



# SWITCH

*The Sustainable Energy People*

SWITCH news, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

*This week's edition sponsored by:*



Greetings Everyone!

**The next SWITCH Open Meeting** will take place on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 8 am, Queen's Innovation Park, 945 Princess St., **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lecture Room**. The speaker will be John Marriott from OSISOFT Canada ULC, *Improved facilities energy management using real-time equipment data*.

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](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca). The refreshments for the March open meeting will be sponsored by John Marriott, OSISOFT Canada ULC, April will be sponsored by SWITCH member **CPE Division-L Inc.** The May open meeting will be sponsored by NEDCO.

*Save a paper cup, bring a travel mug to the next open meeting!*

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. **Parking is available in the WEST parking lot.**

### ***SWITCH News & Announcements***

- 1.** A big welcome to new member **Stephen Tripp** and a special thank you to renewing member **Burt's Greenhouses**.
- 2.** Due to the popularity and sustained growth of the SWITCH open meetings, **we are currently searching for a new home**. The ideal location would be able to accommodate up to 150 people the first Friday of every month and have ample parking available. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please get in touch, [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca).
- 3.** **The April open meeting will be held on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**, as Good Friday is the first Friday of the month this year.

- 4. Calling All Editors and Knowledgeable Readers:** Our Energy Digest is being read by more and more people as the Internet search engines discover us...and that means we have an even greater need for high quality, up-to-date information. This is currently the most complete source of reliable information on the FIT and microFIT program. SWITCH now needs you to share your expertise by editing the Energy Digest: simply go to [www.switchontario.ca/wiki](http://www.switchontario.ca/wiki), and when you see something that you think should be different, log in (very easy) and make the changes. SWITCH staff will monitor all changes and ensure accuracy, style and correct spelling, so don't be shy! Call Mark at 613-532-7220 if you have other ideas or want help connecting.
- 5.** SWITCH is offering a series of business presentations on *How your rooftop can make you money: The new Green Energy Act and your business* January through March 2010. **Stay tuned for updates.** Launched on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, the new Green Energy Act will enable Ontario businesses to unlock their rooftop asset and earn revenue by generating solar energy and feeding it back into the grid. There are also incentives for your business to become part of the quickly growing renewable energy market by diversifying your products or processes. **The following dates have been confirmed:**
- February 16, 7 pm, Marble Church Arts Centre, Actinolite
  - February 17, 8 am, Bancroft
  - February 17, noon, Haliburton
  - February 25, 9:30 to 3:00, United Church, Elginburg – *this meeting is targeted towards the Agricultural Industry. If anyone is interested in carpooling, please get in touch.*
  - March 9, 8 am, Peterborough
  - March 10, time TBA, Smiths Falls
- Please RSVP [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca)
- 6.** Hugh McLaughlin, Biochar, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 9 am, Wilton Women's Institute Hall, **Biochars - what we know, what we think we know and what we do not know**, see attachment for more details. RSVP to [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca). The venue for this event was arranged by SWITCH member **Burt's Greenhouses**. You can purchase biochar and other plants on Burt's Greenhouses e-commerce site <http://www.burtsgh.com/index.php/cre/>.
- 7.** Tony Fleming, from Cunningham Swan, will be discussing legalities for installers, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 am, Innovation Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lecture room. A light breakfast will be provided courtesy of SWITCH member **KEDCO**. Please RSVP to [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca)
- 8.** SWITCH staff members Mark Gibson, Jennifer Kiwala and Pierre Nadeau are 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 until the end of March. **If you know of an SME that we might not have thought of, please contact us.**
- 9.** **"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***

**The ELORIN corner:** Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Credit Workshop, February 25, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm, Innovation Park. An incentive program to encourage Canadian companies in research and development (R&D), it can be leveraged by companies of all sizes who deal with science or technology. Claimants can apply for tax credits for expenditures such as wages, materials, machinery, equipment, overhead, and contracts. The presentation will discuss the opportunities and risks that have been generated by recent changes, and offer an opportunity for discussion. A light lunch will be provided. The workshop is free, but registration is required, [info@elorin.ca](mailto:info@elorin.ca).

1. **Update:** CanSIA Solar Hot Water System Installer Workshop, Saturday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 8 to 5 (exam 3 – 5), at SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College**. The cost for CanSIA members is \$225, the cost for non-members is \$275, the exam fee for both is \$75. Please see the attached information sheet and registration form.
2. Brant Peppley, Director, **Queen's-RMC Fuel Cell Research Centre** provided the following fuel cell updates: The Ford Motor Company has installed a demonstration unit in the Oakville Truck Plant paint shop that captures/concentrates VOC's for use as fuel in a 300 kW molten carbonate fuel cell system. FCRC will be doing some studies for them and a 3 year project has been approved. Also, Canadian Shield Energy Systems, a spin-off of FCRC, formed to develop a biogas-fueled solid oxide fuel cell system for an institute in India. While that project was not completed (India lost funding) the technology may have a local application: **funding has been secured to build a 1 kW prototype unit for the digester gas from the Kingston Utilities Ravensview Treatment Plant.**
3. Some of the presentations from last year's Renewable Energy How-To Workshops for Homeowners have been picked up by You Tube, as this link of Rob Miller, **Axio Power Canada**, talking about solar photovoltaics illustrates, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEY4WgIK1bM>.
4. SWITCH member **AEPAY Global Energy** is looking for large commercial rooftop space for lease for the installation of solar panels. AEPAY plans on having several 250 kW arrays in place by the summer. Any inquiries can be directed to SWITCH member **Chris Morris**, sales representative with RealtySource Inc., brokerage. (613) 546 4208 (office), (613) 539 8438 (cell), [chris@chris-morris.ca](mailto:chris@chris-morris.ca). Please see the attached for more information.

### ***Local non-member News & Announcements***

1. Trillium Power Wind Corporation has designated Vestas as the 'preferred supplier' for all four of their offshore wind projects in the Great Lakes. Together, the four projects will generate about 3700 MW of offshore wind energy.
2. **Event:** Kingston Technology Council luncheon, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am, The Harbour Restaurant, 53 Yonge St. Dr. Warren Mabee will be speaking about "Canada's Climate Policy Conundrum: 10 provinces, 3 choices, 1 decision". Pre-registration by February 17<sup>th</sup> is required. Tickets are \$35 for regular admission and \$20 for students. You can register by email to [hanley@kingstoncanada.com](mailto:hanley@kingstoncanada.com) and pay at the door.
3. **Event:** Innovation 2010, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge St., March 25<sup>th</sup>, 8 am to 5 pm. Please go to <http://www.innovation2010.ca/> for more information and to register.

4. **Update:** Kingston Unplugged, An Earth Hour Event, is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 to 10 pm, Springer Market Square. Vendor and display opportunities are available during this year's event (attached). If you are interested in helping to sponsor Kingston Unplugged, please read the attached sponsorship form. The **Kingston Sustainability Centre** [www.kingstonsustainabilitycentre.com](http://www.kingstonsustainabilitycentre.com) is hosting a speech competition for local high school students. One French and one English speech will be delivered at the concert in between the acts. The deadline for submissions is **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. For information about the competition, please contact [danieljameshendry@gmail.com](mailto:danieljameshendry@gmail.com). The Earth Hour website is <http://www.earthhour.org>.
5. **Event:** Queen's Commerce and Engineering Environmental Conference (CEEC): Exploring the Green Advantage, March 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. This conference brings together students from multiple disciplines of study and is a truly unique sponsorship opportunity. Significant exposure and promotion to students and the public is offered. For more information, please contact [andrew.mutrie@ceec.ca](mailto:andrew.mutrie@ceec.ca). This year, the CEEC will be holding the Green Globe Awards, to nominate individuals or groups who have made a significant positive impact on green initiatives on the Queen's campus or within the Kingston community.
6. **Event:** Earth, Body, Spirit Expo, June 5-6, Invista Centre. There will be opportunities for exhibitors, workshop presenters, demonstrations, sponsorships, and volunteers to participate. For more information go to [www.EarthBodySpiritExpo.com](http://www.EarthBodySpiritExpo.com), or call 613-767-9721, [info@withinkingston.com](mailto:info@withinkingston.com). The application deadline is April 10th. **A 10% discount is available to all SWITCH Members.**
7. **GreenUp! 2010** is looking for volunteers to take a lead organizational role in helping to organize this year's event. SWITCH is helping the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA) to solicit names of potential volunteers. Please email SWITCH, [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca) if you are interested.
8. **Event:** 2010 Fifth Annual Sustainable Living Symposium, March 20<sup>th</sup>, Loyalist College, Belleville. The event will be followed by a Green Homes Bus Tour by the County Sustainability Group on March 21<sup>st</sup>. To register please go to <http://www.quintesustainability.ca/>.
9. The official website for Sustainable Kingston (an ICSP from FOCUS Kingston), can be viewed by going to <http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/>. Comments on the plan are easy to make by clicking on the blue circular icons found throughout the website. **Comments will continue to be accepted for the future drafts.**
10. Wintergreen Studios, <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/>, an off-grid education and retreat centre located in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, offers meeting and retreat facilities, as well as one and two-day workshops at a 10% discount to SWITCH members. Please advise them you are a SWITCH member when registering in order to receive the discount.
11. **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.

### ***Non-local News & Announcements***

1. To read an article on the geothermal energy market in the U.S. go to <http://online.qmags.com/REWNA0110/default.aspx?sessionID=820FB967BED140BBEC0E9AB13&cid=1486117&eid=15137&pg=57&mode=2#pg57>
2. Clean Tech Funding is available through SDTC (Sustainable Development Technology Canada). SDTC is accepting statements of interest from **February 24 to April 21, 2010**. "The SD Tech Fund™ invests in late-stage development and pre-commercial demonstration of clean technologies by Canadian companies." Please visit their website for more information, [http://www.sdtec.ca/en/funding/NextGen\\_Biofuels\\_Fund/index.htm](http://www.sdtec.ca/en/funding/NextGen_Biofuels_Fund/index.htm)
3. The Ontario Government, through the Ontario Solar Thermal Heating Initiative (OSTHI), has increased the incentives available for solar hot water systems fivefold. OSTHI will now provide a maximum of \$400,000 per project. For more information, please go to <http://www.news.ontario.ca/mei/en/2009/12/solar-technologies-help-build-ontarios-green-economy.html>.
4. **Funding Opportunity:** Earth Day Canada is now accepting applications for the spring grant period of the Community Environment Fund. The deadline to apply is **February 28, 2010**. Please go to this site to learn more [http://www.earthday.ca/pub/resources/media\\_releases/2009-12-03\\_cef\\_schools\\_engo\\_outreach/index.html](http://www.earthday.ca/pub/resources/media_releases/2009-12-03_cef_schools_engo_outreach/index.html).
5. **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).

## Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the next SWITCH event,

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Mark Gibson, Green Energy Business Consultant; Jennifer Kiwala, Outreach & Event Coordinator; Pierre Nadeau, Sustainable Energy & Internet Communications Assistant; Catherine Humphreys, Administrator

### SWITCH

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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!

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.