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CANADIAN CONSULTING
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Consulting Engineers Help Protect the Environment in Edmonton and Across Canada

(OTTAWA) October 25, 2016 – From converting non-recyclable household garbage into clean, renewable energy in Edmonton, to protecting the community and environment by decontaminating and deconstructing a building at risk of collapse in Yellowknife, consulting engineering firms from across Canada put their expertise to work on a variety of projects that often go unnoticed. But this was not the case in Ottawa Tuesday evening, as two projects closely tied to the Edmonton community were recognized for their technical excellence and social, economic and environmental contribution to Canadians at the 2016 Canadian Consulting Engineering (CCE) Awards gala. Quebec firm BBA won an Award of Excellence and the Tree for Life Award for its work on the **Enerkem Alberta Biofuels Project in Edmonton**; and Edmonton consulting engineers AECOM won an Award of Excellence for their work on the **Giant Mine Roaster Complex Decontamination and Deconstruction Project** they carried out in Yellowknife.

“These Awards showcase the outstanding talent and expertise of consulting engineers across Canada,” said ACEC President and CEO John Gamble. “By recognizing these projects with national awards, we highlight the important contributions of engineering firms to Canadians and the huge impact they have both here at home and around the world.”



For its ground breaking Enerkem Alberta Biofuels Project in Edmonton, BBA won an Award of Excellence and the Tree for Life Award which is presented to a project that best demonstrates outstanding environmental stewardship or commitment to the environment. Enerkem Alberta Biofuels is the world’s first commercial biorefinery that converts non-recyclable household garbage into clean, renewable energy. “Sound engineering and innovative solutions are key to transitioning from research and development to full-scale application. Given that the Enerkem Alberta Biofuels project is unique worldwide, it required an understanding of complex challenges as well as creative and environmentally friendly solutions,

challenges that matched BBA expertise and these awards prove it,” said André Allaire, P. Eng., M. Eng., Ph. D., President.

Paving the way for a more sustainable future through innovation

Garbage that is brought to landfills decomposes over the years releasing greenhouse gases, such as methane, along with other soil contaminants. Enerkem Alberta Biofuels not only provides a sustainable alternative, but it also produces biofuels that contribute to the province’s economy and can be used as an alternative to fossil fuels. Thanks to the innovative work of these consulting engineers, through less landfilling, the facility reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 110,000 tons of CO₂ per year.

Edmonton firm AECOM won an Award of Excellence for its work on the **Giant Mine Roaster Complex Decontamination and Deconstruction Project in Yellowknife, Yukon**. Because the complex was aging, Public Works and Government Services Canada and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development needed to deconstruct the Roaster Complex buildings which were at risk of collapsing, potentially releasing hazardous materials into the environment. Thanks to AECOM’s efforts, not only **were all structures safely dismantled**, but 9000 m³ of arsenic hazardous waste was containerized without adverse effect to workers, the public and the environment. “We are honored to receive this award recognizing our commitment to building a better world and bringing positive change in our communities,” said



Doug Allingham, Executive Vice President, Canada. “At AECOM, we drive innovation to create safe, sustainable and resilient environments for the generations to come.”

Engineering a safer, more sustainable future

The technical aspects of assessing and demolishing such a highly contaminated complex were a significant source of challenges for AECOM and sub-consultant Golder who completed the assessment, project design and contractor supervision. Multi-faceted work control standards were developed in order to: minimize exposure to asbestos, arsenic, cyanide, and arsine gas by on-site workers; protect the public and the environment; and confirm when decontamination was complete.

In November, follow the [#20DaysOfExcellence](#) in engineering campaign on Twitter and at www.acec.ca/20daysofexcellence to watch videos of other award-winning projects like these and to learn more about the impact of consulting engineering on our quality of life.

The award-winning projects are described in full in the October-November 2016 issue of *Canadian Consulting Engineer* at <http://www.canadianconsultingengineer.com/digital-edition/>.

About award-winning firms

For over 35 years, **BBA** has been offering a wide range of consulting engineering and project management services, from project definition to commissioning. The firm’s expertise is recognized in the fields of energy, mining and metals, and oil, gas and biofuels. BBA relies on a team of seasoned experts to transform complex problems into practical, innovative and sustainable solutions. BBA is supported by a network of offices across Canada to better serve its clients and carry out mandates at the local, national and international levels. www.bba.ca

AECOM is a fully integrated firm working with governments, businesses and organizations globally to develop and implement innovative solutions to the world’s most complex challenges. www.ecom.com/ca/

About Awards co-sponsors

ACEC represents companies in Canada that provide professional engineering services to both public and private sector clients. These services include the planning, design and execution of all types of engineering projects, as well as providing independent advice and expertise in a wide range of engineering and engineering-related fields. For more information about ACEC and the 2016 Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards, please visit www.acec.ca.

Canadian Consulting Engineer is a bi-monthly magazine for engineers in the construction industry. It is a division of Annex Publishing & Printing Inc.

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Multimedia (includes project description, video, photo):

[AECOM project photo](#)

[AECOM project page on acec.ca](#)

[BBA project photo](#)

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