The Star

Flooding and power outages across Fort Erie as storm whips up Lake Erie

Impact of weather event felt across Niagara

FORT ERIE
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Set Fort Erie as My Local news
By James CulicReporter
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The lake had flooded more than 100 feet inland near Old Fort Erie.

A gnarly storm with wind gusts above 100 km/h battered Fort Erie on Saturday afternoon.

Power went out across town around 5 p.m. and multiple roads near the shoreline were washed away by flooding. Downed trees were spotted all over town and flying debris and Christmas decorations whipped freely down the sidewalks and streets.

A three-kilometre stretch of the Niagara Parkway beneath the Peace Bridge was closed by authorities as it was completely submerged. Canadian Niagara Power offered no timeline for when power might be restored.

Parking lots along the lake, and other spots like Waverly Beach, were packed Saturday afternoon as hundreds of people went down to the shoreline to watch the storm whip Lake Erie into a frenzy of 20-foot high waves.

Much of Niagara was affected by the weather event, with the OPP and Ministry of Transportation closing access to the Garden City Skyway due to the extreme wind speeds. Parts of St. Catharines were also without power on Saturday afternoon, and reports of downed trees were coming in from Grimsby, Niagara Falls and other communities.