



SWITCH news  
April 28<sup>th</sup>  
Non-Members Edition

Greetings Everybody!

**Reserve the Date:** Our next open meeting will be **Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 8:00 am**, in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. The speaker will be Kent Novakowsky, acting head of Civil Engineering at Queen's University. Kent is an expert in groundwater flow in fractured rock which is very relevant to geothermal heating and cooling systems. The title of Kent's talk will be: ***Ground Source Heat Pumps and Aquifer Thermal Energy Systems.***

**Refreshments:** Any donations for refreshments would be gratefully accepted, as this is part of the cost to SWITCH for our Open Meetings. Please feel free to bring your own cup if you prefer.

*New sign-in procedure:*

*All attendees of SWITCH Open Meetings can continue to enter through the West side doors (the entrance used previously) from 7:30 to 9:00 am. There will be a Sign-In and Sign-Out sheet available at the top of the stairs. Please remember to sign this sheet as you enter and exit.*

*All visitors to SWITCH must now enter through the main entrance to Novellis (the front doors) and call the SWITCH office (dial 9+613-547-6700 x129). There is an office phone book available if you need it. We will come down and badge you in.*

1. A big welcome to new small business member, Cam Allen, **All-Tech Consulting** and student member, **Dirk McLaughlin**, beginning master's student with SWITCH member **Joshua Pearce**.
2. Congratulations to SWITCH member **Axio Power Inc.**, for receiving approval for their proposal for a solar farm near Waterford in Norfolk County. To read more please go to <http://www.simcoereformer.ca/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1524369>.
3. To read an article about the opening of the Eastern Ontario Sustainable Building Centre (EOSBC) developed by SWITCH member Michael Tiffe, **TAB Mechanical**, please go to <http://www.shieldmedia.ca/default.asp?sourceid=&smenu=1&twindow=&mad=&sdetail=15968&wpage=1&skeyword=&sidate=&ccat=&ccatm=&restate=&restatus=&reoption=&retype=&repmin=&repmax=&rebed=&rebath=&subname=&pform=&sc=1944&hn=shieldmedia&he=.ca>
4. To read about Councillor Mark Gerretsen's motion last week to have the corporation of the City of Kingston generate renewable energy to match its electricity use, please see the minutes of the April 21 Council meeting at the City's website <http://www.cityofkingston.ca/cityhall/council/archive/index.asp> when it becomes available.
5. The Kingston Sustainability Centre, Canada's First Not For Profit Green Centre was announced on Earth Day. To read about the Centre please go to <http://www.kingstonwhigstandard.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1533941> and to <http://www.kingstonwhigstandard.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1536050>. The Kingston

Sustainability Centre creates opportunities for businesses, organizations and individuals to show their green products, processes and practices. For more information please go to <http://www.kingstoncanada.com/green> or contact Patricia Brown at [green@kingstoncanada.com](mailto:green@kingstoncanada.com) or 613-561-6500. Please see the attached brochure for more details on the Centre.

6. The SWITCH Board will be increasing in size from 7 to 9 members. If you have any suggestions for new Board members please send them to [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca).
7. To read an article about the shortage of green graduates in Canada please go to <http://www.nationalpost.com/story.html?id=1520362>. SWITCH Board member **Don Young** is quoted in the article.
8. Energy Conservation Week is May 17-23. If you are doing anything and would like the SWITCH community to know about it, please send us an email and we'll spread the word.
9. **Contest:** SWITCH member **John Johnson** and Mary Anne Higgs have donated "The Power Cost Monitor" by Canadian company BlueLine Innovations. It hooks onto your external electricity meter and connects to an indoor monitor by radio so that you can have real time feedback on your home electricity consumption. SWITCH will be giving away "The Power Cost Monitor" (It's like new and these things usually cost about \$100 or more) to whoever submits the best proposal for using it. Please write one paragraph and send it along with your contact information to [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca). **Contest ends May 31. Please pass this on to anybody you think might be interested - especially anybody with connections to local schools. Send in your proposal today!**
10. **Call for Volunteers:** If you would like to chair a SWITCH Open Meeting, please get in touch.
11. **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 full listing of all one day workshops please go to <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/2Day.php>. Information on 2 day workshops can be found by going to <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/5Day.php>. **Ian Kilborn from SWITCH member Quantum Renewable Energy will be teaching a Living Off the Grid course on July 16<sup>th</sup>.** To watch a slide show about Wintergreen on YouTube please go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAwzuRWWJjg>.
12. **Event:** LaFarge PPI Energy Farm Demonstration and Open House, Loyalist Golf & Country Club, Bath, ON, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 4 to 8 pm. The LaFarge Bath plant is preparing to apply for a Certificate of Approval to use biomass in a trial scheduled for Fall 2009. They would like to get input from the public. Please see the attached postcard for more information. You can contact LaFarge by emailing [lafargebathinfo@lafarge-na.com](mailto:lafargebathinfo@lafarge-na.com) or on the web, <http://www.bathcementplant.com>, or by writing to: Bath Plant, LaFarge North America, PO Box 160, Bath, ON, K0H 1G0.
13. **Event:** Future Ready: Innovation for a Global Marketplace, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, May 11-12. Ontario Centres of Excellence Discovery 09 Conference will include a Greening Greater Toronto Marketplace. For more information please go to <http://www.ocediscovery.com/>.
14. **Event:** ELORIN's annual conference is in Kingston this year, August 12-13, and it's about Sustainable Building and Design. Please go to [www.elorin.ca](http://www.elorin.ca) for more information.

**15.** Send in your news! If you have an event or something of interest to the energy community that you would like included with e-news please send it in. The weekly deadline is Monday by 4 pm. Thanks!

Hope to see you on Friday at our Open Meeting,

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Catherine Humphreys, Administrative Assistant

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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!