



Greetings Everybody!

Reserve the Date: Our next open meeting will be on **Friday, April 3rd, at 8:00 am**, in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be Tom Hewitt, Solar PV design engineer for Enfinity Canada, <http://www.enfinity.biz/EN/>. Tom will be talking about **large scale deployment of solar PV panels on roof-tops**. Come and find out about Enfinity, a solar energy developer headquartered in Belgium, with a Canadian office in Ottawa. They have about 120 MW in place and continue to add 4 MW every month, mostly on rooftops.

From now on, all visitors to SWITCH must use the main entrance to Novellis. The new sign-in procedure will be developed very shortly. Stay tuned for updates.

1. The summer and fall dates for *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 (**Queens University**) are now available. The summer session will be taking place on June 3, 4, 8 and 9 and the fall session will be on September 29, 30 and October 5, 6. Tell all your friends and neighbours. The April session (April 16, 21,22,23) is full. More information is on the SWITCH website <http://www.switchkingston.ca/workshop/>
2. SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College** will be holding a **CanSIA Solar Hot Water System Installer Workshop** on Saturday, April 18th from 8 am until 6 pm. 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?pageId=143389>
3. Congratulations to SWITCH member, **Utilities Kingston**, for winning an Environmental Excellence Award for their *Enabling Distributed Generation – Empowering Kingston* program. The award was presented last week at the Electricity Distributors Association (EDA) annual meeting.
4. Congratulation: SWITCH member **Fifth Town Artisan Cheese** has officially received its LEED Platinum certification. It is the only industrial facility in Canada to receive LEED platinum certification. Their company store recently re-opened on March 14th after their regularly scheduled annual closing.
5. Congratulations to Jeremy Nevens of SWITCH member **Tackaberry Heating and Refrigeration Supplies** who was instrumental in completing Kingston first LEED certified (aiming for gold) home. The home was built by CaraCo Development corporation and is located at 1165 Crossfield Avenue at Andersen Drive. For a copy of yesterday's press release please email SWITCH.
6. **St. Lawrence College** is applying to National Sciences and Engineering Research Council's (NSERC) Community and College Innovation (CCI) fund for a grant to establish a Sustainable Energy Applied Research Laboratory at the college. They are seeking small and medium-sized enterprises and other collaborators to participate in the application. For a more detailed description, please read the attached document. Please contact Cam McEachern cmceachern@sl.on.ca, (613) 544-5400 x1586 for more information.
7. **GreenUP! 2009** is scheduled for Sunday, April 19th, at the K-Rock Center (KRC). **Exhibitors can now sign up**. The cost is \$10 for non-profits, \$100 for small businesses, and \$200 for large businesses. **SWITCH members will receive a 10% discount. We encourage SWITCH members to**

be exhibitors at this event: you'll get to talk to a lot of green minded people. The organizers are looking for help with fundraising, communications, site logistics, programming/workshops, entertainment, food and more. There are big plans for the event this year; a partnership has formed with the City of Kingston and the Whig Standard, with the intent of increasing our exhibitor turnout and encouraging involvement with the city's sustainability initiatives. Please check out the GreenUP! website, at www.greenupfestival.ca, for more information. **There will be a volunteer meeting this Wednesday, March 18th, at 7:00 pm at the Community Foundation of Greater Kingston** (165 Ontario St.). Kudos to SWITCH members **Louise Cooper and Caitlin Newey** for leading the organization of this annual event.

8. The proposed Feed-In Tariffs (FITs) for Ontario were announced last week. There will be an 8 week consultation process with renewable energy stakeholders and general information sessions for the public. To read more please go to <http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Page.asp?PageID=122&ContentID=6858>. Thank you to Michael Tiffe for sending this link.
9. **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 16th.**
10. **New Membership Benefit:** Green Homes will be the focus of the May/June/July issue of *Within Kingston Magazine*. They are offering a **15% discount off of advertising to SWITCH members and a 10% discount to SWITCH e-newsletter readers.** Please contact info@withinkingston.com if you are interested in placing an advertisement. **The deadline for submissions is April 10th.**
11. There will be a **public information session on improving transit services for Kingston Transit** on March 19th at 6:00 pm in the Press Lounge at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour. Urban transit experts Professor Eric Bruun and Professor Jeffrey Casello will lead the discussion. The session will explore other city's transit models and trends, transit network design and community integration, and the use of technology to improve transit service. A question and answer session will follow the presentation. For more information, please contact **Jeremy DaCosta**, Project Manager – Transit by email at jdacosta@cityofkingston.ca or call 613-546-4291, ext. 1310.
12. **The Frontenac Federation of Agriculture** meets the last Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at Glenburnie United Church. This month's meeting will be held on March 26th.
13. A reminder about **Do what you can**, the new municipal hazardous or special waste program. Please go to <http://www.dowhatyoucan.ca/> to read more.
14. The **Kingston Goes Green** website <http://www.kingstongoesgreen.com/> mentioned by SWITCH member **Chris Morris** will launch in mid April 2009. They are looking for information on green-based initiatives in the community. Please send yours today.
15. The Kingston Technology Council's **Innovation 2009** will take place on March 26th at the Holiday Inn. A full day of professional development and networking for those in the technology industry. Please go to their website for more information: <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/publisher/articleview/frmArticleID/65/>
16. **Display Opportunity:** SWITCH will be exhibiting at the Quinte Conservation Sustainable Living Symposium on Saturday March 28th in Belleville. **If SWITCH members would like the SWITCH staff to take some of your product and services to display at the SWITCH booth,**

please let us know. The event is usually quite well attended. For more information see <http://www.quintesustainability.ca/>

17. **Event:** Fueling Canadian Industry with Agricultural Biomass: Agricultural Biomass Workshop and Business Meeting, March 31st 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, The Donald Gordon Conference Centre, 421 Union St. For more information on the event, please go to <http://www.canbio.ca/events/KingstonAgenda3.pdf>
18. **Event:** The 3rd Annual Green Living Show, April 24-26, Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Please go to <http://www.greenlivingonline.com/torontoshow/index.html> for more information. SWITCH member **Fifth Town Artisan Cheese Co.** will be exhibiting.
19. **Events:** Innovation Insights presents Green 101: The Business Case for Environmental Sustainability, April 8, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Brampton. Green 101B: Taking Green to the Next Level will be held on April 29th, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. For more information and to register, please go to <http://www.tvp-ii.org/english/2004ontario.asp>

Hope to see you at the next Open Meeting!

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrative Assistant

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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!