



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, April 27th, 2010

Greetings Everyone!

The next SWITCH Open Meeting **will take place on Friday, May 7th, 8 am, the Royal Kingston Curling Club, 130 Days Road**. Dan Corbett will speak on how Sustainable Kingston can build community partnerships and citizen engagement to have clear measures of success in advancing Kingston as - Canada's Most Sustainable City. He will address in particular the parts of the plan relevant to SWITCH:

“Establish Kingston as a leader in Green Technology (wind, solar, bio fuel)...

...Reduce the amount of energy that residents and industry consume.

Generate enough local renewable energy to meet all of our needs.

Reduce and/or mitigate our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to become carbon neutral. “

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 May open meeting will be sponsored by **NEDCO**. June, July and September will be sponsored by **Kingston Solar Installations**. October and November will be sponsored by **Air Liquide**.

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 member **Gerretsen Properties**, and thank you to renewing member **Aztech Associates**.
- 2.** Ian Baines, from Windstream Energy Inc., will be speaking about the Wolfe Island Shoals Wind Farm project at the June open meeting.

3. SWITCH would like to thank Jennifer Kiwala for volunteering to work one day a week at the SWITCH office. Jennifer is working on a redesign of the SWITCH newsletter.
4. The Ontario Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company is now insuring homes that have solar panels of less than 10 kW, and farms that have up to 500 kW. Talk to your local broker to find a Mutual Insurance Company close to you. Thank you to SWITCH member Susie Kinghorn, **Nature's Powers**, for providing this information.
5. **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.
6. If you wish to write to the federal government about the cancellation of the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program, attached to this newsletter is a Word document with pre-addressed sample letters and mailing labels. Just add your own name and address, and mail it off. Letters to the House of Commons do not require postage.
7. Over 1400 people have signed into the Keep the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program alive! Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=107621445935729#!>
8. **Carpooling** to SWITCH open meetings will be available soon.
9. Website feature: <http://switchkingston.ca/microfit.php>
10. "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. **ELORIN corner:** Market & Industry Intelligence for Entrepreneurs and Start-ups, May 20, 1:30 to 3 pm, Innovation Park, 945 Princess Street. As part of ELORIN U, this seminar examines how market intelligence can make your business more profitable.
2. **Enfinity** will be installing solar panels on the roof of the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa, ON. Please read the attached press release to learn more. To

watch an interview about the project, including design photos, go to <http://www.youtube.com/user/AMorningVideo#p/u/0/YD8fpTNPQZc>

- 3. St. Lawrence College** students completing their first year of the Wind Turbine Technician program are looking for summer positions in the electrical or related field. These students have one year of college training as industrial electrician apprentices. Government tax credits are available for the employer. If you have opportunities, or know of companies that do, please contact:

Romy Baur
Coordinator Wind Turbine Technician/Industrial Electrician Co-op
Diploma Apprenticeship Program
School of Applied Science and Computing
St. Lawrence College
100 Portsmouth Avenue
Kingston, ON, K7L 5A6
RBaur@sl.on.ca, (613) 544-5400 x1463.

- 4. Seaway Document Solutions** will be holding a free seminar on Sustainable Manufacturing from 11 am to noon, on Wednesday, May 5th, at the **Kingston Sustainability Centre**. Xerox Canada's VP of Sustainability, Eme Onuoha, will be sharing a discussion with the program manager at the Kingston Sustainability Centre, Dan Hendry. The discussion will focus on sustainable development from a Xerox and non-Xerox perspective with the aim of raising a few ideas on how organizations can look inside their own operations to reduce their environmental footprint. Anyone interested in attending should contact Andrew Greer, Andrew.greer@seawaysolutions.com, (613) 548-0766 x206.
- 5. Fifth Town Artisan Cheese Co.** recently became certified as a B Corporation. B Corporation (the B stands for 'benefit') designates a business as being socially responsible. Please see the attached to read more.
- 6. 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." To register online go to <http://www.queensu.ca/qieep/events/biomass/2010/index.html> or contact Lisa Doulas, ldoulas@cogeco.ca, 613-539-2482.
- 7.** The Province of Ontario has announced they will continue to fund up to \$150 on new pre-retrofit audits, and up to \$5,000 in provincial retrofit grants. Please see the attached press release from SWITCH member **Hearthmakers Energy Cooperative** for more details.

Local non-member News & Announcements

1. Brockville Climate Action Group monthly meeting, May 23rd, 2 pm to 3:30 pm, Brockville Public Library. Diana Beresford-Kroeger, author of *The Global Forest*, will be speaking. "Her revolutionary bioplan proposes how trees can be planted in urban and rural areas to promote health and counteract pollution and global warming, maintaining biodiversity in the face of climate change."
2. Tamworth is having its second Green Energy Fair on Saturday, June 5th, from 9 am to 2 pm. The event includes workshops, vendor exhibits, and a tour of renewable energy projects. Last year, the workshops were sold out. The cost to rent an outside booth is \$50. To receive a vendor application form, email Cam Mather, cam@aztext.com. Applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis due to limited available booth space.

Non-local News & Announcements

1. **Employment Opportunity:** iSolara Solar Power, <http://www.isolara.com> is looking for solar PV salespeople who have experience in technical sales and want to join a rapidly-growing company in a positive industry. The primary focus would be sales in the City of Ottawa. Please send a CV and cover letter to Mark Gibson, General Manager, at mgibson@isolara.com.
2. The City of Toronto has a plan to capture and use the biogas from the Dufferin Transfer Station (used for green bin processing), <http://www.thestar.com/business/cleanbreak/article/799428--hamilton-finally-a-plan-to-use-toronto-s-biogas>.
3. Companies may soon have to pay the entire bill for the Ontario residential blue box program. Presently, the cost of the program is split evenly between homeowners and companies, <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/toronto/story/2010/04/22/blue-box.html>.
4. **Event:** Canada Green Building Council Annual Conference, Performance Matters: The next generation of buildings & communities, June 8-10, Vancouver Convention Centre, <http://www.cagbc.org/cagbc/conference/index.php>.
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.**
6. Schuco Canada is continuing to offer a series of training sessions for solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar thermal in **May, June & July**. Please go to their

website for full details of each course,
http://www.schueco.com/web/ca/commercial/trainings_events/solar_trainings_events.

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

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.