



SWITCH news  
April 14th  
Non-Members Edition

Greetings Everybody!

**Reserve the Date:** Our next open meeting will be **Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 8:00 am**, in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be Kent Novakowsky, acting head of Civil Engineering at Queen's University. Kent is an expert in groundwater flow in fractured rock which is very relevant to geothermal heating and cooling systems.

*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. The second running of *The Renewable Energy "How To" Workshop Series for Homeowners* put together by SWITCH members **Al Gibson, Ben Kenney, Bardi Vorster, Joshua Pearce, Pierre Nadeau**, Karina McInnis and Ed Thomas (**Queen's University**) starts this week (April 16, 20, 21, 22). Mark Gerretsen will be the keynote speaker for the Introductory Session on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The Introductory Session will run from 6:00 to 9:00 pm (networking time available from 6:00 to 6:30 pm). Workshops will be held in Room #01000. More information is available on the SWITCH website <http://www.switchkingston.ca/workshop/>. The summer session is scheduled for June 3, 4, 8 and 9 and the fall session will be on September 29, 30 and October 5, 6.
2. **GreenUP! 2009** will be held this Sunday, April 19th, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm at the K-Rock Center (KRC). **Tell all your friends and neighbours! Help advertise this local event.** Exhibitor space is now full, but they are taking names for next year. Please contact [greenup.planning@gmail.com](mailto:greenup.planning@gmail.com) for more details. The cost for this year's event was \$10 for non-profits, \$100 for small businesses, and \$200 for large companies. The organizers are looking for volunteers to help with tours explaining the LEED characteristics of the K-Rock Centre. They are also looking for help with fundraising, communications, site logistics, programming/workshops, entertainment, food and more. **The last volunteer meeting will be held this Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, at the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area, 165 Ontario St.** Please check out the GreenUP! website, at [www.greenupfestival.ca](http://www.greenupfestival.ca), for more information. Kudos to SWITCH members **Louise Cooper and Caitlin Newey** for leading the organization of this annual event.
3. SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College** will be holding an additional **CanSIA Solar Hot Water System Installer Workshop on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>**. Information and a printable registration form

can be found on the SWITCH website home page under *Announcements*. To learn more about the course please go to <http://www.cansia.ca/Default.aspx?pageld=143389>.

4. Congratulations to SWITCH member **Quantum Renewable Energy**, for the installation of a solar hot water heating system at Surf's Up!, a local laundromat. To read more please go to <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1521920>
5. **Employment Opportunity:** An Eastern Ontario company, is looking for an Electronics Engineering Technician/Technologist: General responsibilities include lay out, build, test, troubleshoot, repair, and modify developmental and production electronic components, parts, equipment, and systems, such as computer based equipment, control instrumentation, test equipment, and numerical controls, applying principles and theories of electronics, electrical circuitry, engineering mathematics, electronic and electrical testing, and physics. Usually works under direction of engineering staff. Many opportunities to travel to customer sites worldwide to oversee the installation of the finished photovoltaic test and measurement systems, and to perform technical support services, both remotely via computer network and on site. Please contact SWITCH if you are interested in applying.
6. Congratulations to SWITCH trial member **Jane Webster** for receiving a strategic SSHRC research grant. The proposed multi-disciplinary research project, entitled *Implementing Environmental Responsibility in Organizations through Information Technologies and Systems*, focuses on increasing responsibility within organizations through the use of 'Green IT', or IT/S initiatives to address environmental sustainability. SWITCH member **Joshua Pearce** is a co-applicant on the project.
7. Congratulations to SWITCH member **Fifth Town Artisan Cheese Co.** for winning the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence. Fifth Town's use of green technologies help to reduce their energy consumption by 60 per cent. To learn more, please go to <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/infores/releases/2009/040609.htm> and click on the cheese.
8. SWITCH member **Joshua Pearce** and SWITCH President Don Young will be speaking about *Alternative Energy Opportunities for Kingston* at the first Kiwanis Community Lecture Series on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 pm. The theme of the series is Kingston: Present, Future and Past. Admission is free. The lectures will be held in Room B201 in Macintosh-Corry Hall from 7 to 9 pm. Refreshments will be served between lectures.
9. **Event:** NEDCO, a division of SWITCH member **REXEL**, will be hosting an Eastern District Trade Show featuring over 30 electrical, industrial, communications and security manufacturers on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 8 pm at The Ambassador Conference Resort, 1550 Princess Street. Please see the attached brochure. Please RSVP by April 27<sup>th</sup> by contacting Sandy Hull, 613-546-2661 (tel.), 613-544-8935 (fax).
10. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Eastern Ontario Sustainable Building Centre (EOSBC) developed by SWITCH member Michael Tiffe, **TAB Mechanical** is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm. The Centre, located at 67 Plant Street in Batawa, will be open to the public on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. The EOSBC will offer seminars and workshops. It will serve as the home base for [www.greenmechanicaleducation.com](http://www.greenmechanicaleducation.com), which provides web-based sustainable construction information.
11. SWITCH member **Axio Power** is making a presentation today in Norfolk County, the City of Nanticoke, regarding a solar farm development.
12. **Earth Day** will take place on Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. To read more about the different events taking place across the country, please go to the Earth Day website <http://www.earthday.ca/pub/index.php>.

13. To read an article about the CanBio conference hosted by Queen's at the end of March please go to <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1519266>. SWITCH member Warren Mabee, **QIEEP**, spoke at the conference.
14. The Electricity Sector Council has produced a report on the 2009 Labour Force Survey of the Canadian Solar Industry. Please contact SWITCH if you would like to receive a copy. Thank you to SWITCH Board member Rob Miller, Axio Power, for sending the file.
15. **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.** The 2009 program list and rates can be found at <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com> . Please advise them that you are a SWITCH member when registering in order to receive the discount. **Ian Kilborn from SWITCH member Quantum Renewable Energy will be teaching a Living Off the Grid course on July 16<sup>th</sup>.**
16. **Event:** Kingston Technology Council Luncheon, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am, The Harbour Restaurant, 53 Yonge St. Winners of the Frontenac-Lennox & Addington Science Fair will be presenting their projects. Adrienne Morgan, an Odessa Public School student, won gold this year for her solar-powered desalinator. To register for the luncheon, please go to <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/>.
17. **Event:** The County Sustainability Group presents: *The Economy, the Environment and the County*. Randy Park, Chair of the Post Carbon Institute in Toronto will be speaking on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm at Bloomfield Town Hall. A short film, *The Story of Stuff*, will be presented. There will also be a question and answer period.
18. **Event:** EcoPerth is running an EcoSkills Sampler Day on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 am until 4 pm. Activities will take place at McMartin House, 125 Gore St., Perth. The cost is \$20 for a full or half day (including lunch), or \$10 for a half day without lunch. Please call 613-268-2907 for more information, or contact [bonitaford@gmail.com](mailto:bonitaford@gmail.com).

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!