Training to Prevent Deadly 1,200 Degree F. *Flashover*

Hot smoke starts to gather near the ceiling inside a simulator after flames, fueled by wood and large pieces of plywood placed on walls at the front intensifies and growing heat and poisonous gases are spewed out. Trainer Rich Graeber of Colorado (left) meanwhile offers advice to these local and visiting firemen who will in turn train others about the danger of flashover—and how to combat the phenomenon.

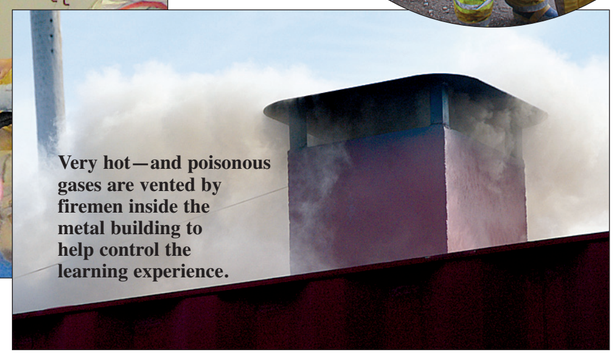
Safety checks are made before anyone is allowed inside the simulator.

Firemen were trained not to stand up —even when leaving the steel building to avoid serious burns.

A high intensity training program was held at the Provost Fire Department Training Facility—designed to prevent serious burns using a new $40,000 simulator that few other rural departments have in Canada. The live fire and hot training sessions were held on Saturday and Sunday, March 20 and 21. *The News* photographer was invited to suit up and capture scenes from both outside and inside the new metal building where temperatures reached 300 degrees for those sitting near the floor. If anyone stood up during a portion of the exercise he or she risked being severely burned with what's called a potentially deadly flashover event. The rolling balls or fingers of fire did appear on the ceiling and the picture taken above by the editor showed what was moving silently just a few feet above his and firemen's heads. Story on page 1.

More sheets of plywood are loaded into the training building on Saturday afternoon.

Classroom instruction deals with theory and what to expect in the training building where visibility at times is virtually zero.



Very hot—and poisonous gases are vented by firemen inside the metal building to help control the learning experience.

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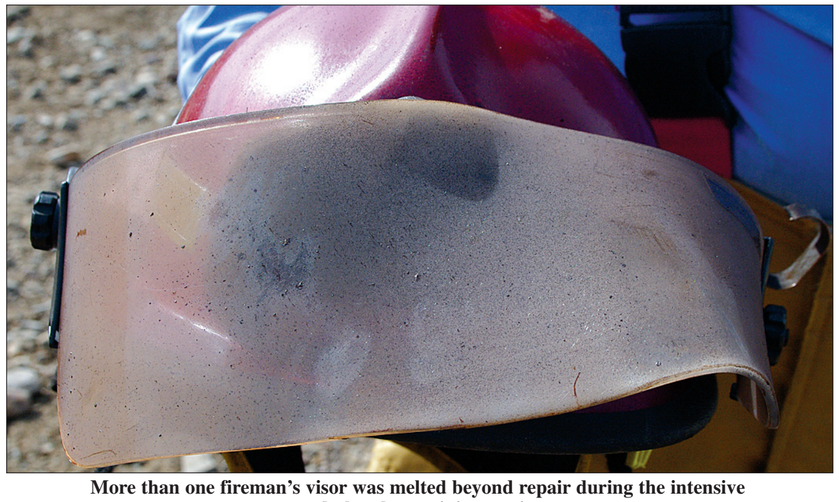
Fresh tanks of air are carried to the training centre behind the fire hall.

A last minute review takes place before another session gets underway.



More than one fireman's visor was melted beyond repair during the intensive —and ultra hot training sessions.