

City honours environmental excellence

June 8, 2016

The City of Edmonton honoured employees today for their commitment to environmental sustainability, and recognized a team from the Ivor Dent Sports Park to receive the Charles Labatiuk Award for Environmental Excellence.



The team created a uniquely sustainable system that enables the irrigation of Ivor Dent Park by reusing collected stormwater. Irrigating with stormwater uses less of the City's drinking water supply. This is a progressive and innovative approach to water conservation and sustainability in general. Stormwater reuse is not a common practice yet in Alberta, or even Canada.

"It's important to encourage and recognize environmental leadership at the City," says Paul Ross, Branch Manager of Economic and Environmental Sustainability. "The nominees have gone above and beyond their regular duties to ensure a brighter future for our city and this is truly putting our principles in action"

There were ten nominees for the Labatiuk Award this year, which recognizes employees who demonstrate environmental leadership in innovating and improving how the City does business.

The finalists were:

- Queen Elizabeth Outdoor Pool Solar Panels: Two hundred solar panels were installed on the roof of the Queen Elizabeth outdoor pool building as part of this project. To date the panels generate 40% of the pool's annual electricity, which avoids, on average, up to 34 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year.
- Ivor Dent Sports Park Stormwater Reuse for Irrigation: This project is the first of its kind in the City of Edmonton and has sparked interest from other areas of the city, as well as other municipalities looking to adopt similar systems. The team was not required to look into any environmentally sustainable options for irrigation, but went above and beyond typical business practices to encourage environmental sustainability.
- Brownfield Redevelopment Grant Program: Brownfields are environmentally contaminated land sites that often sit abandoned for years. Barbara Daly created the Brownfield Redevelopment Grant program as an incentive for developers to utilize all the spaces within our city.

The award is named in honour of the late Charles Labatiuk, Ph.D., P.Eng. Charles was a longtime employee of the City of Edmonton and a passionate environmentalist.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/LabatiukAward

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