher@theifp.ca

A huge barn fire at a residence on Ninth Line last Saturday morning resulted in an estimated \$200,000 in damage and the loss of two cows, the Halton Hills Fire Department said.

Firefighters responded to the call just before 5 a.m. at the farm, located on the south-east corner of Ninth Line and Five Sideroad.

The timber barn structure was fully involved upon the arrival of the HHFD.

No one was injured. There were six other cows in a field during the fire but there were no horses on the property at the time.

Frequent travelers through that intersection likely recall the presence of two Clydesdale horses, which were often seen frolicking together at the corner of the property, just a few feet from the roadway.

"Those horses were moved to another farm in the area just last week," said HHFD deputy fire chief Bruce Morrison.

"The farm has been sold and is in the process of changing hands."

Nearby farm equipment and a quonset hut filled with seed were protected from the blaze by two crews of the HHFD and a tanker truck from the Milton department.

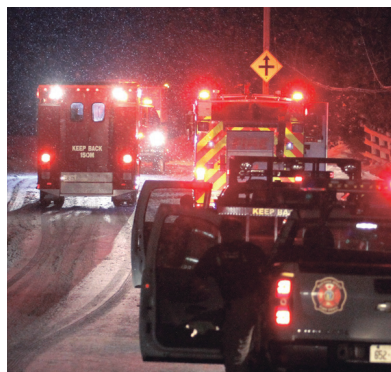
Fire crews worked for several hours to put out the burning debris as steel girders had fallen on top of the remnants of the barn and a backhoe was required to pull the structure apart.

The cause of the blaze has yet to be determined and the Ontario Fire Marshal was not called in due to the criteria required, but an HHFD investigator did pinpoint the origin of the fire and it is not considered suspicious, Morrison added.



Halton Hills firefighters dealt with a fully involved barn blaze in cold temperatures Saturday morning at a property on the corner of Ninth Line and Five Sideroad. Left, the aftermath, firefighters were able to save a quonset hut and drive shed.

Left photo by Eamonn Maher, top photo courtesy of Halton Hills Fire Department



Halton Hills Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team aided Milton Fire Department at a hobby farm on 20 Sideroad where three cows were pulled from an icy pond.

## Halton Hills/Milton firefighters 'moo-ved' quickly to save mom, calves from icy waters

By Julie Slack  
Metroland Media Group

A mother cow and two of her calves 'mooched' a hand from firefighters Thursday (Jan. 14) after they fell through thin ice attempting to get a drink.

Milton Fire Department (MFD) Deputy Chief Dave Pratt said MFD and Halton Hills Technical Rescue Team were called to a 20 Sideroad hobby farm around 5:30 p.m. after three black cows fell through thin ice into the owner's

icy pond. The owner tried to get them out for a few hours before resorting to call the fire department.

Once there, Pratt said firefighters broke a path through the ice to shore and lassoed ropes around the 1,500-pound mother cow to coax her out.

"We heaved and we hoed and coaxed," he said.

After they had her safely ashore, her calves—each weighing around 800 pounds—were more encouraged to come out, and using ropes

firefighters pulled them both to safety as well.

The cows were taken into a barn to shelter them from the wind, while a veterinarian assessed them. They appeared to be okay, Pratt said, adding it took about an hour and a half to rescue them.

While none of the firefighters had to go into the icy water, they were geared up and ready to, if they had to, Pratt said.

"It's a first for me," he said, of the rare call. "I'm glad we didn't have to go in because it was cold."

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