



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, March 16th, 2010

This week's edition sponsored by:

SCHÜCO

Schuco Canada directly supports Canadian solar installers with trusted advice and reliable support from our sales, engineering and operations staff located in our Mississauga office. Schuco is a \$3B global leader that designs, manufactures and distributes solar modules, solar inverters, solar thermal collectors, solar thermal packages and solar rack mount equipment. Having trouble finding solar PV racking equipment that meets domestic content? Schuco solar PV racking is made in Ontario, certified to meet Canadian and Ontario building codes and is now shipping in Ontario. Save money by purchasing modules, inverters and racking from one source. Solar installers are encouraged to enroll in one of our monthly NABCEP accredited solar training courses now offered in Mississauga, Ontario. Visit www.schuco.ca for more details.

Greetings Everyone!

The next SWITCH Open Meeting **will take place on Friday, April 9th, 8 am, at a soon to be announced location.** Ben Bowen from Seaway Document Solutions Inc., an Authorized Xerox agent, will be speaking about Sustainable Manufacturing.

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 April open meeting will be sponsored by SWITCH member **CPE Division-L Inc.** The May open meeting will be sponsored by NEDCO, and June, July and September will be sponsored by **Kingston Solar Installations.**

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. Please visit the SWITCH website, <http://switchkingston.ca/index.php> to watch two recent webcasts, Legalities for Installers and Solar Installations and the Building Code.
2. There will be a free public screening of *In Transition*, a documentary about the Transition movement around the world, on Tuesday, March 23rd, 6:30 pm, St. Lawrence College Lecture Hall. SWITCH member Michael Tiffe, **TAB Mechanical**, will be introducing the film. "The Transition movement is

about communities around the world responding to peak oil and climate change with creativity, imagination and humour, and setting about rebuilding their local economies and communities.”

3. *How your rooftop and land can make you money: The new Green Energy Act and your business*, March 31st, 5 - 8 pm, Memorial Hall, 216 Ontario Street, Kingston. Registration starts at 5 pm. Tickets are \$5, refreshments will be provided. The presentation starts at 5:30 pm. RSVP to register@switchkingston.ca. *Launched on October 1st, 2009, the new Green Energy Act will enable Ontario businesses to unlock their rooftop and land assets 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.*
4. Promote your product to an audience “in the dark”! For Earth Hour, Kingston UNPLUGGED 2010 (March 27, Springer Market Square, 7-10 pm) is seeking fantastic prizes to raffle and is asking for donations. If you would like to contribute an item to this event that is gearing up for over 1000 people attending, contact Jennifer Kiwala, jkiwala@switchontario.ca or 613-547-6700 x130 . **Kingston Unplugged is looking for sponsorships**. Please see the attached support form.
5. SWITCH meeting in Napanee, April 16th, Strathcona Paper Centre, 16 McPherson Drive, 2nd floor lounge, 8 am. Guest speaker Kathy Wood of Natural Capital Resources will discuss how Lennox and Addington County’s small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can benefit from new supply chain opportunities in solar and wind energy. For more information, <http://www.switchontario.ca> or email register@switchontario.ca.
6. **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, 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.
7. **“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. **ELORIN** is part of the organizational team behind the 2010 Sustainable Living Symposium, taking place on March 20th at Loyalist College, Belleville. With interactive workshops and featuring 50 local businesses, organizations and products, the focus is on local services and solutions. You can register online, <http://www.quintesustainability.ca/> or by calling Quinte Conservation, (613) 968-3434 x131. The trade show will be followed by a Green Homes Bus Tour by the County Sustainability Group on March 21st.
2. SWITCH member Steven Moore, **Moore Partners**, recently participated in the Keynote Panel at the Queen's Commerce and Engineering Environmental Conference (www.ceec.com). The 20th annual CEEC took place in Kingston from March 5th-6th and brought together the brightest 130 students studying Commerce, Engineering, and Arts and Science to face the challenges and opportunities of environmental sustainability. The topic was Green Opportunities.
3. Interested in attending a SWITCH meeting in the Ottawa area? If so, contact SWITCH member Ben Kenney, bkenney@gmail.com. If there is enough of a response, Ben might help to organize one.
4. **Fifth Town Artisan Cheese** will be participating in Maple in the County, March 26-28, offering goat cheese maple tarts.
5. **Event:** The 3rd Annual Conference on Biomass for Energy, May 30-31, Queen's University, *The Great Lakes Bio-Region: Market Opportunities and Carbon Pricing*. From SWITCH member **QIEEP**: “Demands for low-carbon sources of energy mean that governments are crafting policy and committing funds to

biomass, and businesses are making decisions and allocating their resources. The biomass industry is changing as quickly as it grows, and it therefore remains crucial to share information and to highlight best practices, challenges and successes." Online registration now available, <http://www.queensu.ca/qieep> or contact Lisa Doulas, ldoulas@cogeco.ca, 613-539-2482.

6. If you operate a business or farm in Frontenac County, please contact SWITCH member **Frontenac CFDC** to find out if you are eligible to receive an interest free loan for the purchase and installation of alternative energy where the energy will be used for the operation of the business. For more information, contact the Frontenac CFDC at 613-372-1414 or toll free 1-888-372-9962.
7. **Queen's School of Business Innovation Summit**, March 20th, 8 am to 6:30 pm, Goodes Hall. To register, please go to http://events.sps.queensu.ca/cgi/page.cgi?event_id=41&_id=3&action=viewdetail. See the attached for more details on the QSBIS Innovation Summit.
8. **Update:** Brant Peppley, Director, **Queen's-RMC Fuel Cell Research Centre** provided the following fuel cell update: Denmark based Senenergy has developed a high temperature polymer membrane fuel cell system. FCRC and this company are looking at potential commercial partnerships to develop a unique compact methanol reformer for such a system.
9. 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. Please see the attached for more information.

Local non-member News & Announcements

1. Public forum on Active Transportation in Kingston, March 24, 7 to 9 pm, Memorial Hall, City Hall. Speakers will discuss how "...the creation of more people-friendly streets promotes active transportation such as walking, cycling, and taking transit to get from one place to another."
2. Pitch In Kingston, Friday, April 23, 2010. The Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce and Tim Hortons invite you to clean up the community. Pitch in bags will be available to the public on the day of the event only, from 7 am to 10 am at Tim Hortons locations throughout Greater Kingston. Register today: www.kingstonchamber.on.ca/events/details/pitchRegister/index.cfm
3. FOCUS Kingston is currently seeking feedback for the 2nd draft of Sustainable Kingston, An Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, via their website, <http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/>. Click on the blue circular icons. **Comments will be collected from March 10 to 24. This will be the last opportunity to provide input before the draft is finalized and presented to Council.**
4. There will be a local showing of the webcast of a policy session on "Energy, Environment, Economy, Growth and Responsibility in 2017", Saturday, March 27, 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm at Sutherland Hall 202 (Queen's University School of Policy Studies). There are five speakers chosen from leaders in the business and NGO sectors. This is part of the non-partisan "Canada at 150" policy conference in Montreal organized by the Liberal Party of Canada. Following the webcast there will be a discussion amongst local attendees. The event is free and open to all.
5. **Event:** Innovation 2010, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge St., March 25th, 8 am to 5 pm. Please go to <http://www.innovation2010.ca/> for more information and to register.
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, or call 613-767-9721, info@withinkingston.com. The application deadline is April 10th. **A 10% discount is available to all SWITCH Members.**

Non-local News & Announcements

1. CanSIA, 2378 Holly Lane, Ottawa, is currently seeking a Policy and Research Officer. This is a 4 month intern position starting in May with the possibility of leading to full-time employment. For more details please go to <http://www.goodworkcanada.ca/greenjobs.php?id=10573>

2. The Excellence in Education Award from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), honours secondary and post-secondary educators who have encouraged students in the development of sustainable communities by integrating sustainable concepts in housing and community development into their curriculum. For more information, please go to http://www.cmhc.ca/en/inpr/su/su_002.cfm. The deadline for nominations is **May 31st**. A nomination form is attached.
3. Enter the *Clean 15* Clean Tech Competition, March 5 to April 30, http://www.oceta.on.ca/news_release/2010_mar_Clean15/. To enter, email info@clean15.com.
4. If you are interested in being considered for the OPA's vendor list, please go to <https://retvendorlist.powerauthority.on.ca/>. The list will be used by Ontario school boards and social housing providers to reduce energy costs by installing renewable energy technologies for heating, cooling or generating electricity through the Renewable Energy Initiative (REI) that was recently announced by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. **The deadline to apply is March 26th**.
5. Loblaws has been approved through the Ontario FIT program to put solar panels on 136 of their stores, <http://www.thestar.com/business/article/778115--giant-aims-to-be-green-grocer>.
6. Schuco Canada is offering a series of training sessions for solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar thermal starting in March and April. Please go to their website for full details of each course, http://www.schueco.com/web/ca/commercial/trainings_events/solar_trainings_events.
7. 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
8. **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 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.