



OFSCI Heat Sheet #5

Issued 11-Sep-2020

Incident: BLEVE with minor injuries to multiple firefighters
Location: 239 Fralick's Beach Road, Scugog, ON
Date: 09 June 2020

Background Information

- **ARTICLE:** <https://www.durhamregion.com/news-story/10019379-caught-on-camera-scugog-firefighters-steps-away-from-flames-as-house-explodes/> (Photos and video embedded)
- **ARTICLE:** <https://www.cp24.com/news/firefighters-injured-in-house-explosion-in-scugog-police-1.4976117> (aerial scene image)
- **ARTICLE:** <https://thestandardnewspaper.ca/cause-of-scugog-island-house-fire-deemed-accidental/>
- **FIREGROUND PHOTOS:**
<https://durhamregionfirstrespondersbreakingnews.com/2020/06/09/three-firefighters-were-taken-to-hospital-with-minor-injuries-after-an-explosion-at-a-house-that-they-responded-to-that-was-on-fire/>

How can Training help?

The OFSCI brought this incident forward due to the risks that LPG cylinders present to all firefighters in Ontario, ranging from small 20lb tanks used for barbecues to large tanks used for home heating, as well as industrial distribution facilities and road and rail transportation. In many areas of Ontario, cooling tanks places an additional demand on water supplies, especially when tanker shuttle is required. In large-scale incidents, even municipal hydrants may be stretched beyond their limits. On scene video of this incident provides an exceptionally graphic demonstration of the risk that propane tanks present to firefighters.

Based on the information available to the committee, the OFSCI is recommending the Ontario Fire Service review the following information:

- Department SOPs for fire suppression involving compressed and/or flammable gases
- ERG 2020, Pages 365-367. <https://www.wapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/3/erg-gmu/erg/bleveheattear.aspx> AND <https://www.wapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/3/erg-gmu/erg/bleveintro.aspx>
- NIOSH Hazard ID 7 – Fire Fighting Hazards during Propane Tank Fires.
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/99-129/default.html>

Should any further information or clarification be required please email ofsci@firetraining.ca