

## **Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome**

“Delays in implementation of testing for the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) virus due to spending restrictions;”

The late stage of HIV infection that occurs when the body's immune system is badly damaged because of the virus. People with this potentially life-threatening condition get an increasing number of severe illnesses.

## **Armour Pharmaceutical Co.**

“After five years, police laid 32 criminal charges against senior scientists at Health Canada, the Canadian Red Cross Society and Armour Pharmaceutical Co.”

A U.S.-based company that produced and sold blood products called Factorate for the treatment of haemophilia to help blood clot. Their process of heating the blood to kill the AIDS virus was inadequate.

## **Canadian Blood Services**

“The Canadian Red Cross Society... was stripped of the blood program it had operated for half a century... It was replaced by Canadian Blood Services.”

This federal agency was established in 1998 to replace The Canadian Red Cross and take control Canada's blood donation system (except in Quebec, where Héma-Québec was established.)

## **Canadian Red Cross**

“In 2005, the Canadian Red Cross pleaded guilty to distributing blood contaminated with HIV and hepatitis C. The organization was fined \$5,000.”

Organization that was involved in the collection of voluntary blood donations from 1946 until 1997-1998. It failed to adequately test and screen donors for blood viruses such as HIV and hepatitis C.

## **Contaminate**

“About 8,000 of those who received contaminated blood products are expected to die as a result.”

To make impure or unfit for use by adding something harmful or unpleasant.

## **Donor**

“The failure to screen blood from high-risk donors for fear of blood shortages.”

A person who donates something.

## **Drainage Basin**

“Much of the Humber River drainage basin was deforested, which allowed water to quickly flow into the river.”

An area of land where all flowing surface water converges to a single point, such as a river mouth, or flows into another body of water, such as a lake or ocean.

## **Erosion**

“In 1959, the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority initiated plans for the development of large dams and erosion-control programs

The gradual destruction and removal of rock or soil in a particular area by rivers, the sea, or the weather.

## **Flood Control**

“Conservation authorities, local municipalities, and the province together developed a comprehensive plan for flood control and water conservation.”

The protection of land from floods, as by soil conservation, reforestation, the construction of dams, reservoirs, river embankments, etc.

## **Flood Plain**

“Regulations enacted since Hurricane Hazel restrict new development in flood plains, allowing rivers to flow naturally and reducing the risk to people during flooding.”

Low flat land along a stream or river that may flood.

## **Hemophiliac**

“Delays in purchasing safer, heat-treated blood products for hemophiliacs prompted by a desire to use up inventory of contaminated products;”

A person with an inherited blood defect that is sex-linked, is found almost always in males, and is marked by delayed clotting of blood and a resulting difficulty in stopping bleeding.

## **Hepatitis C**

“Another 30,000 transfusion recipients were infected with hepatitis C, a potentially debilitating liver disease between 1980 and 1990.”

A virus that causes liver inflammation, sometimes leading to serious liver damage, usually transmitted by infected blood (such as by injection of an illicit drug, blood transfusion, or exposure to blood or blood products.)

## **Human Immunodeficiency Virus**

“The Canadian blood system had been contaminated with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis C virus during the 1980s.”

A virus that damages the cells in your immune system and weakens your ability to fight everyday infections and disease. It is transmitted by sexual contact, contact with infected blood or by injection of an illicit drug.

## **Humber River**

“The first deaths were reported at 11:00 p.m. as a car was swept into the Humber River killing the occupants.”

A river in Southern Ontario, Canada. It is in the Great Lakes Basin, is a tributary of Lake Ontario and is one of two major rivers on either side of the city of Toronto.

## **Hurricane**

“Hurricane Hazel struck the Toronto area on 15-16 October 1954, with devastating results. It was Canada's worst hurricane and Toronto's worst natural disaster.”

A cyclone formed in the tropics with winds of 74 miles (119 kilometers) per hour or greater that is usually accompanied by rain, thunder, and lightning.

## **Krever Inquiry**

“The Commission of Inquiry on the Blood System in Canada known as the Krever Inquiry was commissioned by the federal government in October 1993.”

A public investigation into the tainted blood scandal, examining how the Canadian Red Cross and the provincial and federal governments allowed contaminated blood into the healthcare system.

## **Meteorologist**

“After moving inland from the Carolina coast, Hazel seemed to abate over the Alleghenies, where American meteorologists predicted its dissipation.”

An individual with specialized education who studies processes in the earth’s atmosphere that cause particular weather conditions, especially in order to predict the weather.

## **Plasma**

“The importation of plasma collected in high-risk areas, such as U.S. prisons and San Francisco at the height of the AIDS epidemic;”

The clear, yellowish, fluid part of the blood that carries the blood cells. The proteins that form blood clots are in plasma.

## **Raymore Drive**

“More than 30 were killed on a single street, Raymore Drive, when the cascading Humber River ripped homes from their foundations, sweeping them downstream.”

A mostly residential street in the Weston neighbourhood of Toronto in the Canadian province of Ontario. It runs next to the Humber River. On October 15, 1954, the area was severely affected by Hurricane Hazel.

## **Saturate**

“The flood plains, already saturated by days of rain, simply could not contain the downpour.”

To soak or fill with something to the point where no more can be absorbed or dissolved.

## **Scandal**

“At the time, more than 300,000 Canadians a year gave blood, but as details of the scandal became public, donations dropped markedly.”

An action or event regarded as morally or legally wrong and causing general public outrage.

## **Submerge**

“As the flooding escalated, 40 highways and main roads were submerged. Passenger trains were knocked off their tracks.”

To sink below the surface of water or some other liquid.

## **Tidal Surge**

“By 14 October, Hazel was battering the Carolina coast, with estimated wind speeds of 240 km/h, and a tidal surge of 4 metres.”

An unusual, often destructive rise in sea level above normal high-tide level in a coastal area, caused by a combination of low atmospheric pressure and strong onshore winds during a storm.

## **Transfusion**

“Another 30,000 transfusion recipients were infected with hepatitis C, a potentially debilitating liver disease between 1980 and 1990.”

An act of transferring donated blood, blood products, or other fluid into the circulatory system of a person or animal.