

## INSIDE AURORA: 'Twas Two Weeks Before Christmas

**By Scott Johnston**

'Twas two weeks before Christmas, and at the North Pole  
Santa sat between sacks full of toys and of coal  
Work was progressing but again without fail  
There was the usual rush of last-minute mail

He reached for a letter with a fancy font  
And found it was postmarked from 'Aurora, Ont?'  
He opened the envelope with a twinge of fear,  
'Cause requests from this small town got stranger each year

He remembered one plea from not long ago  
To restore the popular Aurora Horse Show  
He had never been averse to bringing it back  
But could not figure how it could fit in his sack

'Please bring a new toy or game?', that ask would be nice  
Santa thought as he read once, then read again twice  
He found it hard to believe, what they had to say  
They didn't want things given, but taken away

Santa soon grasped this not a joke or a con  
The town's supermailboxes they wanted them gone  
Thrown out or recycled they were welcome no more  
Folks wanted delivery restored to their door

A request like this one had never been versed,  
Even when that cell tower went up near Bathurst  
He was sure its removal would be on order  
But folks got used to it over their border

He wondered what prompted this latest entreat  
Was the writer too lazy to walk a few feet?  
But an outcome of agreeing caused him to fret  
This was a big precedent that would be set

'Cause the way Santa worked, legally speaking  
Meant rules around which he was skillfully deeking  
While breaking in to leave gifts was felt to be fine  
Stealing public property stepped o'er the line

But apart from the theft a test to be solved  
Was mailboxes were big, there was planning involved.  
If they hit Aurora last that would be okay  
Because at least there would be more room in the sleigh

But his own reputation he hated to taint

Because to millions of children old Nick was a saint  
Taking a cookie or two personified Claus  
Not stealing with cutting tools, blow torches and saws

Santa sat back in his chair, and pondered a bit  
To solve a challenge this great would require some wit  
There must be a way to make folks feel of good cheer  
Without Nick doing jail time for most of the year

Then a thought gave his spirits a well-deserved lift  
Instead of stealing mailboxes he'd give out e-gifts  
?Cell phones, ipads, and gadgets?, Santa Claus sighed  
?Will keep Aurorans linked without going outside.?

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