



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, May 25th, 2010

Greetings Everyone!

The next SWITCH Open Meeting **will take place on Friday, June 4th, 8 am, the Royal Kingston Curling Club, 130 Days Road**. Ian Baines from Windstream Energy Inc., will be speaking about the Wolfe Island Shoals Wind Farm project.

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 June, July and September meetings will be sponsored by **Kingston Solar Installations**. October and November will be sponsored by **Air Liquide**. December is sponsored by an anonymous donor.

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.** Welcome to new members **Loyalist Township, Fusetek, and Haddon Wilson.**
- 2. Event:** SWITCH breakfast meeting, Friday, May 28th, 8 am, main floor conference room at Innovation Park, 945 Princess St. Kathy Wood, Natural Capital Resources, will discuss **how Kingston's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can benefit from new supply chain opportunities in solar and wind energy**. Tickets are \$5 for SWITCH members and \$15 for non-members. A light breakfast will be served. RSVP to register@switchontario.ca. Seating is restricted to 60 attendees.

3. SWITCH quarterly open meeting in Napanee, July 16, 8 am, The Strathcona Paper Centre, 16 McPherson Drive, Napanee. Rob Miller of **Axio Power Canada** is the scheduled speaker. TD Canada Trust will be sponsoring the refreshments.
4. SWITCH executive director Ted Hsu wrote a letter to the editor about the recently released StatsCan report on per capita greenhouse gas emissions from private vehicles. Kingston has the highest emission rate of all metropolitan areas surveyed, <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2586525>.
5. Interested in **carpooling** to the next SWITCH meeting? Please contact info@switchkingston.ca if you need a ride or would like to offer one.
6. The **1000 Solar Rooftops Challenge** will begin soon. Students will be going door to door, identifying homes with solar potential and delivering customized information to homeowners. The students will be available at various public events over the summer. SWITCH will be setting up a database of installed solar energy systems, recognizing the installers involved with the project.
7. SWITCH executive director Ted Hsu, will be speaking at the Earth, Body & Spirit Expo at the Invista Centre, on Saturday June 5th at 11 am. Ted will be giving a presentation on how to use the microFIT spreadsheet calculator available on the SWITCH website, <http://switchkingston.ca/wiki/doku.php?id=microfit:calculator>.
8. The **NEW SWITCH** newsletter, designed by **Jennifer Kiwala**, who has volunteered to work for SWITCH every Monday, is in its final design stages! Shortly, 100 subscribers will be randomly selected to trial run the software. In order to prevent spam and misuse of email addresses, you will need to approve the request to receive the newsletter which will either come from Jennifer Kiwala or Constant Contact. Thank you.
9. Website feature: <http://www.switchkingston.ca/files/Building%20An%20Earth-Sheltered%20Home,%20Vol%209.pdf>

SWITCH Member News & Announcements

1. **ELORIN corner:** Biobreakfast, June 10th, 7:15 to 9:00 am, The Radisson Hotel, 1 Johnson St. Speaker to be announced – stay tuned for updates.
2. **St. Lawrence College** has issued an RFP for solar development on its Kingston and Brockville campuses. The project will be 250KW in Kingston and up to 100KW in Brockville. The bid notification document is attached.
3. **Fifth Town Artisan Cheese Co.** is now featuring goat milk ice cream – with new flavours every 2 weeks, <http://www.fifthtown.ca/>

- 4. 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." **Last chance to register**, <http://www.queensu.ca/qieep/events/biomass/2010/index.html> or contact Lisa Doulas, ldoulas@cogeco.ca, 613-539-2482.

Local non-member News & Announcements

- 1.** A free public screening of the film "In Transition", documenting the Transition Town movement, will take place on **Wednesday, June 2nd at 6:30 pm, in the Wilson Room, Central Library, 130 Johnson St.** The film will be followed by a discussion (around 7:45 pm) about how to make positive changes in your community, along with information from local organizations actively involved in helping us to move away from oil dependence. If you would like more information, or are interested in showcasing your organization, please contact transitionkingston@gmail.com. A small donation to help cover costs would be appreciated, but is not required.
- 2. New Price:** GreenUP! 2010 will form part of the Earth, Body, and Spirit Expo at the Invista Centre, June 5-6. **Booths are available at a cost of \$200 each.** Please contact the GreenUP Committee, greenup.planning@gmail.com to inquire about booth space, or for further information about the festival.
- 3. Event:** Tamworth Green Energy Fair, Saturday, June 5th, 9 am to 2 pm. The event includes workshops, vendor exhibits, and a tour of renewable energy projects.
- 4. The Community Energy Partnerships Program (CEPP)** covers up to 90% of eligible development costs to a maximum of \$200,000 for community power projects greater than 10 kW and no larger than 10 MW. Charities, not-for-profits and co-ops are eligible to apply for the fund. Individual Ontario residents, farmers for example, are also eligible to apply. The CEPP is divided into two phases, the first being design and development and the second being funding support for regulatory approvals. For more information on the program, visit <http://www.communityenergyprogram.ca/Home.aspx>.
- 5. Event:** Renewable Energy Projects for Home and Farm, June 19th, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Wintergreen Studios, 9780 Canoe Lake Road. Join Rena Uptis in the morning for a guided tour of Wintergreen's off-grid systems. Discussion topics will include solar-powered electricity, solar domestic hot water, straw bale insulation, thermal mass and living roofs. In the afternoon, David Hahn will discuss opportunities for farmers through the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) program. The

talk will include a tour of Forest Farms' 10 KW solar photovoltaic installation. To register, please go to <http://www.newfarmproject.ca/farming-training/>. The NFP-subsidized registration fee is \$10. Lunch will be provided at Wintergreen Studios.

Non-local News & Announcements

- 1.** The Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health has produced a report entitled "The Potential Health Impact of Wind Turbines", http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/ministry_reports/wind_turbine/wind_turbine.aspx
- 2.** Last week, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a letter to local distribution companies to cease "in-series connections" for FIT and microFIT projects. Measurement Canada will not support the in-series metering configuration, <http://fit.powerauthority.on.ca/Page.asp?PageID=924&ContentID=10261>.
- 3.** To read more about the Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act go to this site <http://www.conserveourwater.ca/?p=522>. Low water levels caused by the dry winter this year are reducing the Province's ability to generate hydroelectric power, <http://www.thestar.com/news/ontario/article/813333--low-water-levels-threaten-power-supply>.
- 4.** The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has initiated a call for expressions of interest (EOI) to identify qualified providers of carbon and GHG emission reduction services. **The deadline to submit an EOI is by 4 pm on May 26.** Please go to this link for more information, <http://gmf.fcm.ca/files/Announcements/2010/FCM-Carbon-Reduction/EOI-FCMCarbon-EN.pdf>.
- 5.** 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.**

Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the next SWITCH event,

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrator

SWITCH

At Innovation Park, 945 Princess Street,

Kingston, ON K7L 3N6
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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.