

WOOD N YOU LIKE TO KNOW

Elmsdale Lumber Company Limited

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Issue # 315

Notes from the Editor

Sadly, this year we have been unsuccessful in booking a flu shot clinic here at ELCO. In past years, (because of our past participation) the Elmsdale Guardian Pharmacy reached out to book our clinic. In the absence of an outreach from them, Angie began the process of trying to book a clinic. The first obstacle we would need to overcome was a guarantee of at least 30 people. We confirmed we would find 30 people. On November 1, Angie received an email announcing they would not be able to host a clinic this year. We were informed this is a transition year for staffing and the process for creating clinics is much less flexible and accommodating because of the process changes at the Government/Department of Health and Wellness.

Angie has since sent out a memo to our employees offering to help anyone who would like to book a flu shot at a local pharmacy. For those who are reading this newsletter on your computer and would like to book an appointment at a local pharmacy, you can hover your mouse over the link below and press control and right click. It should take you to the appropriate site.

[NS Vaccine Booking Page \(canimmunize.ca\)](https://canimmunize.ca)

If you would rather book by phone, you can call 1-833-797-7772 (Monday to Friday, from 7 am to 7 pm) or (Saturday to Sunday, from 10 am to 6 pm). You will need to call from a Canadian phone number and be in Canada when you call.

If you prefer to get a flu shot vaccine from a family doctor, family practice nurse or nurse practitioner, you can book an appointment by calling their office directly.

I sincerely hope anyone who planned to take advantage of the convenience of our clinic follow-thru with their intentions by booking an appointment.

Until next month, wishing everyone a flu free season.

Gennie

Notes from the Safety Committee

The minutes from our last safety meeting are posted on the bulletin boards around the property. Please take a moment to review them and be sure to ask your supervisor or any member of our safety committee about any questions you may have.

We are happy to report that our First Aid certifications have been updated. We would like to send out a big thanks to Tara at the Forestry Safety Society for her help getting this organized, and thanks to Tara Isenor, Matt Blackwell, Darren Isenor, Rob Himelman, Warren Hirtle, Trevor Hare, Jimmy Sawler, Dwight Isenor and Matt Works for committing to the training day. Now, here's to hoping you never need to use your training!

A fire drill was held at the planer on October 27, 2022. It went okay but it is apparent these drills are valuable. It provides an awareness of how to respond to a fire alarm and it also provides an opportunity for new employees to familiarize themselves with the location of their muster station. Thanks to everyone for participating.

When the sawmill construction is nearer to completion, we will be having a fire drill at the sawmill. We anticipate a change in the process because of the locations of new exit doors and surrounding equipment. In the meantime, if the fire alarm sounds, it is critical you follow the current protocols.

We hope you all had a great Hallowe'en and made sure to inspect (sample) your kids' candy - just to make sure it was safe. 😊

Until next month, Brian Myers, Trevor Hare, Nick Miller, Craig Isenor, Mark Wilber, Angie Kainola

Notes from the President

ELCO is a small partner in a group of companies that are planning to build the most up-to-date, mass timber manufacturing facility right here in Elmsdale. Mass timber is engineered for high strength ratings like concrete and steel but is significantly lighter in weight. Mass timber products are thick, compressed layers of wood, creating strong, structural load-bearing elements that can be constructed into panelized components. They are typically formed through lamination, fasteners, or adhesives. Mass timbers can be used in 20+ story buildings that are constructed mainly out of wood. Lots of information can be obtained online. Simply ask Google, she is a wealth of information.

Mass timber products have been used in Europe and other parts of Canada for some time now. Before we can build a plant here, we must have Eastern Spruce certified as a species that will meet load-bearing standards. Ledwidge Lumber and ELCO are each sending 100,000 fbm of lumber to a test facility in Oregon where this lumber will be dried to a lower moisture content than we strive to achieve in our kilns. It will be dressed in a planer that will have a maximum of 2,000th of inch tolerance. 146 beams of different shapes and sizes will be manufactured and then broken in a massive press to determine strength factors.

We expect to have the results of this process and certification sometime in 2023. We are confident that Eastern Spruce will pass these tests. Assuming everything goes well, we might be able to break ground in 2023. This is a big deal. I have been working on this project for 10 years.

Dan Tingley came in from California to teach a couple of our lumber graders what they needed to be on the lookout for when they are selecting lumber for mass timbers. We spent 3 ½ days in our planning mill grading and selecting lumber for shipment to Oregon. Everyone chipped in to get this job done. I was super pleased with the efforts of our team, and I have received an abundance of praise on our team's commitment from our visiting Mass Timber folks.

Notes from the President, con't

And now onto the sawmill. The optimized board edger has been in place for a couple of weeks. As of today, Friday, November 4th, they are running some boards through it. They are testing and tweaking the optimization and timing of the equipment that positions the lumber going into the edger. It is my hope the board edger will be fully operational sometime next week. We have had several fellows on site from McDonough Manufacturing since last Wednesday. They worked through the remainder of the week and weekend attempting to solve all the programming issues. The work continues this week.

Lindsay Construction is now in the process of completing the final stages of installing some windows and doors and completing 3 electrical rooms. Life Safety is installing the sprinkler system. This is a massive project and requires running pipes throughout the sawmill. The final stages of this project will be done during the evenings and weekends when the mill is not running. We hope this will be completed in the next few weeks. Portable Welders are due to arrive shortly to install high-pressure steam lines throughout the mill and mount the heaters in time for winter.

The bottom-line is a multitude of things are happening in the sawmill. All issues need to be completed before Christmas.

Until next month, I will keep you posted. Robin

Here is an example of a 30-metre span mass timber bridge near Musquodoboit. That's Mark underneath. 4 more mass timber bridges will be built in Nova Scotia in the coming year.



Notes from Eacan Timber

There seems to be a "Tale of Two Cities" in the lumber market these days. Here in Atlantic Canada things are going along just fine. Contractors and retail stores are very busy. Retail stores are ordering lesser volumes, but more often. Currently, multi-drop loads appear to satisfy their immediate requirements. New construction seems to be the main sector that is driving this market.

In the USA, they are moving at a slower pace, with more caution. People are nervous about interest rates and the state of economy. There seems to be a "wait and see" attitude within the industry. There is work to be done but folks are waiting for a clearer direction to show itself before they react. Next week's midterm elections in the USA may bring some confidence back and get projects started again. In the meantime - how about this weather eh!!!!

Warren Beeler, (Pitch Hitting for Joel who is currently in the USA drumming up business).

Notes from Woodlands

Nova Scotians have now had a bit of time to digest the damage inflicted by Hurricane Fiona. Along with the devastation to buildings and property, there is also extensive blowdown in woodlands across the regions where the storm hit. As far as our company freehold properties go, we sustained damage on a few parcels, but overall, we made out okay. Of course, we quickly realized after some initial conversations with various affected woodland owners that we will have to prioritize supporting blowdown cleanup where needed on various private woodlots. Although hurricane Juan was nearly 20 years ago, Deja Vu crept in as Stephen, Greg, and I cycled through the familiar thoughts around organizing harvesting capacity and logistical considerations with windthrow harvesting. Everything is more challenging when it comes to harvesting blowdown. Starting with planning, including damage assessments, volume estimates, and harvest layout is very difficult. The folks at Rumcache Forestry have been assisting with this, working very hard to collect the information necessary and get the blocks ready so we can formulate a schedule.

Notes from Woodlands, Con't

With limited harvesting and trucking capacity, it will be critical to efficiently plan the resources we have to maximize the amount of cleanup done in the limited window we have to do it. Of course, none of this happens without the participation of harvesting and trucking contractors willing to take on the challenging job ahead. Thank you.

I would like to make a few words to acknowledge some recent changes within two organizations ELCO has been involved with for quite some time. Peter Robichaud, of the Canadian Woodlands Forum, will be stepping down as Executive Director and Rob Neish will be transitioning into the role over the next few months. Peter has been instrumental in building the Canadian Woodlands Forum and his hard work and devotion to the organization is well noted. With that, having known Rob for years, and the experience and skill set he possesses, I have no doubt that he is an excellent choice to take the reins and lead the organization into a new phase.

Also, we would like to welcome Stephen Moore as the new Executive Director of Forest Nova Scotia. Stephen will be replacing Jeff Bishop who after years of hard-working service stepped down as Executive Director a few months back. Stephen has prior experience in government relations and marketing, and we look forward to getting to know him better as he settles into his new role.

Good luck to both Rob and Stephen in their new positions!

Lastly, just a quick reminder to the hunters reading this as deer rifle season is well under way, to respect the land you are hunting on and stay safe!

Until next time, Jason Casey and the Woodlands Team

Notes from Clifford John MacNeil's Corner

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Stephen and Anne Molnar's first grandchild. Right now, I am just a little fellow. On my birthday, October 19, 2022, I weighed in at 6 pounds and 13 ounces and was 20" long. Katie is my mom and Ben is my dad. I expect to be respectfully spoiled and cuddled. Based on my family's choice of clothing, I am guessing they are "people of the forest". Why else would they dress me in camouflage outfits at such a young age? Can't wait to take my first 4-wheeler ride back to the camp.



Until next time, don't blink because I have a lot of growing to do and you might not recognize me the next time you see me. Clifford



October Anniversaries

Gennie Himelman 30 years

Congratulations NICE GOING!
GREAT! Way to Go!
Yea! FELICITATIONS
CHEERS Take A BEST
BOW! WISHES!

November Birthday's

Leslie (Sass) Isenor Nov 21
Ron Miller Nov 8
James Sawler Nov 30
Robin Wilber Nov 10

October 50/50

Darren Isenor Oct 7
Jason Isenor Oct 14
Brian Myers Oct 21
Shawn Preeper Oct 28

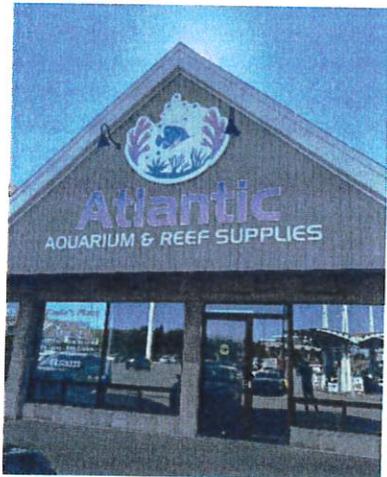


News from Brain Myers

I would like to share news of an exciting new business in the Clayton Park/Rockingham area, Atlantic Aquarium and Pets Supplies (formerly Reef Supplies). Atlantic Aquarium and Pet Supplies is owned and operated by one of East Hants's very own, my cousin Kyle Myers.

Kyle comes from a family of entrepreneurs. His father (my uncle) Thane Myers is a co-owner of R/T Collision Centre, and Kyle's sister Shawna McNeil is a co-owner of Atlantic Tutors Inc. Kyle has seen first-hand the hard work and dedication it takes to run your own business and I know he will do well with it. I, along with a few other family members, have been putting in a lot of late nights and weekends over the past three months to help Kyle get up and running. I never want to move another fish tank in all my life LOL. Trust me, those suckers are heavy! But in all seriousness, coming together to help family is a rewarding experience for me. I enjoy helping others and I always learn something new along the way.

Atlantic Aquarium and Pet Supplies offers a wide selection of fresh & salt water fish, plants, corals, reptiles, small animals, bird supplies and dry goods. They even have a store mascot, a blue and gold Macaw named Viego, who loves to greet everyone who visits the store. Their grand opening was on Friday October 14th and they remain open Monday to Saturday 12-8, and Sunday 2-5. They are located at 30 Farnham Gate Rd, Unit 46 in Halifax. If you find yourself in the area, you should stop by and check them out. It's a good opportunity to see some unique critters that aren't available at many pet stores.



Luca McNeil holding one of the bearded dragons



Store Mascot, Viego.