

Edmonton Region Waste Advisory Committee

COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT REPORTING

Appointment: Edmonton Region Waste Advisory Committee

Classification: External Agency - Intergovernmental

Councillor(s): Councillor Erin Rutherford

Reporting Period: November 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023

Mandate

The Edmonton Region Waste Advisory Committee (ERWAC) (previously named Capital Region Waste Minimization Advisory Committee) is a voluntary intergovernmental committee initiated prior to the establishment of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB). The purpose of ERWAC is to bring together stakeholders in cooperative, collaborative efforts to facilitate joint waste minimization strategies and solutions and provide a forum for regional information sharing.

Alberta Environment and Parks manages the committee meetings, creating and sharing out meeting materials. Members include all municipalities in the Edmonton Region area, regardless of population. Each municipality may send one elected official to the Committee, and one technical representative from Administration.

ERWAC is made up of two committees. The Advisory Committee and a Technical Working Committee. The Broader Advisory Committee includes elected officials and senior members of Administration that oversee each municipality's respective waste services. This committee focuses on encouraging, facilitating and supporting policy development both within member municipalities and other external stakeholder groups.

The Technical Working Committee is made up of administrative subject matter experts from each member municipality. It focuses on information sharing, research and development of leading best practices, performance reporting and identification, evaluation and recommendations of technical solutions.

Report on activities, projects, and outcomes

Nov 17, 2022: Circular Economy update, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) update & discussion on regional approach

Jan 19, 2023: Regional Waste to Energy Initiatives (COE & Sturgeon County), Solid Waste Collaborative Update, EPR update

Upcoming events and milestones

COE and Regional Municipalities will continue to work together on a regional approach and understanding of EPR. Will continue to discuss opportunities for collaboration on waste diversion and organics processing. Will continue to engage in waste reduction, recycling and reuse initiatives.

Evaluation

It is recommended that the City of Edmonton continue to attend and appoint a Council member and alternative for this committee. While much of the work is focused on information sharing, there is great potential for relationship building and joint collaboration and advocacy related to issues of waste.