

FACT SHEET

THE INNOVATIVE GLASS WORKS PLAN



INNOVATIVE GLASS WORKS: A DURABLE SOLUTION FOR ALL GLASS COLLECTED THROUGH CURBSIDE RECYCLING IN QUÉBEC

In Québec, businesses that put containers, packaging and printed matter on the market have the responsibility to finance the municipal curbside recycling system. Éco Entreprises Québec (ÉEQ) is the private, non-profit organization that represents those businesses. Each year, over \$150 million are collected from businesses and since 2005, over \$1 billion have been redistributed to municipalities, making it possible to recover 5 million tons of recyclable materials and to prevent 2 million tons of GHG emissions. Due to their central role in curbside recycling, they are committed and mobilized to make the value chain of curbside recycling the most efficient possible.

GLASS RECYCLING: A NORTH AMERICAN STRUGGLE

In Québec and elsewhere across North America, glass recycling comes with certain challenges: most sorting centres are not able to produce a glass quality that meets the expectations of conditioners and recyclers, limiting the variety of uses for this material that citizens put in their recycling bin. Until recently, only a portion of the glass collected through curbside recycling was able to find a second life with high added value. A solution had to be found.

ÉEQ, supported by a team of experts, has rigorously studied different solutions to improve curbside recycling. Meetings with Québec curbside recycling stakeholders have allowed to pinpoint their needs and to make an inventory of the available technologies all over the world. After this diagnostic, ÉEQ then selected innovative, tried and tested technologies used to initiate the modernization of sorting centres in 2017 with pilot projects.

A true first in North America, ÉEQ's approach aims at equipping sorting centres with technologies to produce a high quality recycled glass that meets the expectations of conditioners and recyclers. ÉEQ also supports the commercialisation of innovative eco-materials made from glass collected through curbside recycling.



DEMONSTRATING QUÉBEC'S LEADERSHIP IN TERMS OF CURBSIDE RECYCLING

THE INNOVATIVE GLASS WORKS PLAN AIMS TO MODERNISE SORTING CENTRES WITH NEW EQUIPMENT AND STIMULATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF END MARKETS FOR GLASS.

THE INNOVATIVE GLASS WORKS PLAN \$6.7M



1) PILOT PROJECTS

A tailored approach to equip sorting centres with innovative technologies. Our partners, Québec-based manufacturer Machinex and producer Krysteline Technologies from Great-Britain, offer care and support throughout all months of the pilot projects.

- EBI Environnement Inc. in St-Paul-de-Joliette (Lanaudière)
- Tricentris - tri, transformation, sensibilisation in Terrebonne (Lanaudière)
- La Régie intermunicipale de traitement des matières résiduelles de la Gaspésie in Grande Rivière (Gaspésie)
- Récupération Frontenac in Thetford Mines (Chaudière-Appalaches)
- Centre de tri de Québec, operated by Société VIA, in Québec City (Capitale-Nationale)



2) FINANCIAL SUPPORT

ÉEQ offers financing and support to conditioners and recyclers eager to commercialize new eco-materials in order to give a second life to the glass collected through curbside recycling.

POSITIVE IMPACTS ON A LARGE SCALE

The *Innovative Glass Works Plan* confirms Québec's leader position in North America, generating positive impacts on the economy, the environment and society:

- Guaranty a supply of quality glass, meeting market's standards for a better integration of recycled glass in a larger scale of applications;
- Develop and secure local jobs, some of which are part of social economy;
- Favor the rise of a circular and green economy in Québec and stimulate the emergence of innovative companies presenting potential for exportations and international influence;
- Offer a reliable solution for all glass containers collected through curbside recycling.



All the details can be found on the website at www.ecoentreprises.qc.ca/glass
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