



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, November 17th, 2009

Greetings Everybody!

Our next open meeting will be **Friday, December 4th, at 8:00 am**, at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be SWITCH member and Certified Financial Planner, **Betty-Anne Howard**. Betty-Anne will be talking about the Global, National and Provincial landscape as it pertains to SRI's and the relevance to SWITCH members and the Energy Sector. *Socially Responsible/Sustainable Investing (SRI's): Making the links between how we live our lives, spend our money and invest our money.* She has asked everyone to please go to the following link to complete her questionnaire which will help her focus on the most salient points for her presentation, http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=f55Z4XZtSzJhA6aoWX5UA_3d_3d

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 December 4th Open Meeting will be sponsored by **Betty-Anne Howard**. The refreshments for the January meeting and AGM on January 8th, will be sponsored by The Kiwanis Club. February will be sponsored by Nedco, a Division of Rexel Canada Electrical Inc., with a featured cheese donation from Fifth Town Artisan Cheese. *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

SWITCH News & Announcements

1. A big welcome to new member **Forman Farms**.
2. SWITCH will be co-hosting a December 'Technology Partners Mix and Mingle – Come Play by the Lake' with KTC, KEDCO, Parteq Innovations, Innovation Park, and ELORIN on Wednesday, December 16th. The event will be held at the Harbour Restaurant, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. It's a great chance to meet

everybody in the innovation and technology sector. **The event is free, R.S.V.P. if you are interested in attending.**

3. SWITCH's Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday, January 8th at 8 am. We are currently accepting nominations for those interested in serving as a Director for the next year (on a Board of 9 members), and from anyone interested in acting as a Student Director for 2010. Please send nominations to SWITCH, info@switchkingston.ca.
4. SWITCH staff members Mark Gibson, Andy Mills and Pierre Nadeau will be 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 over the next five months. If you know of an SME that we might not have thought of, please contact us.
5. **"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. **Employment**: SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College** is seeking an Industry Liaison. The deadline to apply is November 20th. Please go to this site for more information:
<http://www.stlawrencecollege.ca/index.aspx?PageID=3486&iMenuID=10&iCurrID=29&JobID=54>.
Cam MacEachern provided the following background information about the position:
"The new Industry Liaison role commencing soon at St. Lawrence College is funded by Ontario's Ministry of Research and Innovation's Spring 2009 expansion of the Colleges Ontario Network for Industry Innovation (CONII) which St. Lawrence is now joining. The network will enable regional industries to fund applied research projects in partnership with colleges and pointing toward commercial improvements. SWITCH participated last winter in a letter-writing campaign advising the ministry of the value in expanding CONII."
2. SWITCH member **Anton Driesse** gave a brief presentation on behalf of Sustainable Energy Technologies (SET) at the last SWITCH meeting. Anton reported that SET will start manufacturing their 5kW inverters in Ontario soon, and they are looking for sites to carry out technology comparisons. The sites should be large enough to accommodate 2 or 3 systems of 5kW, side-by-side, with minimal shading (approx. 500-1000 sq m). Some low, flat, commercial roof space is needed, as well as open space for ground mounting. The systems could be owned either by SET or the host. Interested parties can contact Anton, anton.driesse@kos.net, (613) 546-3676 or Brent Harris of SET brent.harris@sustainableenergy.com.
3. SWITCH Board member, Rob Miller, **Axio Power Canada** sent an article about Ontario's FIT program from *Photon International* magazine. The file is too large to send with e-news, but if you would like to read it, please email SWITCH, info@switchkingston.ca.
4. On the 3rd Tuesday of every month (the next one being tonight, November 17th), SWITCH member Michael Tiffe, **TAB Mechanical**, teaches a course on "Greening Your Home" at 67A Plant Street in Batawa from 7 to 9 pm. The seminar covers the

- various aspects of making your home more sustainable: site selection, design professional selection, architectural features (such as insulation, windows, flooring, framing, ICF, etc.), renewable energy (solar, wind, geothermal, micro-hydro), energy grants, rating systems, landscaping, energy and water conservation.
5. SWITCH member the **Kingston Sustainability Centre**, will be holding a Grand Opening on November 20th from 1 to 3 pm. There will be a day-long open house with activities and events on the 21st from 10 am to 6 pm. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at 1:30 pm on Friday the 20th. If you plan on attending, please R.S.V.P. to danieljameshendry@gmail.com or call (613) 544-6660. The KSC, located at 193 Princess St., offers a platform for Kingston's youth, businesses, educational institutions, government, and not-for-profits to collaborate on delivering sustainable living programs that support the vision to become Canada's Most Sustainable City. Become a partner, be a volunteer, drop in and learn. Use the community classroom and share your passions, knowledge, ideas and solutions to inspire all Kingstonian's. The KSC is open to the public Monday to Saturday from 11am-6pm. To learn more contact Dan Hendry, danieljameshendry@gmail.com, or Randy Cluff, randycluff@msn.com, or call (613) 544-6660.
 6. SWITCH member **Lennox & Addington County** will be hosting the 2009 L&A Economic Development Awards on November 26th, 6 pm at the Strathcona Paper Centre in Napanee. Tickets are \$40 each and can be reserved by contacting Rob Plumley, 613-354-4883 ext. 271, rplumley@lennox-addington.on.ca. To obtain an order form, please go to this site, <http://www.lennoxandaddington.com/2009Awards.pdf>.
 7. You can view EMU (Energy Management Unit) data on the Brockville test site of SWITCH member, **Upper Canada Solar Generation**, by going to their website, <http://www.ucsg.ca/index-3.html>.
 8. SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College** will be holding a **RETScreen® Introductory Workshop** on November 20th from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm in room #12050. RETScreen® Clean Energy Project Analysis Software can assess energy technology options and "...simultaneously analyze greenhouse gas impact, project financing and risk." The cost for the workshop is \$240 plus gst and \$100 plus gst for students. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please call (613) 544-5400 x3528 or email dlinton@sl.on.ca. More details can be found in the attached pdf file.
 9. SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College's** Energy Systems Engineering Technician Technologists students are seeking renewable energy design projects in the Kingston area. They will work with their clients to develop a feasibility level investigation of the design required and the project economics for small wind, solar thermal, solar electric, hydro or biomass projects. Please contact Steve Lapp (slapp@sl.on.ca) for further information.

Local non-member News & Announcements

1. Dave Charlesworth has set up a microFIT users group, consisting of a blog and newsgroup for those involved in the microFIT program. To contribute to the blog, please go to <http://mfogblog.posterous.com/> and for the newsgroup, please go to <http://groups.google.com/group/mfog-microfit-ontario-group/>.
2. The following links provide information on the proposed changes to the Ontario Building Code, expected to take effect in late 2011, <http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca/Page3117.aspx> and

- <http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=1135>. You are encouraged to comment. If there's interest, SWITCH can make a joint submission from its members.
3. **Event:** Kingston Technology Council luncheon, November 20th, The Harbour Restaurant, 11:30 am start. The speaker will be Ziad Risk, Bombardier Transportation Engineering, "Bombardier Transportation's Sustainable Solutions – The Kingston Connection". Please go to <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/> for more information, and to register. **The deadline to register is November 18th.**
 4. Ledgecroft Farms will be holding an Open House on **Saturday, November 21st**, to celebrate the completion of the Green Energy Farm Digester/Biogas System. Ledgecroft Farms is located at 354 Back Street, north of Seeley's Bay. The Open House will take place from 12 to 4 pm.
 5. The 5th Annual Sustainable Living Symposium will take place on March 20th at Loyalist College from 8:30 am to 5 pm. The event will be followed by a Green Homes Tour on March 21st. They are currently accepting exhibitor applications. Please go to http://www.quintesustainability.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=53 for more information and to register.
 6. **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.
 7. **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>.

Non-local News & Announcements

1. Algonquin Power, an energy-from-waste facility, has partnered with Norampac-Mississauga to transfer the waste steam from their power generator to the paper products company (a 100% recycled paper mill). To read the full story, please go to <http://www.energymanagementcanada.com/HVAC/-/R/Features/pearson-eco-business-zone-company-profile-algonquin-power-and-norampac.html>.
2. To read about an example of a net-zero designated home, please go to this site, <http://www.igreenbuild.com/coreModules/content/contentDisplay.aspx?contentID=3450>. The "Emerald Home" meets all six categories (site impact, water efficiency, energy efficiency, resource efficiency, indoor air quality and homeowner education) of the new Sante Fe, NM building code.
3. The University of Western Ontario has received partial funding towards building the world's first hexagonal wind tunnel, or WindEEE Dome. To read more about the WindEEE Dome, please go to

<http://www.thestar.com/business/cleanbreak/article/719539--hamilton-vicious-storm-fronts-moving-in-to-windeee-dome>.

4. **Event:** Energy 2009: Lean and Green, Energizing the Bottom Line with Energy Efficiency, November 24-25, Toronto Congress Centre, <http://www.energy2009.ca/>.
5. CMHC National Housing Day takes place on November 24th, <http://www.cagbc.org/chapters/ottawa/events/index/events377/2009-11.php>.
6. The Eastern Ontario CFDC Network Inc announced they are accepting Regional Project applications from not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, municipal organizations, and Aboriginal organizations, for the Eastern Ontario Development Program (EODP). **The deadline is November 20th**, 2009. Please go to <http://www.ecofdc.ca> or call EO Networks Inc. (905) 37208315 x 243 for more information. The objective of EODP Regional Projects is to support regionally-based initiatives which stimulate business and community development opportunities, by promoting socio-economic development within Eastern Ontario.
7. Rooftop solar panels purchased before October 1st, will now qualify for the FIT and microFIT program, **as long as owners can provide proof of purchase by November 30th**. Projects 500 kilowatts in size or less will be transitioned into the feed-in-tariff program. To read more please go to <http://www.thestar.com/comment/article/713945>.
8. The Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) is currently accepting applications under the Southern Ontario Development Program (SODP) for "...projects that will stimulate local economies and enhance the growth and competitiveness of Southern Ontario businesses and communities." Applications will be accepted from October 2nd through to December 1st, 2009. Preference will be given to projects that can be started quickly and completed by March 31st, 2010. Please go to <http://southernontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/00128.html> for more information on how to apply.
9. **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 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

<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!

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.