

Website newsletter

Sawmill Health and Safety

Perhaps one of the most important things our employees do is participate in our Joint Occupational Health and Safety program. Participation is not limited to those serving on the JOHS Committee: each employee is instructed in the importance of the Internal Responsibility System, in which all workplace parties must share responsibility for making the workplace safer and healthier.

The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee is a 7-member committee consisting of managers and workers. Meeting monthly, the committee reviews safety concern which have been brought up to them, investigates any accidents or “near misses” that have occurred, and conducts safety inspections on the various work sites. They also make recommendations to management on safety issues and help to develop safety practices and procedures.

It has been through the JOHSC that the company’s policies on safety headgear, safety eyewear, nonsmoking on the worksite, and disciplinary measures have been developed. Our employees have been very much involved in setting their own safety standards.

Another company committee is the Wellness Committee. This committee was formed as a result of our participation in a Workplace Wellness Pilot Project in 2005. This committee’s role is to encourage healthy lifestyles among our employees. Last summer our employees formed a softball team which practiced weekly and participated in the “Log a Load for Kids” tournament sponsored in part by Bowater Mersey Paper Company Ltd. (They won!) This winter they have gathered at the school gym on Wednesday evenings to play basketball and floor hockey. As warmer weather approaches, thoughts are turning again to softball. Meanwhile, as a result of their expanded knowledge of nutrition, many employees snack on juice, carrots and apples etc. at breaktime, instead of pop and chips!

“Douglas Dia-Log” is a quarterly company newsletter which features updates on company projects and improvements, safety tips, health-related articles on nutrition, exercise and well-being, and employee milestones.

