

# CN, Federal Railroad Administration investigating train derailment in Two Harbors

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Two Harbors, MN (NNCNOW.com)--- Last week there was a fatal train derailment in the Bronx. Fast forward to Thursday, a train derailment right here in the Northland in Two Harbors...luckily not fatal, but leaving two people injured, and many asking questions.

"Building started shaking, rumbling for a few minutes and then looked up, saw the trains coming in and went out a few minutes later and saw them all piled up," said Leroy VeNess.

VeNess, owner of a repair and tackle shop just hundreds of yards from the rail yard, is describing what happened Thursday when a 107 car train, carrying iron ore, derailed.

"Never thought I'd see anything of this magnitude when it comes to a train pileup, especially in my backyard," he said.

Seventy six cars derailed as the train was entering the yard...another 17 cars that were parked adjacent to the train were also impacted and derailed during the incident. Two CN railroad crew members were injured in the crash.

"They remain hospitalized and their injuries are believed to be not life threatening," said CN Spokesman Patrick Waldron.

Canadian National and the Federal Railroad Administration have crews on scene to try to figure just what caused the massive pile-up. It could take weeks to figure out what caused the train to leave the tracks.

"We have teams of CN personnel that are on site and they are in the midst of a full and comprehensive investigation into what happened yesterday afternoon," said Waldron.

Crews and heavy equipment have been brought in to clear and clean up the train debris and tons of iron ore so workers can restore service to the rail yard.

"Trains can't operate in that portion of the yard. There are other loads of iron ore that can be moved so business can continue but there is some limited interruptions to operations on that portion of the property," said Waldron.

Clean up is expected to take several days.

There is no specific timeline on when the investigation will be wrapped up into the derailment.

We will keep you posted on any new details as they become available.