



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, November 10th, 2009

Greetings Everybody!

Our next open meeting will be **Friday, December 4th, at 8:00 am**, at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be SWITCH member and Certified Financial Planner, **Betty-Anne Howard**. Betty-Anne will be talking about the Global, National and Provincial landscape as it pertains to SRI's and the relevance to SWITCH members and the Energy Sector. *Socially Responsible/Sustainable Investing (SRI's): Making the links between how we live our lives, spend our money and invest our money.* She has asked everyone to please go to the following link to complete her questionnaire which will help her focus on the most salient points for her presentation, http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=f55Z4XZtSzJhA6aoWX5UA_3d_3d

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 December 4th Open Meeting will be sponsored by **Betty-Anne Howard**. The refreshments for the January meeting and AGM on January 8th, will be sponsored by The Kiwanis Club. *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 and badge you in.

SWITCH News & Announcements

- 1.** A big welcome to new member **Daltco Electric**, and thank you to renewing member **Amelia Colebourne**.
- 2.** 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 16th. 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.**
- 3.** SWITCH's Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday, January 8th at 8 am. We are

currently accepting nominations for those interested in serving as a Director for the 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.

4. SWITCH summer student, Alexander Mataseje, is looking for ideas for an engineering design project for an Advanced Physics Laboratory class. Working in small groups, the students are expected to design and build an experiment or device on a budget of approximately \$500.00. Please contact Alexander, 5am109@queensu.ca if you are a business and are seeking a design for any renewable energy related equipment. The students are looking for real-world tasks and problems they may be able to help solve.
5. SWITCH staff members Mark Gibson, Andy Mills and Pierre Nadeau will be 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 five months. If you know of an SME that we might not have thought of, please contact us.
6. **"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. SWITCH member Michael Tiffe, **TAB Mechanical**, will be attending a Green Rater Workshop as part of GreenBuild in Phoenix, AZ, <http://www.greenbuildexpo.org/Home.aspx>. The Green Building Certification Institute, will require certification of Green Raters for the LEED for Homes program by January 2011. Michael will also be speaking about "Greening on the Community's Building Stock", at the Kawartha Pine Ridge School Board on November 20th, and on the 24th, Michael will be speaking about "Solar and the Homeowner" at the Quinte Conservation AGM. **On the 3rd Tuesday of every month, Michael Tiffe, teaches a course on "Greening Your Home"** (more details to follow soon).
2. SWITCH member **Lennox & Addington County** will be hosting the 2009 L&A Economic Development Awards on November 26th, 6 pm at the Strathcona Paper Centre in Napanee. Tickets are \$40 each and can be reserved by contacting Rob Plumley, 613-354-4883 ext. 271, rplumley@lennox-addington.on.ca. To obtain an order form, please go to this site, <http://www.lennoxandaddington.com/2009Awards.pdf>.
3. You can view EMU (Energy Management Unit) data on the Brockville test site of SWITCH member, **Upper Canada Solar Generation**, by going to their website, <http://www.ucsg.ca/index-3.html>.
4. SWITCH member the **Kingston Sustainability Centre**, will be holding a Grand Opening on November 20th from 1 to 3 pm. There will be a day-long open house with activities and events on the 21st from 10 am to 6 pm. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at 1:30 pm on Friday the 20th. If you plan on attending, please R.S.V.P. to danieljameshendry@gmail.com or call (613) 544-6660. The KSC, located at 193 Princess St., offers a platform for Kingston's youth, businesses, educational institutions, government, and not-for-profits to collaborate on delivering sustainable living programs that support the vision to become Canada's Most Sustainable City. Become a partner, be a volunteer, drop in and learn. Use the community classroom and share your passions, knowledge, ideas and solutions to inspire all Kingstonian's. The KSC is open to the public Monday to Saturday from 11am-6pm. To learn more contact Dan Hendry, danieljameshendry@gmail.com, or Randy Cluff, randycluff@msn.com, or call (613) 544-6660.
5. SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College** will be holding a **RETScreen® Introductory**

Workshop on November 20th from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm in room #12050. RETScreen® Clean Energy Project Analysis Software can assess energy technology options and "...simultaneously analyze greenhouse gas impact, project financing and risk." The cost for the workshop is \$240 plus gst and \$100 plus gst for students. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please call (613) 544-5400 x3528 or email dlinton@sl.on.ca. More details can be found in the attached pdf file.

6. ELORIN Breakfast series, November 12th, Donald Gordon Conference Centre, 421 Union Street, 7:15 to 9:00 am. The speaker will be Kevin Jones, President and CEO of OCETA, the Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement.

7. SWITCH member ELORIN, will be co-hosting the Research to Receptor Series 2009, *Agricultural Solutions for Energy: Biomass*, on November 17th at the Donald Gordon Centre, 421 Union Street, from 11:30 am to 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$35 and include lunch and a wine and cheese reception at the end of the event. Please visit <http://www.elorin.ca> to find out more and to register.

8. SWITCH member Joshua Pearce sent the following solar PV FAQ wiki for Kingston [http://www.appropedia.org/Solar Photovoltaic Cells for the Kingston Home FAQ](http://www.appropedia.org/Solar_Photovoltaic_Cells_for_the_Kingston_Home_FAQ) Joshua noted that SWITCH members should feel free to use it as a resource and to edit the page (add any missed items, references, or correct any mistakes). You can edit the text by clicking on any of the edit links on the page. **If you would like to start or add content to an appropedia section for other areas of sustainable energy information specific to Kingston, please let us know.**

9. SWITCH member St. Lawrence College's Energy Systems Engineering Technician Technologists students are seeking renewable energy design projects in the Kingston area. They will work with their clients to develop a feasibility level investigation of the design required and the project economics for small wind, solar thermal, solar electric, hydro or biomass projects. Please contact Steve Lapp (slapp@sl.on.ca) for further information.

Local non-member News & Announcements

- 1.** Gerretsen Properties, currently in the process of adding rooftop solar panels to some of their properties, has posted online EMU data on their website. Please go to http://www.gerretsenproperties.com/gp_solar.php and click on the Helen St. icon to have a look.
- 2.** 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.
- 3. Event:** Kingston Technology Council luncheon, November 20th, The Harbour Restaurant, 11:30 am start. The speaker will be Ziad Risk, Bombardier Transportation Engineering, "Bombardier Transportation's Sustainable Solutions – The Kingston Connection". Please go to <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/> for more information, and to register.
- 4.** Ledgecroft Farms will be holding an Open House on Saturday, November 21st, to celebrate the completion of the Green Energy Farm Digester/Biogas System. Ledgecroft Farms is located at 354 Back Street, north of Seeley's Bay. The Open House will take place from 12 to 4 pm.
- 5.** The 5th Annual Sustainable Living Symposium will take place on March 20th at Loyalist College from 8:30 am to 5 pm. The event will be followed by a Green Homes Tour on March 21st. They are currently accepting exhibitor applications. Please go to http://www.quintesustainability.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=53 for more information and to register.
- 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.

- 7. 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 listing of workshops for 2009/2010, including "Living Off the Grid" and "Cordwood Building", please visit <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/SustainableBuildingandMindfulLiving.php>.

Non-local News & Announcements

1. CMHC National Housing Day takes place on November 24th, <http://www.cagbc.org/chapters/ottawa/events/index/events377/2009-11.php>.
2. The UN has declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity, <http://www.cbd.int/2010/>.
 "...[A]n opportunity for all the world to recognise the importance of biodiversity for all life on Earth, to reflect on our achievements ... and focus on the urgency of our challenge for the future. Now is the time to act."
3. The Eastern Ontario CFDC Network Inc announced they are accepting Regional Project applications from not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, municipal organizations, and Aboriginal organizations, for the Eastern Ontario Development Program (EODP). The deadline is November 20th, 2009. Please go to <http://www.ecofdc.ca> or call EO Networks Inc. (905) 37208315 x 243 for more information. The objective of EODP Regional Projects is to support regionally-based initiatives which stimulate business and community development opportunities, by promoting socio-economic development within Eastern Ontario.
4. Rooftop solar panels purchased before October 1st, will now qualify for the FIT and microFIT program, **as long as owners can provide proof of purchase by November 30th**. Projects 500 kilowatts in size or less will be transitioned into the feed-in-tariff program. To read more please go to <http://www.thestar.com/comment/article/713945>.
5. **Event:** 1st Annual OSEA Community Power Conference, November 15-16, Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Please go to this site <http://www.cpconference.ca/> for more details.
6. The Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) is currently accepting applications under the Southern Ontario Development Program (SODP) for "...projects that will stimulate local economies and enhance the growth and competitiveness of Southern Ontario businesses and communities." Applications will be accepted from October 2nd through to December 1st, 2009. Preference will be given to projects that can be started quickly and completed by March 31st, 2010. Please go to <http://southernontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/00128.html> for more information on how to apply.
7. **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, 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,

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<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.