



# SWITCH

*The Sustainable Energy People*

*SWITCH news, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

Greetings Everybody!

Our next open meeting will be **Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**, 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, or sponsoring an e-newsletter, at a cost of \$60, please contact Catherine or Ted, [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto: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.** Thank you to renewing members **St. Lawrence College** and **Adegboyega Babasola**.
- 2.** SWITCH held a free public screening of the new documentary, "A Sea Change", on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, the International Day of Climate Action, at St. Lawrence College. The screening will take place in the Large Lecture Theatre at St. Lawrence College. "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/>. **If you couldn't make it to the screening and would like to learn about ocean acidification, there is another film, called "Acid Test", which is available for viewing online.** Please go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cqCvcX7buo> to watch the film.
- 3.** 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 16<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at the Harbour Restaurant, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour

from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Please R.S.V.P. if you are interested in attending.

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 six months.
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. Sustainable Energy Technologies (SET) is introducing its PARALEX commercial rooftop solar power solution to the Ontario market and is looking for host sites in Ontario to demonstrate and validate the performance of its systems in the Ontario environment. SWITCH member **Anton Driesse** will give a brief presentation on behalf of SET at our next meeting, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Interested parties can contact either Anton, [anton.driesse@kos.net](mailto:anton.driesse@kos.net) or Brent Harris of SET [brent.harris@sustainableenergy.com](mailto:brent.harris@sustainableenergy.com).
2. EnerWorks Inc. has been named one of the "Next 10 Emerging Cleantech Leaders". EnerWorks uses solar thermal technology developed by SWITCH member **PARTEQ Innovations**. "The elegance and effectiveness of this company's innovative technologies in helping homeowners conserve energy and reduce their carbon footprint ...", John Molloy, President and CEO of Queen's University's PARTEQ Innovations. Please go to <http://www.parteqinnovations.com/news-EnerWorks-Cleantech1009.htm> to read the full story.
3. SWITCH member **Frontenac CFDC**, is part of the Eastern Ontario Development Program, or EODP. You can read all about the EODP by going to <http://www.eodp.ca/aboutuss1.php>.
4. SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College** will be holding a **RETScreen® Introductory Workshop** on November 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:dlinton@sl.on.ca). More details can be found in the attached pdf file.
5. **ELORIN** Breakfast series, November 12<sup>th</sup>, Donald Gordon Conference Centre, 421 Union Street, 7:15 to 9:00 am. The speaker will be Kevin Jones, President and CEO of OCETA, the Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement.
6. SWITCH member **The Sisters of Providence** wishes to thank everyone involved in the "Climate on the Line" and "Fill The Hill" campaigns. Hundreds of people wrapped Kingston's City Hall in a clothes line, and all clothes were donated to families in need. Guest speaker Ralph Torrie, Green Energy and Environmental expert, discussed the need for green technology to help us meet the 350 parts per million carbon dioxide target that is currently written in the UN Climate Change Treaty. The Fill the Hill event brought out thousands of people with a great showing from Kingston, [www.350.org](http://www.350.org) or <http://cdays.atypical.ca/>.
7. 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.*
8. SWITCH member **ELORIN**, will be co-hosting the Research to Receptor Series 2009, *Agricultural Solutions for Energy: Biomass*, on November 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

9. 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 Kingstonian's. To learn more contact Dan Hendry, [danieljameshendry@gmail.com](mailto:danieljameshendry@gmail.com), or Randy Cluff, [randycluff@msn.com](mailto:randycluff@msn.com), or call (613) 544-6660.
10. 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](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.**
11. 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](mailto:slapp@sl.on.ca)) for further information.

### ***Local non-member News & Announcements***

1. **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.
2. **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. Rooftop solar panels purchased before October 1<sup>st</sup>, will now qualify for the FIT and microFIT program, as long as owners can provide proof of purchase by November 30<sup>th</sup>. 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>.
2. Schuco Canada Inc., is looking for a Sales Manager for Canada (PV and solar thermal). The position will be Ontario based. Please see the attached file for a detailed profile.
3. An Abbotsford, BC school, is using a wind turbine, solar PV panels, and a bicycle-powered generator to provide energy to run their computer lab. Go to this site <http://www.bcsea.org/learn/news/2009/10/19/abbotsford-middle-school-runs-computer-lab-on-green-energy> to read more.

4. CBC radio's "As It Happens", reported last week that California's state footprint is 40% smaller than the U.S. average. To learn about energy efficiency standards for buildings in California, go to <http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/>.
5. **Event:** 1<sup>st</sup> Annual OSEA Community Power Conference, November 15-16, Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Please go to this site <http://www.cpconference.ca/> for more details.
6. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> through to December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Preference will be given to projects that can be started quickly and completed by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Please go to <http://southernontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/00128.html> for more information on how to apply.
7. **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](mailto: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](mailto: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!