



Ice fishing?
 Marc Laforge (L) and Eric Ouellette lower a sonar device through the ice of the St. John River in Grand Falls. The men were searching for the remains of C.P.R. locomotive 508, which plunged into the river in 1900. Ouellette said the sonar equipment recorded images of a large object on the river bottom, but the images were inconclusive as to what the object was. (Ian Scott photo)

maple. The equipment, which includes a Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) router system and associated dust collection system, will allow the company to produce completely machined furniture and cabinet components. This means that their customers won't have to do the shaping and profiling tasks themselves, increasing the value of the products the company produces. Andy Savoy, MP for Tobique-Mactaquac, said that

Briggs Engineered Wood Products was established in May 1997 to produce edge glued panels, which would eventually be used in the furniture industry. Today, the company sells 80 per cent of its product to the United States, 10 per cent within Canada, and another 10 per

cent to the successful implementation of this project." ACOA provided support to this project in the form of a repayable loan for a total of \$118,352 through its Business Development Program (BDP). The BDP provides financial assistance to small- and medium-sized enterprises wishing to establish themselves, or expand or modernize their operations. For more information on this program or others, please check out ACOA's website at www.acoa-apeca.gc.ca.

Locomotive search derailed for now Sonar images of river bed were "inconclusive"

By Ian Scott
 A local man's search for a locomotive engine that plunged into the St. John River more than a century ago resurfaced last week, but with inconclusive results. Eric Ouellette, an engineer from Grand Falls, has spent more than a year of his free time trying to find the remains of Canadian Pacific Railway steam locomotive No. 508.

On March 4th, using sonar equipment provided by Kongsberg Maritime of Dartmouth, images were recorded that confirmed a large shape lying on the bottom of the river. The images showed the outline of an object approximately 22 feet long and six feet high. Located between the piers of the collapsed bridge, Ouellette said the object didn't have any distinguishing features that would identify it as the locomotive, and that the only way to find out for sure was to send a dive team down later in the year after

the ice had melted.
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