



SWITCH news
May 12th 2009

Greetings Everybody!

Reserve the Date: Our next open meeting will be **Friday, June 5th, at 8:00 am**, in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be announced shortly.

New sign-in procedure:

All attendees of SWITCH Open Meetings can continue to enter through the West side doors (the entrance used previously) from 7:30 to 9:00 am. There will be a Sign-In and Sign-Out sheet available at the top of the stairs. Please remember to sign this sheet as you enter and exit.

All visitors to SWITCH must now enter through the main entrance to Novellis (the front doors) and call the SWITCH office (dial 9+613-547-6700 x129). There is an office phone book available if you need it. We will come down and badge you in.

1. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held last Friday by SWITCH member **Upper Canada Solar Generation** at their new 10 kW solar PV installation on 2437 Princess Street in Kingston. Environment Minister, the Hon. John Gerretsen was there to throw the switch. You can watch the broadcast by going to <http://www.ckwstv.com/index.cfm?page=news&id=628>. Congratulations to the owner of the building and solar panels, Peter Splinter Family Holdings.
2. SWITCH will be running the 3rd instalment of the **Renewable Energy Workshops for Homeowners** on June 3, 4, 8 and 9 from 6pm-8:30pm at St Lawrence College. If you missed the first two workshops or have friends that might be interested, you can register for free at <http://www.switchkingston.ca/workshop>. Please help us spread the word about this opportunity.
3. **SWITCH is hiring** a summer student with funding support from the Canada Summer Jobs 2009 program. Please see the attached announcement and pass this ad on to any interested students.
4. **Business Opportunity:** Dr. Jordan Morelli and Austin Jackson of SWITCH member **Queen's University**, are looking for \$1000 from a business partner to fund the construction of a prototype solar power water purifier. For more details, please see the attached file.
5. As approved by the members of SWITCH, the SWITCH Board of Directors will be increasing in size from 7 to 9 members. If you have any suggestions for new Board members or are interested yourself, please contact info@switchkingston.ca.
6. You can now make a charitable donation to fund certain activities of SWITCH that are classified as charitable work in the environmental area. SWITCH has set up a charitable partnership with the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area (CFKA). Details on how to donate will appear soon on the SWITCH and CFKA websites. A committee has been set up to oversee the fund-raising activities of the partnership. The members of the committee are, Andria Coward of the

Community Foundation, Adegboyega Babasola, **AEPAY Global Energy**, **Theresa MacBeth** and **Stephen Sottile** of the Board Directors of SWITCH, and **Ted Hsu**, executive director of SWITCH.

7. Canadian Hydro Developers Inc., have completed their Post Construction Follow-up Plan for Bird and Bat Resources for the Wolfe Island Wind Project. The Final Plan is available for viewing on the Project website, http://www.canhydro.com/index.php/EN/Operations/Wolfe_Island.html. Copies are also available at the public library, and the Township of Frontenac Islands office on Wolfe Island. The plan will be implemented once the turbines are operational. **The target date is the end of June.**
8. **Funding Opportunity:** Funding is available through the Eastern Ontario Development Program (EODP) to support economic development projects that will benefit communities and businesses in Eastern Ontario. For more information, please visit their website, <http://www.eodp.ca/>. The EODP will be delivered by 15 Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC) in rural Ontario. The Frontenac CFDC will be hosting information sessions about the program in general, and in particular, about the potential opportunities it creates for Frontenac County businesses, not-for-profits, and municipalities. The sessions will be held on the following dates and times:
 - May 14 – 9:00 am to 9:30 am, Sydenham Town Hall
 - May 19 – 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm, Wolfe Island Business and Tourism Meeting, United Church Hall
 - May 21 – 8:00 am, Business Over Breakfast, Maples Restaurant, Sharbot Lake
 - June 9 – 6:00 pm, Business Advancement Group meeting, Bishops Lake
9. **Contest Reminder:** SWITCH member **John Johnson** and Mary Anne Higgs have donated "The Power Cost Monitor" by Canadian company Blueline Innovations. It hooks onto your external electricity meter and connects to an indoor monitor by radio so that you can have real time feedback on your home electricity consumption. SWITCH will be giving away "The Power Cost Monitor" (It's like new and these things usually cost about \$100 or more) to whoever submits the best proposal for using it. Please write one paragraph and send it along with your contact information to info@switchkingston.ca. **Contest ends May 31. Please pass this on to anybody you think might be interested - especially anybody with connections to local schools. Send in your proposal today!**
10. 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 for more information.
11. SWITCH member **KEDCO** will be moving to Innovation Park at the end of July.
12. **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>. **Ian Kilborn from SWITCH member Quantum Renewable Energy will be teaching a Living Off the Grid course on July 16th**. To watch a slide show about Wintergreen on YouTube please go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAwzuRWWJjg>.

13. **Event Reminder and update:** The 2nd Annual Biomass Conference, May 31 and June 1, Ban Righ Hall, Queen's University *Energy from Biomass in Ontario: Getting Beyond the Promise*. Hosted by SWITCH member, **QIEEP** and the Sustainable Bioeconomy Centre (SBC). For more information please go to www.queensu.ca/qieep or contact Lisa Doulas: 613-539-2482 ldoulas@cogeco.ca or Tom Carpenter: 613-533-6000 Ext. 74710 tom.carpenter@queensu.ca. **The Honourable Donna Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources will be speaking.**
14. To register an event, or make a pledge to reduce your energy consumption please go to the Energy Conservation Week website <http://www.energyconservationweek.ca/> and register for *Count me in!* Energy Conservation week is May 17-23
15. EDF EN Canada will be holding a Community Open House to review project plans for the Arnprior Solar Project on May 13th from 4 to 8 pm, and on May 14th from 1 to 5 pm. The Open House will be held at Arnprior Quality Inn, 70 Madawaska Blvd. (1-877-700-5637). EDF EN is part of Electricité de France, the French national electricity company.
16. **Event:** Sustainable Living Night: Finding Solutions Together, May 21st, 7:00 pm, St. Philip's Anglican Church Hall, Milford. Presenters: Don Ross, *Lessening Our Ecological Footprints*; Tyler Blower, *Geothermal Heating and Cooling*; Don Hudson, *Solar Hot Water and Photovoltaics*. Refreshments will be served. Presented by the County Sustainability Group and St. Philip's Anglican Church.
17. **Business Development:** Ontario Renewable Energies Partnering Mission to the European Union, June 11-16. See the attached document for details. Please contact Victor Miranda, victor.miranda@ontario.ca, 416-314-8231, for an application or for more information.
18. **Event:** 3rd Annual Agrienergy Workshop: The Continuing Development of Ontario's Biogas Industry, May 22nd, Four Points Sheraton, Kingston. For more information please go to http://www.elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.eventDetail&event_id=142 or contact Julia Bryan, bryan@elorin.ca, 613-533-3300 x3. Registration open until May 20th.
19. **Event:** Cleantech Angel Network Investment Breakfast, May 27th, 7:30 to 10:30 am, Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP, 1600-1 First Canadian Place, Toronto. **The event is open to accredited investors and approved partners only.** Please reserve your space in the Main Boardroom by going to <http://cleantechangelnetwork.eventbrite.com/>
20. **Event:** COGENCanadas 3rd Annual Conference, June 2-4, Hilton Garden Inn, Ottawa. Please visit <http://www.cogencanada.org/Conference2009.htm> for more information.
21. **Call for Volunteers:** If you would like to chair a SWITCH Open Meeting, please get in touch.

Hope to see you at the next Open Meeting,

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