

## Niagara announces expansion of Kennington and Craigpine Winton sites

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a Niagara Wood Fuels announcement, Nov 2020



Niagara is pleased to confirm that they have reached an agreement to purchase Craigpine timber. With 5 sawmills already closing this year around NZ, Niagara is thrilled that they will be able to integrate the CraigPine sawmill into our timber operations enabling the Craigpine sawmill and legacy to live on.

Niagara's intention is to run the Craigpine sawmill on a single shift 5 days a week, kiln dry the timber at the Winton site, and then transport all the kiln dried timber to Kennington to be processed through Niagara's industry leading remanufacturing plant. Where Craigpine's traditional model was to export unprocessed sawn timber to Asia, Niagara plans to instead further process the timber into quality building products such as weatherboards, and increase supply into the New Zealand building market.

While reducing the Craigpine operation from two shifts to one will unfortunately mean some redundancies at the Winton sawmill, due to the continued expansion of the Niagara timber business they are happy that they are able to offer many of the Craigpine staff new roles at their Kennington site.

Work has already commenced on a new 7,500 m<sup>3</sup> Distribution and Packaging facility, and although the new remanufacturing plant was completed only three years ago, they are now underway with an extension which will increase production by a further 25%. Niagara expects this to be completed by July 2021.

"Further to the expansion in the timber business I am also pleased to announce that we plan to develop part of the CraigPine site into a new distribution centre for our Transport companies McNeill Distribution and Tulloch Transport", said Ross Richardson. "Both McNeill and Tulloch specialise in servicing the rural sector, so we see this Central Southland location as being a perfect hub for distributing our dry fuels and other key farming products".