

## LOCAL NEWS

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### Opposition says government must better protect local manufacturing companies **LATEST NEWS**

The Telegram

The provincial government has an opportunity to protect the long-term future of manufacturing operations such as Sutreen Hardwoods, but is doing little to ensure the company has access to a secure wood supply in this province, Opposition Leader Yvonne Jones says.

In a news release, Jones says Sutreen Hardwoods in Eastport is forced to import 80 per cent of its wood supply used to manufacture cabinets, mouldings and hardwood flooring. With the closure of the AbitibiBowater mill in Grand Falls-Windsor and timber rights returning to the province, wood supplies are available that could help secure the long-term future of this company.

"This company is a success story that is producing a world-class product, employing local people and putting benefits back into the local economy," Jones said. "These are the companies that we need to help when there are solutions available. Unfortunately, the company is forced to import almost all of their wood supply from Quebec because they currently do not have access to a secure wood supply within the province. There are wood supplies available on former AbitibiBowater lands, but the provincial government is not providing access."