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Canadian Bioenergy Association President to court EU investors in upcoming mission

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade invited Douglas Bradley, President of the Canadian Bioenergy Association (CanBio) to meet key bioenergy investors in Europe to stimulate new biomass trade, business and investment projects in Canada.

The visit, from January 24 to February 6, will stop in Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden – but Bradley, who’s putting together carefully targeted presentations to show off Canada’s potential as a biomass supplier and operator – is confident the hectic schedule will be worth it. “I’m going on the tour with one mission: to develop new business opportunities for Canadian entrepreneurs, farmers, foresters and municipalities,” says Bradley.

International partnerships offer some of the best opportunities for Canadian entrepreneurs and municipalities to develop bioenergy. European companies have been building sustainable bioenergy projects for the last two decades: investors are looking for new markets and power projects need raw material. Canada, with its vast supply of forest resources, agricultural residues and organic waste, is well positioned to take advantage.

The investment mission starts in Italy where Bradley will meet with four biofuel companies – [Spiga Nord](#), [Oil.b](#), [Comlube](#) and [Novaol](#).

In Belgium he’ll sit down with renewable energy (RE) project developer and financier, [Enfinity](#)’s business development director for North America, tour; and meet with the director of [Organic Waste Systems](#) to hear about their anaerobic digester technology; and meet RE project developers and investors [Thernego](#) and [Electrawinds](#).

Bradley will speak at the International Agency’s [Sustainable International Bioenergy Trade Workshop](#) before moving onto the Netherlands. There, he’ll meet with energy giant [Suez](#), which is developing wind and biomass projects in North America, and investor [Rabobank](#). He’ll tour [Electrabel](#)’s Les Awirs power station in Flemalle – the former coal-fired power station was converted to 100 percent biomass in 2006 – and it sources some of its wood chips and pellets from North America. He’ll also talk with [SenterNovem](#), the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs on biomass policy.

In Spain, Bradley will tour [CENER](#), Spain’s National Renewable Energy Centre and the Institute for Diversification and Saving of Energy, before going to [Cogen-Energía España](#), which builds and operates small and medium-scale co-gen and biomass power plants. In Sweden, Bradley will make a special presentation titled “Canadian Pellet Trains: producers, users and export markets,” before having a roundtable lunch with 8-10 biomass companies. As Canada’s Board Member on the [World Bioenergy Association](#), Bradley will sit down with WBA President, Kent Nyström, and attend a liquid biofuel seminar at the Canadian Embassy in Stockholm.

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