

World's first municipal waste-to-biofuels facility opens in Edmonton

Officials from the Government of Alberta, City of Edmonton, and Enerkem Alberta Biofuels celebrated the opening of the first industrial-scale facility to produce biofuels from municipal solid waste.

The Waste-to-Biofuels and Chemicals Facility located at the Edmonton Waste Management Centre is owned and operated by Enerkem. The City of Edmonton will supply 100,000 tonnes of sorted municipal waste that will be converted into biofuels and chemicals. This is the waste that cannot be composted or recycled and that would otherwise be sent to landfills.



"The City of Edmonton is a world leader in sustainable waste management and the opening of the Waste-to-Biofuels and Chemicals Facility demonstrates our commitment to finding innovative solutions to harness the value in waste," said Mayor Don Iveson. "This type of leading-edge innovation demands a team approach and we're proud of our partnership with Enerkem and Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions."

The facility is part of a larger collaboration between [Enerkem](#), the Government of Alberta through [Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions](#) and the City of Edmonton. This waste-to-biofuels initiative also includes a waste preparation facility and a world-class Advanced Energy Research Facility.

The City of Edmonton currently diverts up to 60 per cent of residential waste from landfills primarily through recycling and composting. This facility will enable the City to increase its diversion rate from 60 to 90 per cent by 2016.

"We are proud to introduce our clean technology here in Edmonton to help the community achieve its target of 90 per cent waste diversion," said Vincent Chornet, CEO of Enerkem. "Our game-changing facility is stimulating the regional economy by creating high-quality jobs and by locally converting waste into useful products such as biochemicals and biofuels."

When operating at full capacity, the facility will produce 38 million litres of clean fuels and biochemicals. It will initially produce methanol and later ethanol. The production capacity of ethanol will be enough to fill the tanks of 400,000 cars using a 5 per cent ethanol blend.

For more information:

To learn how the waste-to-biofuels process works, please visit: edmonton.ca/WasteToBiofuels

Our Partners

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