



# SWITCH

*The Sustainable Energy People*

*SWITCH news, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

Greetings Everybody!

Our next open meeting will be **Friday, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 8:00 am**, at Queen's Innovation Park. Speaker will be announced soon.

**If you are interested in sponsoring the refreshments, at a cost of \$30, for an Open Meeting, please contact Executive Director, Ted Hsu, [thsu@switchkingston.ca](mailto:thsu@switchkingston.ca).**

Thanks very much to **Wolfe Island Canadian Cargotechture Solutions Homes Inc. (W.I.C.C.S Homes Inc.)** for sponsoring the refreshments at our last Open meeting. The refreshments for the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Open Meeting will be sponsored by **SWITCH member All-Tech Consulting Group**, specializing in Residential and Commercial Property Inspections, Heritage Home Wood Structural Surveying and Project Management for Buildings.

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

Open Meetings will be held at Innovation Park in the Conference Room attached to the main entrance to Novellis. Attendees of Open Meetings can enter and exit without having to be signed into the facility, but please continue to sign the SWITCH attendance sheet.

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 down and badge you in.

1. A big welcome to new members **Mark Ouseley, Darko Matovic**, and renewing members **Reed MacMillan, Ian Scott, and Rita Byvelds**.
2. At the September 4 SWITCH members' meeting, we increased the size of the Board of Directors from 7 to 9 members. Over the summer we solicited the names of potential Board members and we are pleased to announce the confirmation of John Williamson, a farmer in Inverary, consultant, and chair of various local organizations, and John-Paul Shearer, director of business development, Kingston Economic Development Corporation as our two new Directors.
3. Jeremy Neven of SWITCH member **Tackaberry Heating & Refrigeration Supplies** is the new Sustainable Structures Director of the Kingston Home Builders Association.
4. The Grand Opening and Open House of Kingston's first LEED home, built by CaraCo Development Corporation (with help from SWITCH members **Bardi Vorster** and Jeremy Neven of **Tackaberry Heating & Refrigeration Supplies**), will take place

on the weekend of September 12-13, from 1 to 4 pm, 1165 Crossfield Ave. (in behind Rona). Please tell your friends and visit their website, [http://www.caraco.net/lyndenwood\\_model\\_home.html](http://www.caraco.net/lyndenwood_model_home.html).

5. The 4<sup>th</sup> instalment of the *Renewable Energy Workshops for Homeowners* will be held on September 29-30 and October 5-6, Room #00300, St. Lawrence College. You can register for free at <http://www.switchkingston.ca/workshop>.
6. SWITCH member **The Sisters of Providence**, will be holding a meeting on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, to discuss holding a local day of action just before The International Day of Action on Climate Change on October 24<sup>th</sup>. During an initial meeting, there was strong support for holding a day of action in Kingston prior to the international event as well as sending buses to join the Fill the Hill campaign in Ottawa. The meeting will take place at 3:50 pm, 1200 Princess St., Heathfield. To read more about the international event, please go to <http://www.350.org/>. If you would like more information about the local event, please contact Bridget Doherty, (613) 544-4525 x145, [bridget.doherty@providence.ca](mailto:bridget.doherty@providence.ca). Please RSVP if you plan on attending the meeting.
7. **Public Talk:** SWITCH Executive Director Ted Hsu, will be giving a talk on carbon policy (carbon tax, cap and trade) in plain laymen's terms at the Brockville Public Library on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. The event is sponsored by the Brockville Climate Action Group in partnership with the library. Please read the attached press release.
8. **SWITCH in Lennox & Addington County:** SWITCH will be co-hosting an early morning meeting in Napanee, at the offices of SWITCH member **Lennox & Addington County** on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this meeting is to expand the SWITCH network and benefits to L & A County. The economic development office of L&A County will be inviting attendees from their area to come and meet SWITCH. Several SWITCH Board members are attending, as well as folks from the County Sustainability Group in Prince Edward County We will be organizing car pools from Kingston. *Please consider attending and please let us know if you are.*
9. New SWITCH member **Darko Matovic**, is on the steering committee for the Canadian Biochar Initiative, <http://www.biochar.ca/>.
10. Steve Sottile, of SWITCH member **Utilities Kingston**, would like to make a correction to a statement he made at last week's open meeting. He misspoke when comparing the environmental impact of distribution system peak shaving at the Queen's Co-gen plant to a number of cars taken off the road each year. He said that to achieve similar CO2 savings, one would have to take 14 thousand (14,000) cars off the road – this number should have been 14 *hundred* (1400). Steve apologizes for the mistake, and hopes that it does not diminish the significant impact that the Co-gen facility has made to improving the sustainability of our local energy mix.
11. **Job Postings:** SWITCH member **Hearthmakers Energy Cooperative** is currently seeking a Bookkeeper and a Customer Service Representative. Please go to Hearthmakers web site, <http://www.hearthmakers.org/> to learn more.
12. **Job Posting:** The Department of Public Works and Government Services is looking for a Green Procurement Research Officer (students only). The closing date is September 30<sup>th</sup>. Please go to <https://psjobs-emploisfp.psc-cfp.gc.ca/psrs-srfp/applicant/page1800?toggleLanguage=en&noBackBtn=true&poster=98630&psrsMode=10> for more information. Thank you to former SWITCH Executive Director Gwen Glover for sending this.

13. **Local Event Update:** Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, The Entrepreneurship Centre of SWITCH member **KEDCO**, is hosting a Small Business Forum: *Going Green and Staying Profitable* to kick off Small Business Month. A full day of informational seminars, business to business networking, lunch and a tradeshow. Cameron Heaps, co-founder of the Steam Whistle Brewery, will be delivering the keynote address. The event will take place at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour from 9 am to 5 pm. Admission is free, but registration is required. You can register by going to <http://business.kingstoncanada.com/en/startyourbusiness/businessforum.asp>. Limited exhibitor space for the tradeshow is available. Please contact Tanya Mundell for details [mundell@kingstoncanada.com](mailto:mundell@kingstoncanada.com)
14. The MicroFIT program is rumoured to start mid-October.
15. Five homes from the Prince Edward County Green Homes Tour (part of the 2009 Sustainable Living Symposium), are featured in a video, *Prince Edward County Green Homes*. It was created and filmed by students from Loyalist College in Belleville. To watch the video, please go to [http://www.quintesustainability.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=85&Itemid=62](http://www.quintesustainability.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=85&Itemid=62)
16. ELORIN is hosting a **LEED® for Homes workshop**, with Arborus Consulting, on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Innovation Park. Please visit [http://my.cagbc.org/courses.php?sbget=course,,13,,0,,,6,,,;courses\\_main,,6,,0](http://my.cagbc.org/courses.php?sbget=course,,13,,0,,,6,,,;courses_main,,6,,0) or email [jhamilton@cagbc.ca](mailto:jhamilton@cagbc.ca) for more information and to register. Registration fees are \$325 plus gst (\$225 plus gst for Canada Green Building Council members).  
“LEED® Canada for Homes is a comprehensive, voluntary, market-driven green building rating system for residential construction. It is based on the USGBC’s LEED® for Homes rating system and it evaluates performance on a range of ecological and human health issues from a whole home perspective, providing a definitive benchmark for what constitutes ‘a green home.’”
17. Dr. Helen Caldicott, author of *If You Love This Planet*, will be speaking in Kingston on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for location updates.
18. **Event Reminder:** Healthy Buildings 2009, <http://www.hb2009.org/> September 13-17, Syracuse, NY.
19. **Event:** 1000 Islands Energy Research Forum 2009, October 23-25, Riveredge Resort, Alexandria Bay, NY. Please see the attached for more information. Registration is on a first-come first-serve basis.
20. The Electricity Sector Council is offering a wage subsidy of up to \$10,000 (1/3 of the total salary over a maximum 12 month period) for every new technician, technologist and engineer hired. Please go to the following website to learn more about how you can qualify for the subsidy  
[http://www.brightfutures.ca/projects/electricity\\_first\\_work/2009\\_application\\_documents.html](http://www.brightfutures.ca/projects/electricity_first_work/2009_application_documents.html)
21. **Funding Opportunity:** Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC) is calling for statements of interest for Clean Technology Projects. SDTC supports the late-stage development and pre-commercial demonstration of clean technologies. To learn more about the \$550-million SD Tech Fund™, please visit [http://www.sdtc.ca/en/news/media\\_releases/media\\_0309009.htm](http://www.sdtc.ca/en/news/media_releases/media_0309009.htm). Thank you to Steve Sottile, of SWITCH member **Utilities Kingston** for mentioning this.
22. **Funding Opportunity:** Does your business have a need that could be met by a University researcher and a student? MITACS will find the researcher and student,

match your dollars 1:1, with minimal paperwork on your part. It's not just limited to science and engineering. For more information on the program, contact SWITCH or contact MITACS directly: Alison Lee, [alee@mitacs.ca](mailto:alee@mitacs.ca), 416-650-8439 (bus.) and 647-519-1211 (cell).

23. **Event:** CanWEA 2009, Infinite Possibilities, September 20-23, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto. For more information on Canada's largest renewable energy conference, please visit <http://www.canwea.ca/events/conference2009/en/index.html>.
24. From SWITCH member, **Queen's University:** Would your company like to make use of consulting resources from 4<sup>th</sup> year Queen's University students (Engineering, Law, Commerce, Science, Arts)? Then consider putting together a project for TEAM (Technology, Engineering, And Management) students in the coming year. Coordinators are available to help you put together projects. For more information, visit their website: <http://team.appsci.queensu.ca/index.php> or phone Jason Munn, [jay.munn@gmail.com](mailto:jay.munn@gmail.com), 905.873.6792. **The deadline is September 11<sup>th</sup>. They are especially interested in projects related to sustainable energy.**
25. **"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.
26. You can now make a charitable donation to the **SWITCH Sustainable Energy Future Fund** to help fund certain activities of SWITCH that are classified as charitable work in the environmental area. Full details will appear on the SWITCH and Community Foundation for Kingston and Area (CFKA) website shortly, but you can make a donation today by donating to CFKA and making note of the name of our fund.
27. **Grant Reminder:** Funding is available through the Yves Landry Foundation for grants of up to \$50,000 per project. Funding is targeted towards fostering training that leads to advancements in innovation in the Ontario manufacturing sector. The deadline for submitting a proposal is **September 30, 2009**. Please contact SWITCH if you would like a copy of the Request for Proposal.
28. If you liked the sustainably printed Open Meeting Agenda at our last meeting, please contact SWITCH member **Digigraphics** (Kingston's Most Sustainable Printer) who donated the FSC certified paper and printing to SWITCH and consider using their services.
29. **For any companies that may be interested in Green IT/S** please read the following announcement sent by Jacqueline Corbett: *"Is your company interested in improving your IT environmental sustainability but not sure how to get started? As part of a multi-disciplinary SSHRC-funded research project, Queen's engineering students, under the direction of SWITCH member, Dr. Joshua Pearce, will be performing information systems and technology energy audits for interested organizations. At the conclusion of the audit, organizations will receive a list of green IT and IS initiatives ranked according to the potential to reduce the ecological impact. Additionally, a cost-benefit analysis of the recommendations will also be prepared by Queen's managerial economics students, under the direction of SWITCH members, Dr. Jane Webster and Dr. Tracy Jenkin, enabling the organization to see*

- not only the environmental, but also the financial benefits of changes."* For more information, please contact Jacqueline Corbett: [JCorbett@business.queensu.ca](mailto:JCorbett@business.queensu.ca).
30. SWITCH Board member **Ian Rowberry**, is offering "Sustainability 101", a small group workshop that introduces participants to the basic fundamental scientific principles that underpin the [Natural Step](#)'s framework for sustainability. The aim of these facilitated discussions - replete with take-away resources and further learning suggestions - is to develop a common understanding of what "big picture" sustainability means and enable participants to start thinking about their own situations with regard to sustainability principles. It may also help participants to engage more confidently in Focus Kingston's upcoming sustainability summit and the City's vision to become [Canada's Most Sustainable City](#). The workshops/discussions are offered free of charge, are open to any all kinds of groups (families, colleagues, social circles, residents associations, union locals, etc.), and are funded by the Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Maximum group size is five people, and this initial series is limited to 20 groups. Please contact Ian at [ianrowberry@gmail.com](mailto:ianrowberry@gmail.com) for more information.
31. **SWITCH Membership Benefit: Wintergreen Studios** is a new off-grid education and retreat centre located in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, less than an hour's drive from Kingston. The lodge is solar-powered and features straw bale and green roof construction. **Meeting and retreat facilities, as well as one-day and two-day workshops, are offered at a 10% discount to SWITCH members.** Please advise them you are a SWITCH member when registering in order to receive the discount. To see a full listing of all one day workshops please go to <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/2Day.php>. Information on 2 day workshops can be found by going to <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/5Day.php>. To watch a slide show about Wintergreen on YouTube please go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAwzuRWWJjg>

## Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the next Open Meeting,

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrative Assistant  
SWITCH

at Innovation Park, 945 Princess Street,  
Kingston, ON K7L 3N6  
613-547-6700 x 129  
[info@switchkingston.ca](mailto: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!