



News Release

For immediate release

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SFL Supports Re-opening of Pulp Mill

Saskatchewan Federation of Labour President Larry Hubich said today that the SFL supports the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Local 1120, in their efforts to see the reopening of the Prince Albert Pulp Mill.

CEP 1120 plays an important role on the Premier's Taskforce on Forest Development, which was struck after Weyerhaeuser pulled out of the mill in 2005. The union has worked closely with business groups, First Nations, and other stakeholders on the Taskforce.

The Province's negotiations with Domtar to re-open the mill have been taking place for over a year.

"The members of CEP 1120 have always been strong union activists and we have been proud to call them our brothers and sisters. The workers who make up CEP 1120 are highly skilled and dedicated workers. Since Weyerhaeuser left Saskatchewan, it has been very difficult for our movement to see these members having to go outside of their home community to look for work," says Hubich.

The government announced last week that workers can be cautiously optimistic about negotiations with Domtar to re-open the mill.

"We recognize that the memorandum of understanding between Domtar and the provincial government is only a first step to getting the mill up and running. We are hopeful that it marks the beginning of the restoration of thousands of good jobs for workers in the Prince Albert area. The benefits for mill workers and their families are obvious, but the spinoff effects are also important to consider. The deal takes into consideration the tax revenues for the city of Prince Albert, the implications for school enrollments, and the strength of community programs as a whole," added Hubich.

The SFL represents over 93,500 unionized workers from 36 affiliated unions in Saskatchewan.

For more information, contact Larry Hubich at 537-7330 (cel.) or Ron Rucks, President CEP 1120 at 961-3420 (cel.)