



# Howe Sound

PULP AND PAPER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

NEWS & VIEWS • JUNE 2007

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Howe Sound Pumpers



Twenty-six Howe Sound employees gamely pedaled "the Big Bike" around lower Gibsons on June 20 as part of the Howe Sound Pumpers. The Pumpers raised over \$10,000 for the local Heart and Stroke Association.

### Pacific Jamboree July 7-14, 2007

One hundred years ago, the very first group of 20 boy scouts got together with Robert Baden-Powell on Brownsea Island in England for a thrilling week of adventure, challenge, and good fellowship.

From that modest start, scouting has stalwartly grown into a global phenomenon—with over 100 countries now participating. "The basic principle of building leadership skills in children and youth has remained steadfast," explains Mike Forrest.

Mike Forrest is a senior project engineer at Howe Sound and "Camp Chief" for the Pacific Jamboree 2007. The jamboree will bring over 2,000 scouts, beavers, cubs, and their leaders to Roberts Creek in July. For one week, these groups—from all over BC, Yukon, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Washington and Oregon—will take part in blind-fold obstacle races, mountain biking, sailing and kayaking lessons, hiking Mt Elphinstone, water games, a voyager canoe trip to Gambier Island, and many other activities.

"We focus on the scout program, which has a mix of adventurous activities and then some tamer activities like crafts for the younger youth," says Mike.

As a lasting tribute to the centennial of scouting, the Pacific Jamboree will bury a time capsule. "It'll be located at Camp Byng and will be opened 24 years from now," Mike explains. Besides Mike, another dozen Howe Sound employees are volunteering at the jamboree. We wish them a sunny, fun-filled week!

#### QUICK FACT

Wood fibres from different species of trees have different properties—so manufacturers use blends of fibres to produce special types of paper. Red cedar fibres, for example, have an exceptionally soft and flexible nature that is highly prized in tissue and medical garment manufacture. In contrast, Douglas fir fibres are coarser and have good drainage characteristics.

## Safety training for new employees taps their potential

After receiving her safety instruction, Melanie Gibb took the information home and reviewed it with her teenage son. "Kids don't always ask how to do a job safely, plus they want to please their employers and have a skewed sense of their own mortality."

All new employees at the mill receive a one week long orientation that includes safety instruction. "I was impressed with the quality and thoroughness of the training," Melanie adds. "You can definitely take the safety lessons home with you."

"New employees have a good perspective," notes Dave Coates who provides the mill's ergonomic safety briefing. Often they bring insights from other workplaces on how to do tasks safer and more effectively. In order to try and tap in on their potential, Dave tells new employees that it's okay to ask questions and make suggestions.

New employees may also be eager to please and more willing to

push their limits. This can be aggravated by the fact that many jobs assigned to new employees are physically intensive. Dave stresses the importance of taking micro-breaks, pacing yourself, and talking to your supervisor when the work load is not appropriate.

As the mill's new maintenance supervisor, Mark Bosma's safety responsibilities will also include supervising employees. During his orientation, Mark asked a lot of questions because he tried to anticipate some of the queries he might get from his crew.

He likes to receive the equivalent training of his workers. "Even if I won't necessarily be using the skill myself, I still need to be familiar with all of the procedures."

Melanie, Mark and Dave all agree



New employee Melanie Gibb appreciated being stopped by coworkers and given safety tips "Like don't walk directly in front of a stopped vehicle in case it slips out of gear."

that safety is about process but it's also about people using good judgment. "Virtually every time there's an accident someone says 'man, I shouldn't have done that,'" Mark notes. Dave acknowledges, "There is always a point when a person makes a decision." Safety orientation gives people the resources, communication skills, and knowledge to use good judgment.

## Where do our wood chips come from?

At Howe Sound we use softwood chips to manufacture two products—newsprint and kraft pulp.

Wood chips are a by-product of BC's logging and forestry industry. Typically logs are used for high-value products such as dimensional lumber first. The rest of the log, as well as those logs not suitable for higher value products, can be made into chips.

Our chips originate from Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast and as far away as Williams Lake in BC's interior. Howe Sound does not do any chipping at the mill.

To make newsprint we use hemlock and balsam (a blend called "hem-bal"), and SPF (spruce, pine, fir) chips. The five varieties of kraft pulp blended at Howe Sound are made from combinations of red ce-

dar, hemlock, Douglas fir, and SPF.

Howe Sound's Chain of Custody (COC) process keeps track of the source and transfer of all the wood chips we use—from the originating forests right up to production. The COC assures that we only use chips from legal, authorized sources. To read Howe Sound's COC in full, visit [www.hspp.ca](http://www.hspp.ca) and click on "products" and then "chips."



#### Clip & Save

### SUMMER MILL TOUR SCHEDULE

For the months of July and August, Howe Sound Pulp and Paper will be hosting mill tours every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am. To reserve your space on a tour call Tina Sebert at 604-884-2575 or email [tours@hspp.ca](mailto:tours@hspp.ca).

- Reservations required
- Minimum age 12 years
- Tours involve a 1.5 kilometer walk and several flights of stairs
- Flat, enclosed footwear required
- Duration is about 2 hours

Please be aware tours are in an actively-operating mill requiring safety precautions, appropriate clothing, and a certain level of fitness and mobility.

#### CONTACT US

Howe Sound's News & Views is published once a month in the Coast Reporter. Issues are also available on our website at [www.hspp.ca](http://www.hspp.ca).

#### Questions? Comments?

We'd like to hear from you! You can call or email Tina Sebert, Community Relations Assistant. Tel: 604-884-2575 Email: [hsppcomments@hspp.ca](mailto:hsppcomments@hspp.ca)