Beyond Compost: Closing the Organic Waste Loop for a Greener Economy

Wednesday, March 25th, 2015
Registration & Networking 5:00 PM, Event Begins 6:00 PM
Harbour Centre, Simon Fraser University, Room 1400
515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

Register Here

Redeploying food waste as a renewable resource has been considered a sensible approach in waste management in present day society. It is true that compost has been central to agricultural operations for centuries as both fertilizer and feed for livestock. Due to a variety of factors, in today's urban centers, organics are often landfilled, not capitalizing on a valuable resource while further adding to undesirable environmental emissions. To contribute to the overall solution of waste management, companies and municipalities around the world are developing methods to convert consumer food waste into feedstock, fertilizer, bio-energy and other valuable by-products. The March GTEx Forum will feature three of BC’s home-grown innovations in organic waste diversion: the City of Surrey’s biofuel processing facility, EarthRenu’s food to biogas technology, and Enterra’s food to feedstock approach. We invite you to join the panel and other participants in discussing this important topic.

About the Speakers

Rob Costanzo is the City of Surrey’s Engineering Operations Manager responsible for the maintenance of the City’s roads, utilities and fleet services as well as the City’s waste management services, including waste collection, planning and policy development, marketing and public education. Rob leads Surrey’s sustainability goals related to waste diversion and reduced carbon emissions from its fleet operations. He is presently overseeing the development of Surrey’s Organic Waste Biofuel Facility which will process kitchen and yard waste collected at curbside into a renewable natural gas that will be used to fuel the City’s Compressed Natural Gas waste collection fleet, resulting in a closed-loop, net-zero carbon impact system.

Steve Harpur, CGA, is the director and president of Earth Renu Energy Corp. Prior to founding the company in 2009, Steve spent several years extensively researching and experimenting with the processing of various commercial and agricultural organic waste streams. He built several in-vessel composter prototypes and trained to become a compost facility operator. Steve was the leader in researching and developing a proprietary process that Earth Renu uses to convert 100% of waste cooking oil into renewable natural gas and biodiesel. Prior to his work with Earth Renu, Steve has worked extensively as both a financial professional and in construction.

Brad Marchant is the CEO of Enterra Feed Corporation (agricultural feed products) and Director of Primero Mining Corp. He is a business executive that specializes in technology development and commercialization in mining, water treatment and agricultural products. Brad has successfully started and developed three companies prior to Enterra Feed: Coastech Research, a research and engineering company specializing in bioleaching technology for the mining industry; Triton Mining Corporation, a publicly listed company with gold mining operations in Central and South America; and BioteQ Environmental Technologies Inc, a publicly listed company with water treatment operations worldwide.