



Greetings Everybody!

SWITCH's Annual General Meeting will be held at our Open Meeting on **Friday, January 9th, 2009 at 8:00 am** in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. We request that all members come, or send a representative, in order to receive the reports of the officers, receive SWITCH's first annual report, elect Directors for 2009, and conduct any other business. If you would like to submit a nomination for a seat on the 2009 Board of Directors please contact the Executive Director, Ted Hsu. We will still have networking time and the usual updates from the different sustainable energy sectors.

1. A big welcome to new member, **Haven Home ClimateCare**, and thank-you to renewing members, **Upper Canada Solar Generation**, and **Bardi Vorster, Individual Landscapes**.
2. **Congratulations** to SWITCH member, St. Lawrence College for their new green-bin program. For the full story, go to the *News* page on the SWITCH website.
3. **A Reminder to watch for** SWITCH member Chris Morris' new site <http://kingstongoesgreen.com/>, an online resource for community green-based initiatives, which is set for launch early next year.
4. **SWITCH member Fifth Town Artisan Cheese** was mentioned on CBC's *Fresh Air* over the holidays (Dec. 21st). The discussion was about the positive changes and directions that agriculture is taking, and when the discussion turned to LEED, Fifth Town and Petra Cooper, were mentioned.
5. Welcome to ELORIN, the Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Innovation Network, who recently moved their office to Innovation Park just a few doors away from SWITCH. We're looking forward to the mutual benefits of being in close proximity to the ELORIN staff.
6. Please look at the new *Documents* page on the SWITCH website by visiting <http://www.switchkingston.ca/switchdocs.php> We've started by putting up the SWITCH incorporation documents, bylaws, and other reports and statements.
7. Our speaker for the February 6th SWITCH open meeting will be forestry expert Warren Mabee of the Queen's Institute for Energy and Environmental Policy. Warren is a new faculty member at Queen's this year and he will be speaking on, "*A Renewable Energy Region: Eastern Ontario as a Net Producer of Green Power. A discussion of the opportunities surrounding the creation of the country's first renewable energy region.*"
8. A film has been made about the innovative heating system being employed by Burt's Greenhouses in Odessa, Ontario. The film was made by Alec Ross. To view the film please go to <http://www.alecross.ca/Clippings/files/Burts%20Greenhouses.mov>
9. The first ever Canadian Biochar Initiative was held in Montreal in early December. For the full story, go to <http://www.thestar.com/article/548658> Thank you to Alec Ross for mentioning this article.
10. First Solar's system in the Nevada Desert costs \$0.075 per kilowatt hour to install without any subsidies, while the conventional power fed into the grid costs \$0.09 per kilowatt hour. See <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/first-solar-reaches-grid-parity-milestone-says-report-5389.html> for the full story. Thank you to Rob Miller, Axio Power Canada Inc., and SWITCH Board Member for bringing this to our attention.

11. **Clean tech** companies are the focus of the December 2008 edition of *Green Business* magazine. Please visit the following site to read more,
<http://greenbusiness.clbmedia.dgtlpub.com/2008/2008-12-31/home.php>
12. **Event:** TV Ontario's *The Agenda*, with *Steve Paikin* is coming to Kingston January 18-19. The 2 day interactive event will be held at Queen's University. The focus is on Ontario's Agrarian Economy. TVO is looking for participants for the workshop on January 18th and audience members for the broadcast on January 19th at 8:00 pm. For more information, go to <http://www.tvo.org/agendacamp>. Thank you to ELORIN for forwarding this information.
13. **Event Reminder:** ELORIN BioBreakfast, Thursday, January 8th, Donald Gordon Conference Centre, 421 Union St. The deadline for registration is by 5:00 pm today. To register, please [click here](#), or go to <http://www.elorin.ca> for more information.

Hope to see you at the Annual General Meeting!

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