

## PORT HAWKESBURY PAPER SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER



### Stay in Touch

As a valued stakeholder of the Port Hawkesbury Paper mill, you've indicated an interest in receiving our newsletter. To receive our updates, please [click here](#).

### A successful First Year

2013 marked the first full year of operations for the Port Hawkesbury Paper Mill and Woodlands Division. Since the first reel of paper rolled off the PM2 machine in late 2012, our sales team has been busy and our customer order books are full well into the foreseeable future.

This year, our paper has been featured in Nova Scotia's "Doers and Dreamers" tourism book, Time Magazine, People Magazine and Womens' World Magazine.

It is our mission to make Port Hawkesbury Paper the safest, most efficient, economically sustainable, innovative and environmentally-friendly paper production facility in North America. We are continuing to work very hard to make the highest quality paper products, and to create opportunities for people within Port Hawkesbury, the broader region and across Nova Scotia. In 2013 alone, we are proud that Port Hawkesbury Paper has contributed \$70 million dollars to the provincial economy.

This newsletter is an opportunity for us to look back at a productive first year and look forward to the exciting initiatives that 2014 has in store for us.

### Career Opportunities fo Our Local Youth

Helping local youth find rewarding careers at home in Eastern Nova Scotia, is one of the most important ways we support our community. Our apprenticeship program has made great strides this year, offering practical, hands-on experience for youth interested in electrical, mechanical, HVAC and instrumentation operations. We take great pride in providing mentoring and career

### Responsible Harvesting

Over the winter months in 2013, we completed a partial harvest in Forest Hills. Our post-treatment photo highlights how we were able to harvest the best quality red maples, while protecting the younger regenerating softwood trees.



### Mill of the Month

We are pleased to announce that last fall, Port Hawkesbury Paper was designated Mill of the Month by the RR Donnelley printing plant in Glasgow, Kentucky. This honour is awarded each month to the most efficient mill, with the best overall web break performance. This

guidance, along with financial assistance for tuition, textbooks and living expenses.

In 2013, two of our instrumentation apprentices successfully completed their Red Seal certificate. We plan to help other apprentices achieve the same accomplishment in 2014, and most importantly, help them discover the great career opportunities that are available right here at Port Hawkesbury Paper.



## Sutherland Brook Bridge

Last summer we completed a major reconstruction project on the bridge over Sutherland Brook. The structure used gabion baskets for retaining walls and a 25-foot steel portable bridge with wooden decks.

The bridge reconstruction was done in partnership with Maritime & Northeast Pipeline as they have a monitoring station near the brook. The original road from many years ago was built over two culverts placed in the brook. Due to weather events in the fall of 2012, and general wear and tear, the section of road over the culverts was completely washed out. Due to environmental concerns and the time of year, it was decided to wait until the summer of 2013 to complete the new bridge, which took approximately 4 days.

## Leading Research and Innovation

The paper industry is constantly changing. Magazines, publishers and printers are looking for new ways to offer value to their customers, without compromising on quality.

In order to sustain the growth and success of Port Hawkesbury Paper, we continue to stay ahead of the curve by developing new grades and products. 2013 yielded great results. Our employees set out to test the

means that Port Hawkesbury had the fewest breaks of any of the uncoated ground wood mills in North America!

RR Donnelley provides Print, Digital and Supply Chain Solutions. They have been in business for over 145 years, with over 55,000 employees worldwide. Port Hawkesbury Paper ships to over a dozen different RR Donnelley locations throughout North America.

## Family Day at the Mill

To celebrate a successful year in operation, we were pleased to host Family Day at the mill in August. Our employees, their families and retirees enjoyed a barbeque, musical entertainment and family activities at the mill, plus a tour of the mill site. One of the highlights of the day was the opening of the time capsule and removal of the items that had been sealed inside since 1987. It was our pleasure to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to the Port Hawkesbury Paper team for their hard work over the year.

capabilities of our PM2 paper machine – one of the newest and most efficient machines in North America. So far our results have been promising. The Mill now offers the broadest range of products of any SC Mill in the world!

We've been nimble evolving with our customers to meet changing market demands. This past year we worked with publications like People Magazine, to develop heavier basis weight grades, providing more value to advertisers.

We have more exciting plans for innovative product development in 2014 and look forward to sharing them with you in the coming months.



## Port Hawkesbury Paper Wharf Business Partnership

Port Hawkesbury Paper owns and operates a Marine facility as part of our mill site. Over the past 50 years, the wharf and associated warehouse have served the business well. Their assets have seen varying levels of use depending on the end products being developed and the markets being served.

The 130 meter long dock has year round open access to the Atlantic Ocean. It's situated on the Strait of Canso which provides weather protection for the ships when they are moored at the site. The wharf and warehouse are accessed by road and are in close proximity to the mill rail yard.

The wharf is currently being utilized only 5 per cent of the time, which has created a business opportunity for Port Hawkesbury Paper. We reached out to experienced Stevedoring companies to investigate the opportunity the wharf and warehouse could provide, and are pleased to announce that we have selected Eastern Canada Stevedoring Inc. as a partner to manage and market the handling of material through the facility. Eastern Canada Stevedoring Inc. is a world class stevedore and terminal operating company and manages marine facilities at

Together, we make the best paper in the world!



## 2014 Family Day

Plans are well underway for our second Port Hawkesbury Paper Family Day, which is taking place at our mill site on Saturday, June 14th from 12:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m. Once again, employees and their families, as well as retirees will be invited to join us for an afternoon of fun and entertainment.

Our recreation committee is busy organizing a barbeque, music and children's activities. Thanks to popular demand, we will be offering tours of the mill to our guests again this year.

We are looking forward to another great turnout and hoping for another warm, sunny day.

## Environmental Performance

A major priority for the Mill in 2013 was to implement an annual review of our environmental and sustainability performance, tracking and measuring our progress and ensuring

numerous locations in Eastern North America. They are developing the marketing materials to promote our site and we're excited to be creating this long term and mutually beneficial partnership.

## Sustainable Energy at the Mill

Port Hawkesbury Paper has recently joined the Nova Scotia chapter of the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters (CME). This important industry group has several committees active in areas relating directly to many aspects of our operations. We have been busy working with the energy committee, and are participating in an intensive 6 month "Sustainable Energy Program". This exciting program is preapproved for funding by both the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development and the Workplace Innovation and Productivity Skills Incentive.

We are proud to be one of the first Nova Scotian businesses to install additional electrical energy meters in our treatment areas. Working with IT consulting firm, T4G, our staff will learn how to identify energy process drivers, optimize electrical loads and track improvement performance overtime.

In addition to the CME electrical energy conservation project, a holistic energy project was also launched this past fall with FPInnovations. This project involves a number of researchers from FP Innovations , CanmetENERGY and staff from all mill areas with a target of 5MW's of heat and energy savings. Work to date has focused on the creation of a comprehensive energy mass balance for the mill and energy model.

These well supported projects, along with our internal mill energy conservation group initiatives will continue to lead our mill towards continued industry leading energy efficiency.

## Mitigating Spruce Budworm Damage

The spruce budworm has caused more damage to Nova Scotian softwood forests than any other insect. Overmature balsam fir is the preferred host and acts as a flash point for rapid population buildup. Populations tend to increase steadily and spread to younger trees. Feeding takes place on the top third of the tree on new shoots. High populations will result in repeated loss of all new foliage, which will kill the trees within 3 to 4 years ([source here](#)).

It should be noted that spruce budworm is ever-present in Nova Scotia's forests. Under favorable conditions, the population generally explodes to epidemic proportions

that we are striving for improvements year after year. Working with a team from FP Innovations, we are undertaking a "life cycle assessment". This assessment will measure the mill's environmental footprint, including annual water and energy use, emissions, solid waste management and resource extraction impacts.

We are proud of our environmental practices at Port Hawkesbury Paper and hope that this study will help us measure and improve our sustainability performance.

## Customers and Community Members Visit Mill

For our first "official" public event, we were pleased to invite members of the community, supporters, suppliers, partners, government representatives, customers and the media to tour our world class facility, meet our team, share a progress update and see the high quality products we have been producing.

We are very grateful to the many members of

every 30 to 40 years. The last major outbreak in Nova Scotia occurred in the mid to late 1970's when an estimated 1.2 million hectares of softwood were severely defoliated. According to Statistics Canada, there are 4.2 million hectares of forest in NS. On average, 42,500 hectares are harvested each year. A budworm outbreak comparable to what happened in the 1970s could significantly damage 28 times the amount of forest that is harvested annually in Nova Scotia.

Though it is unlikely for it to be of the same magnitude of the 1970s outbreak, experts estimate that we are approximately 2 to 5 years away from another serious spruce budworm population buildup. Advances in areas such as population monitoring, mating disrupter pheromones and targeted harvesting of mature balsam fir to reduce budworm habitat are just a few examples of what Nova Scotia and the rest of the Maritime provinces are doing to help mitigate severe damage caused by spruce budworm. We also have the benefit of learning from past budworm management mistakes. Should an outbreak occur, Port Hawkesbury Paper is ready and willing to work with the Province and other stakeholders to ensure the best possible outcome for Nova Scotia's forests.



## Thank You!

2013 was a benchmark year for us at Port Hawkesbury Paper. Several milestones were reached, including 400 days without a lost time injury – a first in the history of our mill. Throughout the past year we've been more efficient than ever. Our TMP Line 3 is producing more pulp at a higher fibre length than any other TMP line in the world.

We'd like to express our gratitude to our hardworking team, our partners and suppliers and the many supporters who have been focused on ensuring the mill's long term success. We look forward to more great achievements in the year ahead.

our community, suppliers, partners and customers who attended.



