

The 35th Annual ! Organics Recycling Conference

Tuesday November 4 - Thursday November 6, 2025

Ottawa Canada



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www.compost.org

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An Extra-Special Day of AMAZING Tours on Tuesday, November 4th!

Our buses leave @ **7:45am** from the ground level of our host hotel, The Ottawa Ottawa Marriott. Comfortable clothing is the attire of the day (and throughout our conference). Please bring your safety shoes, vests and glasses as well as hard hat.

We will be touring:

Convertus Ottawa has been processing the City's green bin waste since its establishment in 2010. With a processing capacity of up to 150,000 tonnes per year, the site converts household organics into NASM, agricultural fertilizer, and clean bedding materials, diverting waste from landfill and contributing to a more circular economy. The facility uses in-vessel composting technology designed for year-round operation, even during harsh Canadian winters. Thanks to a multi-stage odour abatement system, which includes ammonia scrubbers, humidifiers and biofilters, the site showcases operational excellence, with a team deeply engaged in industry leadership and innovation.

Fepro Farms (Cobden, ON) A true powerhouse and the Canadian pioneer in on-farm biogas, Fepro Farms—run by the Klaesi family—is welcoming conference delegates for an energizing stop to see their 500 kW anaerobic digestion system. The facility is fueled by a robust mix of 7,000–8,000 m³ of dairy manure, 1,000–1,200 tonnes of corn silage, 4,000 m³ of grease trap waste, and 3,000 m³ of food waste. This feedstock lineup generates approximately 1.25 million m³ of biogas annually, powering a dedicated engine and generator. All digestate is land-applied using a manure disc system, returning nutrients to the soil and closing the loop on organic resource recovery.

Ottawa Research and Development Centre (Ottawa RDC) @ the Central Experimental Farm Established in 1886, Ottawa RDC is a cornerstone of agricultural science in Canada, playing a vital role in advancing sustainable agriculture and protecting biodiversity. Tour participants will learn about the Centre's research work in crop development and soil nutrient cycling. As home to national biological collections and the National Identification Services, the Centre plays a vital role in protecting biodiversity and advancing sustainable agriculture.

Celebrating 35 Years of Dedication, Determination, and Vision After a day filled with inspiring tours and learning, we gather at **7:00 PM** in the Victoria Ballroom to mark our conference's milestone - One which reflects decades of commitment and progress. Join us as we honour you, the champions and organics recycling's community builders.

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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5TH

8am Exhibits Open for Learning & Networking

OPENING KEYNOTE SESSION

9 – 10:15am

Iekwirahawi "Holly" McComber
Kahnawake MOHAWK TERRITORY
General Manager, Waste Management

Critical Ground: Why Soil is Essential to Canada's Economic, Environmental, Human, and Social Health

The Honourable Robert Black, P. Ag. (Hon)
Senator for Ontario
Chair, Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:15 - 11am

CANADA RECYCLES ORGANICS

11am – 12:30pm

Feeding the Soil Compost & Digestate: An Update from the CFIA

Glenn Murray, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

Organics Recycling Across Canada: Statistics and Trends

Maxime Gaudet, Statistics Canada

Let's Go to the Ex! CNE's Waste Management Program in Action

Beau Felipe and Nathaniel Crouch, CNEA: Canadian National Exhibition Association

Enabling Environmental AND Economic Sustainability of Global Fresh Produce Supply Chains:

Balancing Recyclable, Compostable & Reusable Fresh Produce Packaging Solutions

Dan Duguay, Canadian Produce Marketing Association

LUNCH !

12:30 – 2pm

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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5TH (CONTINUED)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 2 - 3:30pm

I. ORGANICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES

**Using Advanced Technology and Engineering
to Convert Organic Waste into New Resources**

Chris Jones, Convertus Group

**Reducing Emissions Through Integration:
The Power of Hybrid Composting Strategies**

Aaron Oszcewski, Sustainable Generation

Composting Food Waste at Remote First Nations Communities

Betsy LaForce, Green Mountain Technologies

II. LEARNING THROUGH RESEARCH

**Preventing the Spread of Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus (ToBRFV)
through Composting : Effectiveness and Implications**

Carly Lacy, Walker Environmental

**Evaluation of Dehydrated Food Waste as a Soil Amendment and Substrate
for Anaerobic Soil Disinfestation in Crop Systems**

Michael F. Cohen, University of California - Agriculture and Natural Resources

PLENARY SESSION 4:15 - 5:30pm

IT'S ALL ABOUT OUR POTENTIAL

**Current Situation Regarding Contamination of Organics
by Film Plastic, Microplastics and PFAS:**

Policy Options for Managing the Risks of these Contaminants

*Josée-Anne Majeau and Pierre-Paul Dion, Ministère de l'environnement,
de la lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la faune et des parcs*

**Unlocking the Power in Growing Nutrient Dense Food
using Synergies of Biochar-Wood Vinegar in Compost & Extract Teas**

Owen Goltz, Riverdale Farm & Forest

SURPRISE! The Fine Tradition of our Council's Conference's Evening Event

Immediately following the end of our final session of the day, we will be meeting in the Victoria Ballroom to start our orientation for the Council's evening event for you.

Dress warmly and comfortably.

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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6TH

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 9 - 10:30am

I. ORGANICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES SESSION II

**Cost-Effectively Improving Compost Site Efficiency
and Capturing Renewable Thermal Energy**

Brian Jerosé, Agrilab Technologies Inc., Jenny Millson, Millson Forestry Services

Life Cycle Analysis and Costing of Biogas and Composting

Marsa Toloueishiviari, CH Four Biogas

Innovative Tools and Mobile Solutions for Organic Waste Treatment

Tjeerd van den Berg, Convertus Group

II. COMPOST & DIGESTATE: MAXIMIZING THEIR VALUE

Living Labs at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Chris McPhee, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

**Microplastic Fate in a Chronosequence of Biosolid-Amended Agricultural Soil
in Southern Ontario, Canada**

Harriet Walker, County of Peterborough

The Journey of Balancing Regulatory Compliance and Optimizing Process Control

George Longmuir, Freeland Scientific

Refreshment Break 10:30 - 11:15am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 11:15am - 12:30pm

I. ORGANICS RECYCLING IN ACTION

The City of Ottawa's Organics Recycling Program for Multi-Residential Buildings

Angela Plant, City of Ottawa

Municipal Food Waste Composting in Saskatoon Winter

Orion Black-Brown, Green Mountain Technologies

**Beyond the Price Tag: Proven ASP Success in New Zealand
vs. the Costly Lessons of Christchurch**

Tim O'Neill, ECS: Engineered Compost Systems

Planting Seeds: Educating Youth on Organics Recycling

Sally Pittaway and Laura Barrett, County of Simcoe

II. COMPOSTABLES AS VALUE-ADDED SOLUTIONS

Towards Our Common Cause of Returning Organic Matter Back to Our Soils

Dan Martens, Novamont North America

Compostables in the Circular Economy: BPI's Role in Supporting the Full Value Chain

Leslie Rodgers, BPI

Challenges Facing Compostable Products in Québec and Beyond

Stephen McLeod, Compost Montréal/Compostable.ca

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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6TH (CONTINUED)

Lunch !
12:30 - 1:30pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:30 - 3pm

I. ORGANICS RECYCLING IN ACTION

**Two Decades of Turning Wastewater into Worth:
Scaling Up Biosolids Composting at TransAqua**

Velta Tomsons, TransAqua: Greater Moncton Wastewater Commission

Worms Go North: Overwintering Outdoor Vermicomposting

*Jason Stevens, Chisasibi Eeyou Resource and Research Institute (CERRI)
Cree Nation of Chisasibi*

Application of Foodilizer into a Variety of Organic Recycling Infrastructure

Matt Hoekstra, Food Cycle Science

Empowering the Next Generation to be Stewards for our Soils and Nutrient Cycles

Amanda Hunter, Worm Wrangler

II. LEARNING THROUGH RESEARCH SESSION II

Bioassay Development for Screening Persistent Herbicides in Compost

Daisy D'Angelo, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company

Measuring Circularity Performance in Organic Recycling:

Applying ISO 59020 Framework to Composting and Compostable Products

Mahdi Takaffoli, 5REDO

GHGs from Municipal Windrow Composting and Other Research Updates

Dennis Dankwa and Michael Boh, McGill University

FINAL PLENARY
3:30 - 5:00pm

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Organics Recycling: Science with Purpose to Sustain our World

Lambert Otten, Retired Professor, School of Engineering, University of Guelph

Feeding the Soil ... COMPOST !

Greg Patterson, A&L Canada Laboratories

Compost on the National Stage

Nelson Borges, National Arts Centre

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A Special Thanks to all our generous sponsors and exhibitors:



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