



Greetings Everybody!

Reserve the Date: Our next Open Meeting will be on **Friday, February, 6th at 8:00 am** in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. **Warren Mabee, Queen's School of Policy Studies** will be speaking. Warren will be talking about **A Renewable Energy Region: Eastern Ontario as a Net Producer of Green Power.**

1. A big welcome to new members **Betty-Anne Howard, IPG Inc.,** and **Rajesh D. Parmar, FCRC student.**
2. The "How To" series of workshops on home energy conservation and use of renewable energy, organized by a number of SWITCH members, is set to kick off the evening of March 3rd. Save the date, details to follow.
3. **Movie Night:** A Screening of *The Suzuki Diaries* is tentatively booked for February 3rd at St. Lawrence College. The film documents Suzuki's travels with his daughter throughout Europe and explores "...the widespread deployment of renewable energy from the solar dome of the German Reichstag to the distant windswept shores of Denmark where windmills animate the horizon." Stay tuned for more details.
4. PV-Tech and iSuppli Corp. report that an increased supply of polysilicon cells and modules will result in lower prices. Please go to http://www.pv-tech.org/news/a/isuppli_reveals_the_winners_and_loser_in_the_solar_industry_shakeout/ to read the full story. Thank you to Rob Miller, SWITCH Board member, Axio Power Canada Inc., for sending this article.
5. The Province of Ontario recently announced a partnership with Better Place, a high-tech company based in California, in the hopes of making the Greater Toronto Area a hub for electric transportation. To read the full article, please go to <http://www.thestar.com/News/GTA/article/571403>. Thank you to Bill Young, Utilities Kingston, for mentioning this article.
6. SWITCH has a copy of a paper written by Carleton University's master's student Stewart Fast, about the economics of using corn ethanol in the Eastern Ontario region. If you are interested in reading the paper, please contact info@switchkingston.ca
7. SWITCH's Director, Ted Hsu was invited to attend TVO's Agenda Camp during their visit to Kingston. The focus was on the agricultural economy and Ted led one of the discussions on renewable energy.
8. SWITCH has been chosen to participate in the monthly Business Payrolls Survey for Statistics Canada.
9. Some residents of Kingston and Frontenac County may be eligible for down-payment assistance towards the purchase of a home under The Ontario Affordable Housing Program. To read more about the program, please go to <http://www.cityofkingston.ca/homeownership/>. Applications are also available for pick-up at Community and Family Services at 362 Montreal St. All applications must be received by Lorraine Mustard, Clerk Community and Family Services, City of Kingston, by February 6th. Lorraine Mustard can be contacted at 613-546-2695 x4943. Thank you to Stephen Sottile, SWITCH Board member, Utilities Kingston, for this information.
10. **A Reminder** that the series of Open Houses held by the City for Public Consultation of the Fall 2008 Draft Official Plan will be held on the following dates:

Jan 26th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm and 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Memorial Hall, City Hall

Jan 28th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm and 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Glenburnie Fire Hall, 1485 Unity Road

Feb 2nd, 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Gore Road Fire Hall, 211 Gore Road

Feb 4th, 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Isabel Turner Library, 935 Gardiners Road, Meeting Room B

There is a sustainability section of the plan. Comments can also be made by email to opzb_update@cityofkingston.ca or by calling 613-546-4291 x3193.

11. **Event: a Reminder** that Green Up! 2009 is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday April 18th at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour**. Please check their website <http://www.greenupfestival.ca/> for updates over the coming months.
12. **Event: CANWEA** is holding "Wind Matters 2009: Opportunities in Canada's Wind Energy Supply and Value Chains", Feb 18-19 in Toronto. See http://www.canwea.ca/events/windmatters4_e.php
13. **Event: Durham Strategic Energy Alliance** presents a breakfast networking event in Ajax, Ontario on Wed. Feb. 25, "Is there money out there?" See http://www.dsea.ca/html/full_details.html?ev_id=48.
14. **Event: A New Ontario: Making Sustainable Communities Work**, February 2nd, 12 to 2:00 pm, Delta Guelph Hotel & Conference Centre, Royal City A Ballroom. Please visit <http://m2m.oce-ontario.org/> for more information, or email info@oce-ontario.org, or call 416-861-1092 x1019 or 1-866-759-6014 x1019.
15. **Event: UVANY** (Upstate Venture Association of New York), "Successfully Launching a Renewable Energy Venture", February 3rd, 5 to 9:00 pm, Inn on Broadway, 26 Broadway, Rochester, NY. Please go to <http://www.uvany.com/events/details.asp?eventid=143> for more details and to register.

Hope to see you at our next Open Meeting!

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrative Assistant

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