



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, May 4th, 2010

This week's edition sponsored by:



Greetings Everyone!

The next SWITCH Open Meeting **will take place on Friday, May 7th, 8 am, the Royal Kingston Curling Club, 130 Days Road**. Dan Corbett will speak on how Sustainable Kingston can build community partnerships and citizen engagement to have clear measures of success in advancing Kingston as - Canada's Most Sustainable City. He will address in particular the parts of the plan relevant to SWITCH:

"Establish Kingston as a leader in Green Technology (wind, solar, bio fuel)...

...Reduce the amount of energy that residents and industry consume.

Generate enough local renewable energy to meet all of our needs.

Reduce and/or mitigate our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to become carbon neutral. "

If you are interested in sponsoring the refreshments for an Open Meeting, at a cost of \$30, or sponsoring an e-newsletter, at a cost of \$60, please contact Catherine or Ted, info@switchkingston.ca. The refreshments for the May open meeting will be sponsored by NEDCO. June, July and September will be sponsored by **Kingston Solar Installations**. October and November will be sponsored by **Air Liquide**.

Save a paper cup, bring a travel mug to the next open meeting!

All visitors to SWITCH can enter through the main entrance to Novellis (the front doors) and ask the receptionist to call the SWITCH office (dial 9+613-547-6700 x129). We will come and badge you in. **Parking is available in the WEST parking lot.**

SWITCH News & Announcements

1. Welcome to new members **iSolara Solar Power, Kathy Wood, Natural Capital Resources,** and **Jennifer Kiwala.**
2. SWITCH has been awarded a grant through the Ontario Community Go Green Fund for the 1000 Solar Rooftops Challenge, <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2559629>. Students will be going door to door, identifying homes with solar potential and delivering customized information to homeowners. The students will be available at various public events over the summer. SWITCH will be setting up a database of installed solar energy systems, recognizing the installers involved with the project.
3. **Carpooling** will be available to this Friday's open meeting. There will be at least 2 cars at each location. More details to follow by tomorrow.
4. **Event:** SWITCH breakfast meeting, Friday, May 28th, 8 am, main floor conference room at Innovation Park, 945 Princess St. Kathy Wood, Natural Capital Resources, will discuss how Kingston's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can benefit from new supply chain opportunities in solar and wind energy. Tickets are \$5 for SWITCH members and \$15 for non-members. A light breakfast will be served. RSVP to register@switchontario.ca. Seating is restricted to 60 attendees.
5. Ian Baines, from Windstream Energy Inc., will be speaking about the Wolfe Island Shoals Wind Farm project at the June open meeting.
6. **Jennifer Kiwala** has volunteered to work for SWITCH every Monday. Jennifer is currently working on a new design for the SWITCH newsletter, which will be launched soon.
7. If you wish to write to the federal government about the cancellation of the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program, attached to this newsletter is a Word document with pre-addressed sample letters and mailing labels. Just add your own name and address, and mail it off. Letters to the House of Commons do not require postage.
8. Website feature:
<http://switchkingston.ca/wiki/doku.php?id=opportunities:oppintro>
9. "Become a SWITCH sponsor": You may have noticed this message at the top of the sidebar of our updated website. That space, as well as space on our weekly e-newsletter, and our email signature, will be available on an annual basis to a SWITCH sponsor. Please consider providing vital financial support to SWITCH and its mission of making the Kingston region a centre for sustainable energy. Contact SWITCH executive director Ted Hsu for more information.

SWITCH Member News & Announcements

1. **ELORIN corner:** Market & Industry Intelligence for Entrepreneurs and Start-ups, May 20, 1:30 to 3 pm, Innovation Park, 945 Princess Street. As part of ELORIN U, this seminar examines how market intelligence can make your business more profitable.
2. **TAB Mechanical** and **eco-NET Technologies** have partnered to create a fund raiser for Gleaners Food Bank in Belleville. The grand prize is a solar thermal system, including solar thermal panels and a hot water tank. Second prize is a home energy audit, and third prize is for home LED lighting. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20 and can be purchased from Quinte Conservation, the Frink Centre, and the Quinte Exhibition (taking place Sep 2 to 5). The draw takes place on September 30. Tickets are available now and through to the end of September. All proceeds will be donated to Gleaners Food Bank. To read more go to <http://www.emcbelleville.com/20100429/news/Helping+Gleaners+can+help+make+you+greener>.
3. Congratulations to **The Kingston Sustainability Centre** for receiving an Ontario Community Go Green Fund grant for their "Join the Journey" program. Run out of the KSC, the outreach program will focus on energy conservation, energy efficiency, water conservation and waste recycling, <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2559629>.
4. **St. Lawrence College** students completing their first year of the Wind Turbine Technician program are looking for summer positions in the electrical or related field. These students have one year of college training as industrial electrician apprentices. Government tax credits are available for the employer. If you have opportunities, or know of companies that do, please contact:

Romy Baur
Coordinator Wind Turbine Technician/Industrial Electrician Co-op
Diploma Apprenticeship Program
School of Applied Science and Computing
St. Lawrence College
100 Portsmouth Avenue
Kingston, ON, K7L 5A6
RBaur@sl.on.ca, (613) 544-5400 x1463.
5. **Seaway Document Solutions** will be holding a free seminar on Sustainable Manufacturing from 11 am to noon, on Wednesday, May 5th, at the **Kingston Sustainability Centre**. Xerox Canada's VP of Sustainability, Eme Onuoha, will be sharing a discussion with the program manager at the Kingston Sustainability Centre, Dan Hendry. The discussion will focus on sustainable development from a Xerox and non-Xerox perspective with the aim of raising a few ideas on how organizations can look inside their own operations to reduce their environmental footprint. Anyone interested in attending should contact Andrew Greer, Andrew.greer@seawaysolutions.com, (613) 548-0766 x206.

6. **Event:** The 3rd Annual Conference on Biomass for Energy, May 30-31, Queen's University, *The Great Lakes Bio-Region: Market Opportunities and Carbon Pricing*. From SWITCH member **QIEEP:** "Demands for low-carbon sources of energy mean that governments are crafting policy and committing funds to biomass, and businesses are making decisions and allocating their resources. The biomass industry is changing as quickly as it grows, and it therefore remains crucial to share information and to highlight best practices, challenges and successes." To register online go to <http://www.queensu.ca/qieep/events/biomass/2010/index.html> or contact Lisa Doulas, ldoulas@cogeco.ca, 613-539-2482.
7. The Province of Ontario has announced they will continue to fund up to \$150 on new pre-retrofit audits, and up to \$5,000 in provincial retrofit grants. Please visit **Hearthmakers Energy Cooperative** <http://www.hearthmakers.org/news/province-announces-continuing-support-for-homeowner-retrofit-grants>, for more details.

Local non-member News & Announcements

1. Stone Mills Township has applied for a solar photovoltaic project through the Ontario Feed-In Tariff program. The new Roads Facility being built in 2010 has been positioned for optimum solar exposure and to accommodate the 110 kW surface mounted rooftop venture.
2. **Employment Opportunity:** Dixon Solar Heating is looking for part time sales reps for the Kingston, Gananoque, Napanee, and Brockville areas. This is a commission based position, based on units sold. Information about the product can be found at www.dixonsolarheating.ca. To discuss the position further, please send an e-mail to greg@dixonsolarheating.ca or give him a call at (613) 217-8400.
3. Tree Identification and Forest Health workshop, Saturday May 15th, 9:30 am to 1 pm, Colwell Property, 8745 Kauffman Lane, Battersea. The workshop is part of an education series put on by the Limestone Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association to help landowners understand their woodlot better. The event is free and coffee and tea will be provided. An information booklet is available free to OWA members and for \$10 to non-members.
4. **Event:** Eastern Ontario Manufacturers Network presents "The Impact of Carbon Footprints on Manufacturing", May 6th, 4 to 6 pm, Innovation Park, 945 Princess St., main floor conference room. The keynote speaker will be Brett Wills of High Performance Solutions. RSVP to Paul Muysson, EOMN Regional Director, paul.muysson@eomn.ca, (613) 328-8748.

Non-local News & Announcements

- 1. Employment Opportunity:** iSolara Solar Power, <http://www.isolara.com> is looking for solar PV salespeople who have experience in technical sales and want to join a rapidly-growing company in a positive industry. The primary focus would be sales in the City of Ottawa. Please send a CV and cover letter to Mark Gibson, General Manager, at mjgibson@isolara.com.
- 2.** A draft International Green Construction Code is open to public comment until May 14th. The final version of the code is expected to be published in the beginning of 2012. To view the code and to make comments, please go to this site <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/IGCC/Pages/PublicVersionDevelopment.aspx>.
- 3.** A report produced by Environmental Defence Canada and the United Steelworkers entitled *Falling Behind: Canada's Lost Clean Energy Jobs*, was presented to the 2010 Good Jobs, Green Jobs National Conference in Washington. To read more about the content of the report, go to <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/business/Canada+missing+boat+green+energy+report/2982694/story.html>
- 4.** The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has initiated a call for expressions of interest (EOI) to identify qualified providers of carbon and GHG emission reduction services. The deadline to submit an EOI is by 4 pm on May 26. Please go to this link for more information, <http://gmf.fcm.ca/files/Announcements/2010/FCM-Carbon-Reduction/EOI-FCMCarbon-EN.pdf>.
- 5.** The Excellence in Education Award from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), honours secondary and post-secondary educators who have encouraged students in the development of sustainable communities by integrating sustainable concepts in housing and community development into their curriculum. For more information, please go to http://www.cmhc.ca/en/inpr/su/su_002.cfm. **The deadline for nominations is May 31st.**

Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the SWITCH open meeting on Friday,

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrator

SWITCH

At Innovation Park, 945 Princess Street,

Kingston, ON K7L 3N6

613-547-6700 x 129

info@switchkingston.ca

<http://switchkingston.ca/>

SWITCH thanks the **Ontario Trillium Foundation**
and the members of SWITCH for their financial support
Has SWITCH helped you? Would you like to support our work?
Please consider becoming a member or a sponsor of SWITCH.

For more information, go to our website: <http://switchkingston.ca/> or phone us!

SWITCH often provides services, or is available for consultations, on a confidential basis. We would be happy to accept any request that you have to keep certain information confidential. However, one of SWITCH's main activities is networking services. Unless otherwise requested, you should expect that information which the SWITCH staff learns in communications with you might be used to make progress on our mission of making the Kingston region a centre for sustainable energy.