

Invitation – Forestry Hub Discussion and Finewood Flooring Facility Site Tour

Cape Breton/Unama'ki has been gifted with the ability to grow a diversity of forest types that are both ecologically and economically valuable.

Beginning with the Mi'kmaq, the forests have traditionally played an important role in the economies and culture of the Island. In recent decades though the majority of focus has been on the pulp and paper industry, resulting in a lack of diversity and resilience in both our forests and our economy.

A group, interested in helping to address both the health of our forests and the issue of how to grow locally owned value-added forestry enterprises, is hosting a **public meeting at the Middle River Community Hall on Saturday, January 20th at 10am** with a snow date of the following Saturday January 27th same time and location.

Two significant hurdles for any forestry business is a consistent supply and the investment in necessary equipment. The former Finewood Flooring and Lumber facility, located in Middle River, could be an ideal location for a demonstration wood enterprise hub, offering a platform for wood sorting, shared equipment and manufacturing space. A collectively owned hub, such as this, would significantly reduce the start-up cost and risk, and would be a significant attraction for new businesses.

The meeting will include a site tour of the Finewood Flooring facility and an opportunity to share ideas, questions around the idea of a piloting a forestry HUB.

For further information please email cbforestryhub@gmail.com or phone Jim Mustard at 902-295-0974