

Mill Woods garage fire results in two fatalities, sends a third person to hospital

A fire involving a detached, single-storey, two-vehicle garage on Lee Ridge Drive last night has resulted in two deaths, and has sent a third person to hospital with third-degree burns.

A 911 call was placed by a neighbour at 6:38 p.m., after the witness saw flames coming from the residential garage. A full first-alarm response was called and Edmonton Fire Rescue Crews were immediately dispatched. Firefighters arrived on scene at 6:42 p.m. and started fighting the fully-involved fire. Crews brought the fire under control by 7:18 p.m.

One patient was sent to hospital to be treated for burns, two other individuals were found deceased inside the garage.

Edmonton Fire Rescue investigators have determined the cause of the fire to be accidental. An explosion occurred inside the garage when an open flame from a propane-fuelled heater ignited a gasoline air-vapour mixture. This occurred after a gasoline tank was removed from a vehicle, falling to the ground and spilling gasoline. Damages are being estimated at \$85,000.

Edmonton Fire Rescue would like to remind Edmontonians to take caution when storing and handling flammable liquids. Citizens are advised to not transfer (pour or move) any flammable liquids such as fuel indoors. When spilled, vapours can be ignited by electrical switches (door openers, lights, etc.) or open flames.

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