



The Frank Slide

The Frank Slide, located in Crowsnest Pass in southwestern Alberta, was the deadliest landslide in Canadian history and remains an awe-inspiring landmark more than a century later.

At four in the morning on April 29, 1903, 110 million tonnes of rock toppled from the side of Turtle Mountain, crossing the entire river valley, covering the railway and highway, and killing more than 70 residents on the edge of the town of Frank. Seventeen coal miners trapped underground by the slide were stuck in the dark for 13 hours before digging themselves free.

The rocks, some as big as houses, remain where they fell, and the interpretive centre overlooking the slide receives more than 100,000 visitors every year. The Frank Slide is a protected provincial heritage site, meaning it can't be changed from its natural state. Geologists have calculated that the mountain is still slowly moving and that another slide will happen someday. State-of-the-art equipment has been installed to keep a close eye on the mountain and give plenty of warning.



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