

Canfor expansion hungry

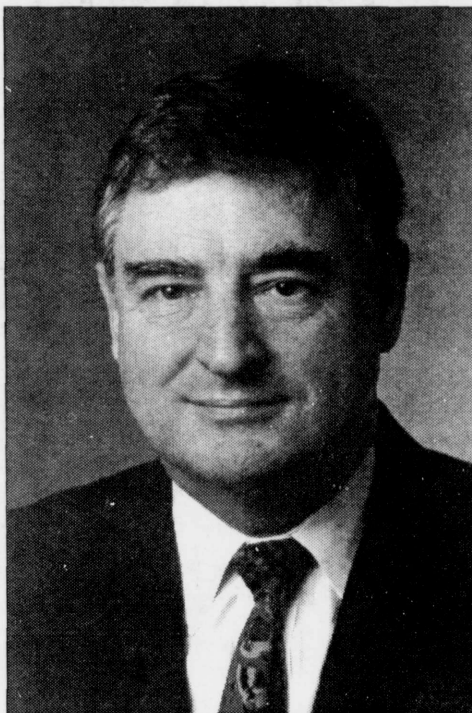
At least one company is taking advantage of the current strong market cycle to bolster its position in the global forest products marketplace.

Hot on the heels of its takeover of Northwood Inc. last fall, Canfor Corp. announced at its annual general meeting on April 28 that it will continue to aggressively pursue acquisitions and mergers.

It's a move the company, which saw the price of its shares jump 300 per cent in the last year, hopes will position it — and its new base of operations — to be a global leader in the forest industry.

"I see a renaissance happening in the industry, and hopefully Prince George can become North America's leading forest community in the coming years," says company president David Emerson in an interview prior to the April 28 announcement.

Mr. Emerson is reluctant to comment on who might be a potential target for a takeover or a merger. But indications are Canfor will expand its operations in Northern B.C. before striking out on any international deal making.



Emerson: 'I see a renaissance happening.'

The company is in the midst of moving its administrative offices to Prince George. It has been mentioned as a prime candidate to take over the Fletcher Challenge mill

in Mackenzie. And it is said to be talking about joint operating strategies with Slocan Forest Products, a company that has been ripe for takeover for years.

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