CN train derails in county

Local News

By Tessa Clayton Special to the News

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Strathcona County Emergency Services and the CN Railway Police responded to a 43-car derailment early Wednesday morning.

The train was carrying mixed cargo, including seven types of hazardous materials, from diesel to liquefied petroleum gas, when it went off the track in CN's Scotford Yard.

There were no injuries or public hazards in the incident, although a non-hazardous sandy substance did leak from one of the cars, said Strathcona County Emergency Services deputy fire chief Ken Jones.

The cause of the derailment is believed to be a collision between a slow-moving train and parked rail cars during a switching operation within the rail yard, according to a press release issued by Strathcona County. The CN Rail Police, Transport Canada and potentially the Transportation Safety Board are investigating the incident.

Jones said that, to his knowledge, it is routine for Transport Canada and the Transportation Safety Board to investigate more serious incidents.

Emergency crews were still on scene Thursday morning and would remain there until the hazardous cars had been removed, Jones said, a time period he was not sure of.

CN Railway officials not could not be reached by press time.

The Scotford Yard is located approximately three kilometres northeast of Fort Saskatchewan.

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