



# SWITCH

*The Sustainable Energy People*

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

Greetings Everybody!

Our next Open Meeting will include the Annual General Meeting on **Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 am**, at Queen's Innovation Park. We are currently accepting nominations for those interested in serving as a Director for next year (on a Board of 9 members), and from anyone interested in acting as a Student Director for 2010. Please send nominations to SWITCH, [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca).

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](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca). The refreshments for the January Open Meeting and AGM will be sponsored by **The Kiwanis Club**. February will be sponsored by Nedco, a Division of Rexel Canada Electrical Inc., with a featured cheese donation from Fifth Town Artisan Cheese. March will be sponsored by John Marriott, OSIssoft Canada ULC.

*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

## ***SWITCH News & Announcements***

1. A big welcome to new members **Eco Alternative Energy (Sharbot Lake), Ontario PV Power, Christine Morris Blair, Michael Pathak, NCP Machining, and Andy Mills.**
2. SWITCH is offering a series of business presentations on *How your rooftop can make you money: The new Green Energy Act and your business*. Launched on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, the new Green Energy Act will enable Ontario businesses to unlock their rooftop asset and earn revenue by generating solar energy and feeding it back into the grid. There are also incentives for your business to become part of the quickly growing

renewable energy market by diversifying your products or processes. **Please read the attached for more detailed information.** There are trade show booth opportunities for SWITCH members. **Please feel free to distribute this information to anyone you know who may be interested in attending.** Events this week will be held on the following dates:

Dec. 10 – Brockville Country Club, 1548 Hwy 2, Brockville, Ontario  
Registration 8 am, Presentation 8:30 to 9:30 am, Networking after presentation

Dec. 10 – Verona Lions Hall, 4465 Sands Hall Rd., Verona, Ontario, 7 to 8:30 pm.

Please contact SWITCH Outreach and Event Coordinator Andy Mills for more information, [amills@switchontario.ca](mailto:amills@switchontario.ca), (613) 547-6700 x130.

3. SWITCH will be co-hosting a December 'Technology Partners Mix and Mingle – Come Play by the Lake' with KTC, KEDCO, Parteq Innovations, Innovation Park, and ELORIN on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at the Harbour Restaurant, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. It's a great chance to meet everybody in the innovation and technology sector. **The event is free, R.S.V.P. if you are interested in attending.**
4. SWITCH registered its 100<sup>th</sup> member last week!
5. SWITCH Executive Director Ted Hsu will be speaking at the Canadian Club on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, about "Cap and Trade for Greenhouse Gases: what is it, why does it matter; benefits to Kingston." The meeting will be held at Minos Uptown Village Restaurant, 2762 Princess St., starting at 11:30 am. The cost is \$24 for members of the Canadian Club and \$29 for non-members. Reservation is required, please call Minos Restaurant, (613) 384-2021 if you would like to attend.
6. Website feature: <http://www.switchkingston.ca/microfit.php>
7. SWITCH staff members Mark Gibson, Andy Mills and Pierre Nadeau are working to provide value added services to small and medium enterprises who are either in the supply chain or consumers of sustainable energy products and services over the next four months. If you know of an SME that we might not have thought of, please contact us.
8. **"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***

#### **The ELORIN corner:**

1. **Biobreakfast**, January 14<sup>th</sup>, SWITCH member **Julie Scarcella**, The "Six Ps" of Sustainable Building, Donald Gordon Conference Centre, 421 Union St., 7:15 to 9:00 am. The Ontario Green Building Centre is the place where building professionals, owners, government representatives and members of the general public can come and learn about the "six Ps" of sustainable building: products, practices, projects, policies, performance and service providers. The cost is \$30, and \$15 for full-time students. Registration (and cancellation) deadline is January 12<sup>th</sup> by 5 pm,

[http://elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.eventDetail&event\\_id=158](http://elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.eventDetail&event_id=158). The January ELORIN Biobreakfast will sponsored by SWITCH member **TAB Mechanical**.

2. SWITCH member **Axio Power** applied for (14) 10 MW solar PV applications during the launch period of the Ontario FIT program.
3. Silent candle light vigil for a real deal, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm, Market Square. For more information, contact SWITCH member **Betty-Anne Howard**, [bettyanne@ipgkingston.net](mailto:bettyanne@ipgkingston.net), or [bettyannehoward@hotmail.com](mailto:bettyannehoward@hotmail.com), (613)548-3031. To register your attendance, go to <http://www.avaaz.org/en/>. Please bring your own candle.
4. Please go to the following link to see photographs of the Grand Opening of SWITCH member, **Kingston Sustainability Centre**  
<http://picasaweb.google.com/kjksphotos/GrandOpening?authkey=Gv1sRqCPD-NmV17DB3gE&feat=directlink>.
5. SWITCH member Michael Tiffe, **TAB Mechanical**, sent the following link for a Proposed Green Renovation By-law from the City of Vancouver  
<http://vancouver.ca/sustainability/greenrenovationbylaw.htm>.
6. SWITCH member **Anton Driesse** gave a brief presentation on behalf of Sustainable Energy Technologies (SET) at a recent SWITCH meeting. Anton reported that SET will start manufacturing their 5kW inverters in Ontario soon, and they are looking for sites to carry out technology comparisons. The sites should be large enough to accommodate 2 or 3 systems of 5kW, side-by-side, with minimal shading (approx. 500-1000 sq m). Some low, flat, commercial roof space is needed, as well as open space for ground mounting. The systems could be owned either by SET or the host. Interested parties can contact Anton, [anton.driesse@kos.net](mailto:anton.driesse@kos.net), (613) 546-3676 or Brent Harris of SET, [brent.harris@sustainableenergy.com](mailto:brent.harris@sustainableenergy.com).

### ***Local non-member News & Announcements***

1. The official website for Sustainable Kingston (an ICSP from FOCUS Kingston), can be viewed by going to <http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/>. Comments on the plan are easy to make by clicking on the blue circular icons found throughout the website.
2. Ontario Biogas Systems Operator's Course, Belleville, Ontario, January 26-29<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The course will teach operating parameters, testing methods, biogas system safety, and monitoring procedures to optimize performance. For more information, please call 1-866-242-4460 or visit <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/biogas/course.htm> for more information.
3. The following links provide information on the proposed changes to the Ontario Building Code, expected to take effect in late 2011,  
<http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca/Page3117.aspx> and  
<http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=1135>. You are encouraged to comment. If there's interest, SWITCH can make a joint submission from its members.
4. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Sustainable Living Symposium will take place on March 20<sup>th</sup> at Loyalist College from 8:30 am to 5 pm. The event will be followed by a Green Homes Tour on March 21<sup>st</sup>. They are currently accepting exhibitor applications. Please go to [http://www.quintesustainability.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=53](http://www.quintesustainability.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=53) for more information and to register.
5. Wintergreen Studios, <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/index.php>, an off-grid education and retreat centre located in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, offers

meeting and retreat facilities, as well as one and two-day workshops at a 10% discount to SWITCH members. Please advise them you are a SWITCH member when registering in order to receive the discount.

**6. New Grant program:** The Community Energy Partnerships Program, <http://news.ontario.ca/mei/en/2009/09/ontario-supports-local-investments-in-green-energy.html> is offering one time financial assistance of up to \$200,000 for project planning, environmental and engineering studies. The program is open to community groups, including cooperatives, non-profit groups and local partnerships. Projects are eligible to receive a graduated incentive, based on the percentage of local ownership, of up to 1 cent/kilowatt hour in addition to standard feed-in-tariff rates.

### ***Non-local News & Announcements***

1. To keep up to date on the climate negotiations in Copenhagen, please go to <http://en.cop15.dk/>.
2. The Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation (NUUC) in Vaughn, Ontario, is raising \$110,000 to install a 20 kW PV array on the church rooftop that will feed electricity into Toronto's power grid. The public can invest in the solar system by purchasing debentures in increments of \$1000, with 5% annual interest for 20 years. For more information, please visit the NUUC website, <http://www.nuuc.ca/solarpanels.htm>, or contact Rick Salay, Chair of NUUC's Greening Committee, [rsalay@sympatico.ca](mailto:rsalay@sympatico.ca).
3. GreenStar Network, an alliance of Canadian IT companies, universities and international partners, has received \$2 million from CANARIE (Canada's Advanced Research & Innovation Network), to develop the world's first internet network powered by solar and wind energy (the network nodes). Please go to <http://www.green-business.ca/IT/News/canadas-advanced-research-network-announces-funding-for-the-worlds-first-wind-and-solar-powered-internet-network.html> to read more.
4. To read an article about the progress of renewable energy worldwide, please go to this site, <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/5-businesses-that-will-save-the-world/article1375975/>.
5. The Yves Landry Foundation, through the AIME Initiative (Achieving Innovation & Manufacturing Excellence) is currently accepting applications for funding. Please visit their website, [http://www.yveslandryfoundation.com/article/125/aime\\_initiative\\_feddev.html](http://www.yveslandryfoundation.com/article/125/aime_initiative_feddev.html) for more information. The Yves Landry Foundation will fund up to 75% of a project's total direct and indirect eligible costs, up to a maximum of \$50,000.
6. **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).

# Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the next SWITCH 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!

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.