

Atlantic Branch Conference
May 14 - 16, 2014
Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia



Host Mill:

PHP HOSTS 2014 PAPTAC ATLANTIC BRANCH CONFERENCE: Meeting Review

The welcoming reception, which officially kicked off this year's PAPTAC Atlantic Branch Conference, was preceded by the Executive Committee Meeting which met to open dialogue from 5:00-6:00 p.m. at the Dundee Resort & Golf Club in Port Hawkesbury NS. They reviewed and recapped past meetings and conferences, discussed current operations, financial status, ways to increase membership, future convention planning, as well as the Branch's honorary life membership and coveted bursary.

Following the meeting, they congregated at the Welcoming Reception to enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and refreshments while networking with other conference participants. Close to 50 attendees arrived at the Dundee, situated on the shores of the beautiful Bras d'Or Lake, and gathered at the reception to kickstart this year's conference, hosted by Port Hawkesbury Paper (PHP).

They were welcomed by Chair Suzanne Hohmann and Vice-Chair Jenna Hazelton and were entertained by a background guitarist, not to mention the good ole hockey game between long-time rivals Montreal Canadiens (Habs) and the Boston Bruins on the race to this year's Stanley Cup Finals.



Justin Charron (Irving Paper), Christian Prest (Northern Pulp NS), Suzanne Smith (AV Cell), Suzanne Hohmann (Irving Paper), Heather Munn (Irving P&P), Les Uruqhart (PHP), Jenna Hazelton (Irving Tissue) and Elyse Gregor (Ashland)



Hours later, as the sun set on the revelry so did the rivalry between the Habs and the Bruins as Montreal took the victory and advanced to the semi-finals! As one participant put it: "The best PAPTAC ever!!!"



Left picture: Bob Chisholm
Right picture: Bob Chisholm –
ultimate Bruin's fans, Habs fans and
Suzanne Hohmann



PHP's Mill Manager, Marc Dubé, teed off the conference with a warm welcome to all. The Branch's active members from NS and NB, industry suppliers, and representatives of research/academia gathered to listen to the conference's presentations that covered topics from pitch control to lubrication, with an overall strong TMP component.



One couldn't miss the numerous blue shirts in the room, testament to the great turnout from PHP employees, who, like all the rest, came to learn, renew old acquaintances and make new friends.



The Chip Guy -- Justin Charron (Irving Paper) won "best paper" for his presentation on "Understanding Future Wood Supply Impacts ON TMP Operations & SC Paper Quality".



The day wound down with a banquet dinner at which Dr. Andrew Swanson, CEO of the Verschuren Centre (Cape Breton University), keynoted and spoke on turning Atlantic Canada's forestry agriculture into high value added products for the global market and how the academic community is contributing to these projects.

The conference concluded Friday morning with a mill tour of the newly restarted Port Hawkesbury supercalendered paper Mill.

Visit the branch's website www.paptac.ca/atlantic_branch for future news.

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