



# SWITCH

*The Sustainable Energy People*

*SWITCH news, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

Greetings Everybody!

Our next open meeting will be **Friday, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at **8:00 am**, at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be Jennifer Green of Ledgecroft Farms, near Seeley's Bay. Jennifer will be speaking about *Ledgecroft Farms Inc.'s bio-gas project*.

If you are interested in sponsoring the refreshments, at a cost of \$30, for an Open Meeting, please contact Executive Director, Ted Hsu, [thsu@switchkingston.ca](mailto:thsu@switchkingston.ca).

The refreshments for the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Open Meeting will be sponsored by **SWITCH member All-Tech Consulting Group**, specializing in Residential and Commercial Property Inspections and Project Management for Buildings. All-Tech Consulting Group is a "LEED for Homes" Professional Member. *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 down and badge you in.

1. A big welcome to new member **Berkan Harari**.
2. The 4<sup>th</sup> and last instalment of the *Renewable Energy Workshops for Homeowners* will be held on September 29-30 and October 5-6, Room #00300, St. Lawrence College. You can get more information and register for free at <http://www.switchkingston.ca/workshop>. **Please let your friends and neighbours know about this opportunity.**
3. **LEED Home Tour:** A tour of Kingston's first LEED home, built by CaraCo Development, and located at 1165 Crossfield Avenue (behind Rona), will take place on **Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 pm**. Please contact SWITCH member **Ben Kenney**, [bkenney@gmail.com](mailto:bkenney@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending.
4. The Wolfe Island Wind Farm, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest wind project in Canada and built by SWITCH member, **Canadian Hydro Developers**, officially opened last Thursday. The Wind Farm will be receiving up to \$59 million over the next 10 years through the ecoENERGY for Renewable Power program. Please go to <http://www.green->

[business.ca/Energy/Clean-Tech/News/wolfe-island-ecopower-centre-launched-with-new-funding.html](http://business.ca/Energy/Clean-Tech/News/wolfe-island-ecopower-centre-launched-with-new-funding.html) to read more.

5. **SWITCH in Lennox & Addington County:** SWITCH will be co-hosting an early morning meeting in Napanee, at the offices of SWITCH member **Lennox & Addington County** on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this meeting is to expand the SWITCH network and benefits to L & A County. The economic development office of L&A County will be inviting attendees from their area to come and meet SWITCH. Several SWITCH Board members are attending, as well as folks from the County Sustainability Group in Prince Edward County. **It will be held at the Strathcona Paper Centre at 16 McPherson Drive, in the Goodyear Lounge on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor from 8 to 9 am.** We will be organizing car pools from Kingston. **Please consider joining the Kingston contingent and please let us know if you are coming.**
6. SWITCH members have been invited to a public Town Hall meeting entitled "Securing Canada's Future Prosperity", on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm, at the Queen's Biosciences Complex, Room 1101. Marc Garneau, former astronaut, MP for Westmount – Ville-Marie and Liberal Opposition Critic for Industry, Science, and Technology will be the featured speaker. The Town Hall is being organized by the Kingston and the Islands Federal Liberal Association. Dr. Garneau's day-long visit to Kingston to discuss what the federal government policy in the area of Industry, Science, and Technology, will include a tour of Innovation Park and Energy House.
7. The Ontario Firewood Association has prepared a discussion paper (the work for the paper started in the Kingston area) on fuelwood. To read a copy, please go to this site: [http://www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org/info\\_pub\\_fuelwood.html](http://www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org/info_pub_fuelwood.html). "By managing our forests sustainably, we help the environment, increase carbon sequestration and improve our forests while continuing to provide accessible renewable green energy to Ontarians. Fuelwood has to be part of that formula." *Pieter Leenhouts, President of the Ontario Woodlot Association.* Thank you to Brad Leonard, of SWITCH member **Renewable Energy of Plum Hollow** for mentioning this.
8. SWITCH Board member Ian Rowberry, sent the following question from a local resident and Kingston Sustainability Centre visitor:  
Does anyone have any experience with using Euroshield Roofing tiles made with/from recycled car tires? They are manufactured in Calgary, AB.
9. **Local Event Update:** Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, The Entrepreneurship Centre of SWITCH member **KEDCO**, is hosting a Small Business Forum: *Going Green and Staying Profitable* to kick off Small Business Month. A full day of informational seminars, business to business networking, lunch and a tradeshow. Cameron Heaps, co-founder of the Steam Whistle Brewery, will be delivering the keynote address. The event will take place at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour from 9 am to 5 pm. Admission is free, but registration is required. You can register by going to <http://business.kingstoncanada.com/en/startyourbusiness/businessforum.asp>. Limited exhibitor space for the tradeshow is available. Please contact Tanya Mundell for details [mundell@kingstoncanada.com](mailto:mundell@kingstoncanada.com)
10. **Event:** Kingston Technology Council luncheon, September 18<sup>th</sup>, The Harbour Restaurant, 53 Yonge St., 11:30 am. Dr. Phillip Jessop, Queen's Department of Chemistry, Canada Research Chair in "green chemistry" will speak about *Oil & Water, they finally mix! ... and unmix, then mix again!* Tickets are \$35, pre-

registration by noon on September 16<sup>th</sup> is required. To register please visit <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/>.

11. A lunch-time webinar on "Training the Next Renewable Energy Generation", will take place on September 24<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 2 pm. To register a seat please go to <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/188407554>. To read more about the speakers taking part in the webinar, please visit <http://webinars.reeep.org/topics/index.html#greenenergy1>.
12. **Event:** Ontario – France Virtual Trade Mission for renewable energy companies, October 1<sup>st</sup> (morning), Toronto. Hosted by the International Trade Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the program will bring together senior executives from Ontario and French companies for pre-arranged one-on-one business development meetings. Meetings will be held via videoconference (privacy ensured), for 15-20 minutes. If you are interested in participating, please contact Victor Miranda (416) 314-8231, [victor.miranda@ontario.ca](mailto:victor.miranda@ontario.ca).
13. **Public Talk:** SWITCH Executive Director Ted Hsu, will be giving a talk on carbon policy (carbon tax, cap and trade) in plain laymen's terms at the Brockville Public Library on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. The event is sponsored by the Brockville Climate Action Group in partnership with the library.
14. ELORIN is hosting a **LEED® for Homes workshop**, with Arborus Consulting, on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Innovation Park. Please visit [http://my.cagbc.org/courses.php?sbget=course,,13,,0,,6,,,;courses\\_main,,6,,0](http://my.cagbc.org/courses.php?sbget=course,,13,,0,,6,,,;courses_main,,6,,0) or email [jhamilton@cagbc.ca](mailto:jhamilton@cagbc.ca) for more information and to register. Registration fees are \$325 plus gst (\$225 plus gst for Canada Green Building Council members).  
**Registration closes by the end of the business day on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.** *"LEED® Canada for Homes is a comprehensive, voluntary, market-driven green building rating system for residential construction. It is based on the USGBC's LEED® for Homes rating system and it evaluates performance on a range of ecological and human health issues from a whole home perspective, providing a definitive benchmark for what constitutes 'a green home.'"*
15. **Last chance to register:** 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. Sessions will be completed by the end of the year, but may be available again next summer, if interest remains. Please contact Ian at [ianrowberry@gmail.com](mailto:ianrowberry@gmail.com) for more information.
16. **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).
17. The Electricity Sector Council is offering a wage subsidy of up to \$10,000 (1/3 of the total salary over a maximum 12 month period) for every new technician, technologist and engineer hired. Please go to the following website to learn more about how you can qualify for the subsidy  
[http://www.brightfutures.ca/projects/electricity\\_first\\_work/2009\\_application\\_documents.html](http://www.brightfutures.ca/projects/electricity_first_work/2009_application_documents.html)
  18. Dr. Helen Caldicott, author of *If You Love This Planet*, will be speaking in Kingston on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for location updates.
  19. **For any companies that may be interested in Green IT/S** please read the following announcement sent by Jacqueline Corbett: *"Is your company interested in improving your IT environmental sustainability but not sure how to get started? As part of a multi-disciplinary SSHRC-funded research project, Queen's engineering students, under the direction of SWITCH member, Dr. Joshua Pearce, will be performing information systems and technology energy audits for interested organizations. At the conclusion of the audit, organizations will receive a list of green IT and IS initiatives ranked according to the potential to reduce the ecological impact. Additionally, a cost-benefit analysis of the recommendations will also be prepared by Queen's managerial economics students, under the direction of SWITCH members, Dr. Jane Webster and Dr. Tracy Jenkin, enabling the organization to see not only the environmental, but also the financial benefits of changes."* For more information, please contact Jacqueline Corbett: [JCorbett@business.queensu.ca](mailto:JCorbett@business.queensu.ca).
  20. **Grant Reminder:** Funding is available through the Yves Landry Foundation for grants of up to \$50,000 per project. Funding is targeted towards fostering training that leads to advancements in innovation in the Ontario manufacturing sector. The deadline for submitting a proposal is **September 30, 2009**. Please contact SWITCH if you would like a copy of the Request for Proposal.
  21. **"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.
  22. You can now make a charitable donation to the **SWITCH Sustainable Energy Future Fund** to help fund certain activities of SWITCH that are classified as charitable work in the environmental area. Full details will appear on the SWITCH and Community Foundation for Kingston and Area (CFKA) website at a later date, but you can make a donation today by donating to CFKA and making note of the name of our fund.
  23. **Event:** CanWEA 2009, Infinite Possibilities, September 20-23, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto. For more information on Canada's largest renewable energy conference, please visit  
<http://www.canwea.ca/events/conference2009/en/index.html>.
  24. **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>.

## Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the next 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!