

# Stud mill situation "taken day by day" - Lavigne

By Ken Lusk

U.P.I.U. President Don Lavigne told the News that he is taking the stud mill situation "day by day" and that it has turned the "Gem of the North Shore into a fake jewel."

Lavigne said that he adamantly sees the situation as a "human issue" and that there is danger that "the North will die."

He said that a committee, which will include union management from such places as Armstrong and Red Lake, is being formed that will concentrate on job search and job creation for the laidoff workers.

Resumes listing the workers' skills will be sent to many different companies, said Lavigne.

He added that there is a good chance that between 50 and 60 people could be hired for above-ground work at the mine at Winston Lake.

"They will be truck drivers and heavy equipment workers," he said.

Lavigne won't be looking to place any workers underground because they need "skilled hard-rock miners."

## Profit margin gone

When asked if the entire mill could close someday, Lavigne said there's "always that danger" and "don't be surprised if you see it up for sale."

He mentioned that White River and Thunder Bay have also stopped

their stud mill operations because of the 15 per cent tariff.

If the 15 per cent goes any higher, he said, the profit margin will be gone.

Lavigne believes Kimberly-Clark was forced into the present situation.

He told the News that he can only see the stud mill starting up again if there are no 'bumping rights'.

He said that if it was started again, and then closed again, any new workers would be out the door.

"It would only start again totally if there were no return rights for anybody," he said.

Some people are "blaming the union" for what's happened, but everyone knew way back in May that there was going to be trouble, said Lavigne.

"Even if we broke production records, and we did, we knew that they were still going to make cuts."

The Woodlands operation will be the next to get hit, said Lavigne. They have already made small cuts because of the stud mill closing and because of the possibility of the operation changing to the owner-operator method, it's a "bleak future in Woodlands."

Lavigne said that K-C won't say what their plans are so that leaves him playing it "day by day."

The situation has turned "the Gem of the North Shore into a fake jewel," said Lavigne.



Holy Angels

Above, Susan Harris, Judy Baxter and Anna Carangi (absent) display 'The Inuit' which was their History class project.



History project

The 'Pacific Coast Indians' was the project of Stacy Shack, Ashley Riley and Kerry Anderson. The entire display was constructed of homemade clay.

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### Christmas Quotes

A Christmas gambol oft could cheer  
A poor man's heart through half the year.  
— Sir Walter Scott

Come, bring with a noise,  
My merry, merry boys  
The Christmas log to the firing.

While my good dame,  
she bids ye all be free,  
And drink to your heart's desiring.

— Robert Herrick

### Long Ago

Winds through the olive trees  
Softly did blow,  
Round little Bethlehem  
Long, long ago.

Sheep on the hillside lay  
Whiter than snow;  
Shepherds were watching them,  
Long, long ago.

Then from the happy sky,  
Angels bent low,  
Singing their songs of joy,  
Long, long ago.



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