



**Canadian  
Wood  
Preservation  
Association**

31 ILSLEY AVENUE, DARTMOUTH, NS, CANADA B3B 1L5

Fax: (902) 468-2642

[www.cwpa.ca](http://www.cwpa.ca)

**CWPA 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2002**

**Opening Address by the President**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. My name is John Packer. I am the President of the Canadian Wood Preservation Association, and on behalf of the Association and its Board of Directors it is a pleasure to welcome you to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting of the CWPA.

In keeping with a break from tradition that was started with last year's meeting. This meeting directly follows the annual Fall meeting of the Canadian Institute for Treated Wood, which was held yesterday, and this CWPA 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting will be succeeded on Wednesday by the annual Canadian Standards Association committee on wood preservation. As many members of the CWPA are involved in the two other organizations, it makes "economics sense" to continue to coordinate the CWPA Annual Meeting with these two other organizations.

The wood industry is currently charting a new course through turbulent waters.

I think we would all agree that the pendulum is swinging against wood. Everyone with a stake or job in the forest products industry is aware of this trend. There are profound changes taking place in the wood preservation industry. This is most evident in North America. Traditional treatment chemicals and treatment practices are being re-evaluated in light of environmental, health and safety awareness. This means that the use of wood in an application that makes it liable to early failure due to biological degradation will be considered more carefully in the coming years.

An on going challenge, which is having a huge adverse impact, is the political one – the softwood lumber issue. The U.S Commerce Department, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002 imposed permanent combined countervailing and anti-dumping duties of 27%, slightly modifying temporary duties it imposed late last year on Canada's \$ 10 billion in lumber shipments to the United states. The softwood lumber issue effects the exportability of treated wood to the USA – added value is not considered a factor when it comes to countervailing duties.

Recently the U.S International Trade Commission (ITC) announced, that it will launch an investigation into the structure building components not affected now by the 27% U.S duty on Canadian softwood.



**Canadian  
Wood  
Preservation  
Association**

31 ILSLEY AVENUE, DARTMOUTH, NS, CANADA B3B 1L5

Fax: (902) 468-2642  
[www.cwpa.ca](http://www.cwpa.ca)

This year's conference will provide the information you need to steer your company / organization through these difficult times. The planners of this conference felt it was timely to hold a Symposium, "Alternative Preservatives." Presentations will focus on the impact of the regulatory changes around the use of CCA and the commercialization of the alternatives in Canada. Those of you who are closely involved with regulatory affairs recognize that Canada is one of the world leaders in regulating the use of pesticides.

The meeting will most appropriately start with the Keynote Speaker, Richard Aucoin, Pest Management Regulatory Agency of Health Canada. He will provide an overview of the evaluation process, registration of new preservatives and changes to the Pest Control Products Act.

The meeting will focus on another topical issue particularly within British Columbia, concerning sapstain control and its transmission by beetles such as the mountain pine beetle.

I trust you will find the papers informative, and that you will make use of the opportunity for informal discussions with other delegates. I will now turn the microphone over Dr. Paul Morris, who will have a few words to say about the changes to the program and announce who will be chairing certain sessions.

John Packer