

13 June 2016

RE: letter of support for an Organics First approach to Toronto's Waste

Dear Toronto City Councillors,

It's time for Toronto to use its Waste Strategy to take decisive, strategic action and reduce our impact on the environment, while providing economic benefits.

We support a Waste Strategy that works with Toronto residents, community groups and businesses for zero waste solutions.

The most important step the City must take is to choose a Waste Strategy that tackles food waste first and gets organics out of the garbage bag. Otherwise, we will be dumping valuable organic materials in landfills in communities that don't want our waste.

Furthermore, Toronto should utilize the biogas from its organic waste treatment, rather than flaring the gas. It could be used to generate clean, green electricity, or renewable natural gas (RNG). We understand this has been studied extensively, and now it is time to act.

We support the following actions:

- Make education and effective communications a priority to help residents use their Green Bins properly and get organics out of the garbage bag.
- Ensure all residents have equal access to organics collection no matter where they live.
- Require all businesses to have organics collection and plans to prevent food waste.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Thorson

Canadian Biogas Association