



Greetings Everybody!

**Reserve the Date:** Our next open meeting will be on **Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:00 am**, in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be Tom Hewitt, Solar PV design engineer for Enfinity Canada. Enfinity is a solar energy developer, headquartered in Belgium, with a Canadian office in Ottawa.

Starting on March 16<sup>th</sup>, all visitors to SWITCH must use the main entrance to Novellis. The new sign-in procedure will be developed shortly. Stay tuned for updates.

1. A big welcome to new member John Johnson, **Trailhead Initiatives**, and new trial member **Fred Zettler**. Fred is currently seeking employment within the renewable energy industry and has posted an advertisement on the *Classifieds Page* of the SWITCH website.
2. Last Friday's Open Meeting set a near attendance record of 58 (59 is the highest so far).
3. Congratulations to SWITCH members **Al Gibson, Ben Kenney, Bardi Vorster, Joshua Pearce, Pierre Nadeau**, Karina McInnis and Ed Thomas (**Queens University**) and all the volunteers who worked so hard to put together *The Renewable Energy "How To" Workshop Series for Homeowners*. The workshops were featured in the "Project Energy" supplement in *The Kingston Whig Standard* on February 28<sup>th</sup>. To read Kingston City Councillor Dorothy Hector's keynote address please go to <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1463322>.
4. Congratulations to **Fifth Town Artisan Cheese Company** for the article on cheese making in the February edition of *enRoute* magazine. To read the full story, please see the attached.
5. **GreenUP! 2009** is scheduled for Sunday, April 19th, at the K-Rock Center (KRC). **Exhibitors can now sign up**. The cost is \$10 for non-profits, \$100 for small businesses, and \$200 for large businesses. **SWITCH members will receive a 10% discount. We encourage SWITCH members to be exhibitors at this event: you'll get to talk to a lot of green minded people.** The organizers are looking for help with fundraising, communications, site logistics, programming/workshops, entertainment, food and more. There are big plans for the event this year; a partnership has formed with the City of Kingston and the Whig Standard, with the intent of increasing our exhibitor turnout and encouraging involvement with the city's sustainability initiatives. Please check out the GreenUP! website, at [www.greenupfestival.ca](http://www.greenupfestival.ca), for more information. **There will be a volunteer meeting on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Community Foundation of Greater Kingston** (165 Ontario St.). Kudos to SWITCH members **Louise Cooper and Caitlin Newey** for leading the organization of this annual event.
6. Performance Plants has received funding to improve the technology used to convert cellulose into biofuels and biochemicals. To read more please go to <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1467353>.
7. The 1000 Islands Region Workforce Development Board has prepared a Workforce Focus document on renewable energy in the Kingston – 1000 Islands Region. Please read the attached to learn more. Thank you to Steve Sottile, Utilities Kingston, for mentioning this article.
8. **Job Board:** The Environmental Careers Organization (ECO Canada) has a large environmental job board. Please go to [http://www.eco.ca/Portal/jobSeeker\\_viewJobs.aspx?utm\\_source=ViewJB\\_en&utm\\_medium=N](http://www.eco.ca/Portal/jobSeeker_viewJobs.aspx?utm_source=ViewJB_en&utm_medium=N)

[ewsletter&utm\\_campaign=JIB](#) to have a look. Thank you again to Steve Sottile, Utilities Kingston for sending this information.

9. SWITCH has a complimentary copy of the first edition of the Global Carbon Quarterly, a quarterly review of carbon market developments produced by New Carbon Finance, available to anyone who may be interested in reading it.
10. **Event Reminder:** Nuclear Lies, Green Truths - An evening on Climate Solutions, March 16th, 7:00 pm, the Wilson Room, Kingston Frontenac Public Library, 130 Johnson St., Bruce Cox, the Executive Director of Greenpeace Canada will be speaking. Climate change solutions will be the focus of the evening, and the conflict that nuclear energy presents. Admission is free. For more information please go to <http://www.renewableisdoable.com/>
11. **Event:** Ottawa Cleantech Initiative breakfast meeting, How Green is Green? Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, The Sheraton Ottawa, Rideau Room, 150 Albert St., 8:30 to 11:30 am. For more information and to register please go to [http://www.ottawacleantech.com/news/news\\_328.php](http://www.ottawacleantech.com/news/news_328.php).
12. **Event Reminder:** Kingston Technology Council's Innovation 2009 will take place on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn. Please go to their website for more information: <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/publisher/articleview/frmArticleID/65/>
13. **Display Opportunity:** SWITCH will be exhibiting at the Quinte Conservation Sustainable Living Symposium on Saturday March 28th in Belleville. **If SWITCH members would like the SWITCH staff to take some of your product and services to display at the SWITCH booth, please let us know.** The event is usually quite well attended. For more information see <http://www.quintesustainability.ca/>
14. **Event:** The Green Dream – 2030 Challenge and Beyond (the Association of Architectural Technologists of Ontario). April 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:45 am to 6:00 pm, the Old Mill Inn, Toronto. For more information and to register, please go to <http://aato.on.ca/events/green-dream-2009.html>. Thank you to Michael Tiffe for sending this.

Hope to see you at our next Open Meeting!

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrative Assistant

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Please consider becoming a member or a sponsor of SWITCH.

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