



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, October 20th, 2009

This week's edition sponsored by SWITCH member

Canadian Hydro Developers



Greetings Everybody!

Our next open meeting will be **Friday, November 6th**, at **8:00 am**, at Queen's Innovation Park. The speakers will be SWITCH members Jeff Gibson, **jNetrix Systems Inc**, and **Aztech Associates**. They will be speaking about home electricity monitoring systems.

If you are interested in sponsoring the refreshments for an Open Meeting, at a cost of \$30, please contact Catherine or Ted, info@switchkingston.ca. The refreshments for the November 6th Open Meeting will be sponsored by **Brittania Construction**, <http://www.britanniaconstruction.ca/>.

"Britannia Construction is a locally owned and operated family business that thrives on providing a positive and efficient home building experience...."

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 come down and badge you in.

SWITCH News & Announcements

1. A big welcome to new member **Frontenac Community Futures Development Corp.** and thank you to renewing member **Anchor Concrete**.
2. SWITCH would like to welcome new employees **Mark Gibson, Andy Mills and Pierre Nadeau** who will be working over the next six months 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.
3. SWITCH will be holding a free public screening of the new documentary, "A Sea Change", this **Saturday, October 24th**, the International Day of Climate Action. The screening will take place in the Large Lecture Theatre at St. Lawrence College. Doors will be open at 6 pm. The film will start at 7 o'clock. "A Sea Change" is about ocean acidification, caused by the same emissions of CO2 responsible for global warming. The film website is <http://www.aseachange.net/>. Please tell you friends and family. **We need volunteers to help advertise the screening.** If you are interested, please contact SWITCH Executive Director, Ted Hsu, thsu@switchkingston.ca.
4. SWITCH held a well-attended meeting in Napanee last Friday. The *Napanee Guide* picked up the story <http://www.napaneeguide.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2114333>
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.
6. SWITCH summer student, volunteer, and Queen's engineering physics student, **Alexander Mataseje**, is looking for information to help him design a small solar powered unmanned aerial vehicle for surveying atmospheric conditions on an extended flight. **If anybody has experience or information about light solar cells, or solar powered flight, please let us know and we will pass on the information.**

SWITCH Member News & Announcements

1. 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 djinton@sl.on.ca. More details can be found in the attached pdf file.
2. SWITCH member and Certified Financial Planner, **Betty-Anne Howard**, 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 at the December open meeting. *Socially Responsible/Sustainable Investing (SRI's): Making the links between how we live our lives, spend our money and invest our money.*
3. SWITCH member **ELORIN**, will be co-hosting the Research to Receptor Series 2009, *Agricultural Solutions for Energy: Biomass*, on November 17th at the Donald Gordon Centre, 421 Union Street, from 11:30 am to 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$35 and include lunch and a wine and cheese reception at the end of the event. Please visit <http://www.elorin.ca> to find out more and to register.
4. If you are interested in joining the "Fill the Hill" campaign on Saturday, October 24th, the International Day of Climate Action, please get in touch with Bridget Doherty of SWITCH member **Sisters of Providence** (see above contact info). Buses will be departing from Sir John A. MacDonald and Bath Road at 9:00 am. Transportation costs are pay what you can. To learn more about the local and international activities being planned, please visit <http://www.350.org>.
5. Thank you to SWITCH member **Amy Colebourne** for sending the following link to a Request for Proposal submitted by the OPA for a Third Party Agent to Deliver the Community Energy Partnership Program (CEPP). The deadline for submissions is October 30th. The CEPP is targeted to be operational by December 2009 http://www.merx.com/English/SUPPLIER_Menu.Aspx?WCE=Show&TAB=1&PORTAL=MERX&State=7&searchtype=category&id=184136&src=osr&FED_ONLY=0&ACTION=&rowcount=&lastpage=&hcode=%2bn%2bgXTOYp0JB6GZm5e3kg%3d%3d

- The **Kingston Sustainability Centre (KSC)**, located at 193 Princess Street, is open to the public Monday to Saturday from 11am-6pm, with evening event availability. The KSC 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 Kingstonians. To learn more contact Dan Hendry, danieljameshendry@gmail.com, or Randy Cluff, randycluff@msn.com, or call (613) 544-6660.
- SWITCH member **Joshua Pearce** sent the following solar PV FAQ wiki for Kingston http://www.appropedia.org/Solar_Photovoltaic_Cells_for_the_Kingston_Home_FAQ Joshua noted that SWITCH members should feel free to use it as a resource and to edit the page (add any missed items, references, or correct any mistakes). You can edit the text by clicking on any of the edit links on the page. **If you would like to start or add content to an appropedia section for other areas of sustainable energy information specific to Kingston, please let us know.**
- 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

- A list of examples of ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is available on the City of Kingston's website, <http://www.cityofkingston.ca/greenhouse>.
- The Future of Water Workshop Series 2009, Engaging Youth on Water Issues: Water, Community and Health, Bay of Quinte Region, November 6-8, Prince Edward County. The workshop is open to 20 interested individuals aged 20 to 35, at a cost of \$40 each. The deadline to submit an application is Monday, October 26th. Interested applicants should submit a one-page letter outlining their interest in attending the workshop to Jespal Panesar, Waterlution Associate, Jespal@gmail.com, (416) 903-9859. Please visit this site http://www.waterlution.org/future_of_water.php#ontario-2 to download an invitation and receive application instructions.
- 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.
- Event:** Brockville Climate Action Group meeting, Sunday, October 25th, 2pm, Brockville Public Library, 23 Buell Street, Brockville. The speaker will be Charles Forman, of Switchgreen Inc., "Switchgrass-based pellet production."
- 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

- Event:** 1st Annual OSEA Community Power Conference, November 15-16, Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Please go to this site <http://www.cpconference.ca/> for more details.
- 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.
- The Canada Small Business Financing Program seeks to "...increase the availability of loans for establishing, expanding, modernizing and improving small businesses...", by encouraging financial institutions to make financing available. To find out more information about this program, please go to <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/csbfp-pfpec.nsf/eng/Home> or call 1-866-959-1699 (toll-free) or email CSBFA-LFPEC@ic.gc.ca.
- The Electricity Sector Council is offering a wage subsidy of up to \$10,000 (1/3 of the total salary over a maximum 12 month period) for every new technician, technologist and engineer hired. Please go to the following website to learn more about how you can qualify for the subsidy http://www.brightfutures.ca/projects/electricity_first_work/2009_application_documents.html
- 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
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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!