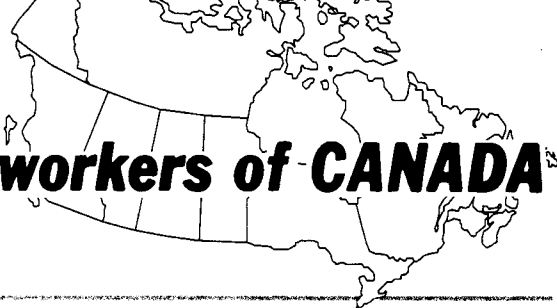




# **The Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of CANADA**

LOCAL No. 2



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## **President's Update for February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

I would like to wish all the members, both employed and still laid off a belated Happy New Year. 2010 has begun much the same way as 2009 ended, with rumours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> line of Kraft starting up on one hand and the total collapse of Catalyst Paper on the other, neither of which seem to be true.

After numerous meetings on restarting the 2<sup>nd</sup> line, The Company's plan was to run 2 Kraft and 2 News machines with a total of roughly 330 PPWC members. Their own numbers state that this would have lead to a labour cost of below \$65/tonne on the running of 2 pulp machines, well below the old target of \$80/tonne. One of the main Company's concerns about the 2<sup>nd</sup> line start up would be the availability of low cost fibre; they state that it is more profitable to one line faster than to restart the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.

The Wage Delegates have told the Company that they would consider entering talks to changes in the collective agreement for future employees in exchange for investment, board approved investment that would make Crofton pulp viable into the future. Since we put this position to the Company, no meetings have been scheduled. The ball is in their court to respond if they want to re-invest the \$18 million black liquor credit money back into the operation that generated it and the timeline for that investment.

Seniority issues are still front and center, with the Local attempting to have the Company honour both the collective agreement and their long term employees by making every effort to train the most senior laid off members so that they would be working over less senior members. Please remember, it is the Company, not the Union who is refusing to train senior members. If you feel you are not working and should be phone Kathy Gomez at Local 6210 and NICELY, ask her why the Company is refusing to train you.

A suggestion on how the Company could save money would be to totally disband the Human Resources department. I am sure it would only take one person to offer the advice to the Managers in all departments, to disregard all signed agreements and the collective agreement and learn to just say NO. This is the approach the Company is taking already with the Standing Committee.

**The next General Membership meeting is on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, please attend.**

The Local is helping out Crofton Elementary School with their "Pennies for Peace" program. This program involves building schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Please bring all the pennies you can spare either to the union office or to the meeting where we will collect them and forward them on to the school.

Once again, I hope this Company wants to focus on working with, rather than against their greatest asset, their employees. It has been shown over and over again that all the employees, both union and staff, do make Crofton a viable location to produce pulp and paper.

Fraternally,  
Lynn Lindeman, President  
P.P.W.C. Local #2

