



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

SWITCH news, April 6th, 2010

This week's edition sponsored by:



Greetings Everyone!

The next SWITCH Open Meeting **will take place on Friday, April 9th, 8 am, in the Press Lounge at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge Street.** Andrew Greer from Seaway Document Solutions Inc., an Authorized Xerox agent, will be speaking about Sustainable Manufacturing. The refreshments will be sponsored by SWITCH member **CPE Division-L Inc.** The venue is sponsored by an anonymous donor.

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 members **RBC Royal Bank, TD Canada Trust, and Andrew Johnson**
2. If you wish to write to the 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.
3. **Starting in May, SWITCH open meetings will now be held in the Royal Kingston Curling Club at 130 Days Road.** **Carpooling** to SWITCH open meetings will soon be available – stay tuned for updates.

4. Scheduled for May: Sustainable Kingston has asked to address SWITCH. 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. "

5. The April 9th open meeting will be webcast. To watch, please sign in to the share widget **at least one hour prior**, <http://www.switchkingston.ca#dimdim>.
6. SWITCH meeting in Napanee, April 16th, Strathcona Paper Centre, 16 McPherson Drive, 2nd floor lounge, 8 am. Guest speaker Kathy Wood of Natural Capital Resources will discuss how Lennox and Addington County's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can benefit from new supply chain opportunities in solar and wind energy. For more information, <http://www.switchontario.ca/> or email register@switchontario.ca.
7. Website feature:
http://switchkingston.ca/wiki/doku.php?id=opportunities:sdhw_conventional_tank
8. Calling All Editors and Knowledgeable Readers: Our Energy Digest is being read by more and more people as the Internet search engines discover us...and that means we have an even greater need for high quality, up-to-date information. This is currently the most complete source of reliable information on the FIT and microFIT program. SWITCH now needs you to share your expertise by editing the Energy Digest: simply go to <http://www.switchontario.ca/wiki>, and when you see something that you think should be different, log in (very easy) and make the changes. SWITCH staff will monitor all changes and ensure accuracy, style and correct spelling, so don't be shy! Call Mark at 613-532-7220 if you have other ideas or want help connecting.
9. "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:** Spring Training Workshop, April 8th, 9:30 to 11 am, Innovation Park. Paul Blais, a partner in Millier Dickinson Blais, Canadas largest economic development specialist consultancy, will be speaking about setting up a successful consulting firm in Eastern Ontario. The workshop is free, but space is limited. RSVP to info@elorin.ca by April 6th.
2. **Employment:** Fifth Town Artisan Cheese is now accepting applications for two new positions: 1) Retail Store/Jr. Supervisor for Sun, Mon, Tues from 9 am - 7pm plus additional hours available in other areas if desired; and 2) Cheese Maker Assistant -- this is a junior position with potential to progress to Associate Cheese Maker in the future. Ideal for anyone looking to

become a cheese maker. Hours are Tues-Friday plus alternate Sat and Sun for 5 day, full time position. Need a person who is capable of physical work, a good team player, and ideally post secondary education. If interested, please email petrac@fifthotwn.ca

3. To apply for and to learn about the Eastern Ontario Development Program (EODP), go to SWITCH member **Frontenac CFDC's** website, <http://www.frontenaccfdc.com/services.cfm?topic=easternontariodevelopmentprogram>. If you operate a business or farm in Frontenac County, contact Frontenac CFDC to find out if you are eligible to receive an interest free loan for the purchase and installation of alternative energy where the energy will be used for the operation of the business. For more information, contact the Frontenac CFDC at 613-372-1414 or toll free 1-888-372-9962.
4. **Nature's Powers**, located in North Augusta, held an open house over the Easter weekend, attracting about 90-100 visitors each day, <http://www.naturespowers.ca/>.
5. The **Living Cities Company** is holding a Spring Rainbarrel sale. Each rainbarrel costs \$60 and must be pre-ordered by April 25th. Please see the attached for more details, or contact rainbarrel@livingcitiescompany.ca.
6. KTC luncheon, April 16th, 11:30 am, The Harbour Restaurant, 53 Yonge St. Students from the **Building Construction Internship Program**, and Don Voteary, will be speaking about Harvest House, Canada's first student built energy net-zero home. Tickets are \$35 and \$20 for students. Pre-registration by noon on April 14th is required, <http://www.kingstontechnology.net/publisher/articleview/frmArticleID/39/>.
7. **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." Online registration now available, <http://www.queensu.ca/qieep> or contact Lisa Doulas, ldoulas@cogeco.ca, 613-539-2482.

Local non-member News & Announcements

1. **Update:** Paul Charbonneau, energy consultant and facilitator of energy projects across Ontario will be giving a presentation on solar roof opportunities for non profits, at the **Kingston Frontenac Public Library, 130 Johnson St., Delahaye Room**, from 10 am - 12 pm on Saturday, April 10th. Paul Charbonneau specializes in community energy projects for non-profits, schools, and faith communities. The Kingston Sustainability Centre is located at 193 Princess Street in downtown Kingston. For more information, please contact David Kay, (613) 484-5687
2. **Event:** Sustainable Gardens, A Workshop for Gardeners, Saturday, April 10, 9 am to 4 pm, Christ Church, 990 Sydenham Road. There will be practical and demonstration workshops, door prizes and a silent auction. Tickets are \$50 and include lunch, http://www.mgoi.ca/media/Zone_7_2010_TU_poster.pdf.
3. Frank Horvat, a musician and environmentalist from Toronto will be giving a piano recital on April 12th at 7:30 pm at the Upper Canada Academy of Performing Arts on 260 Brock St. The recital, featuring new and original works in honour of Earth Hour will be performed in a completely dark performance hall and marks the release of Frank Horvat's new CD, *A Little Dark Music*. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the CD will go to the World Wildlife Fund. The

concert is part of a year-long cross-Canada tour called the "Green Keys Tour", promoting eco-sustainability. Admission is free, <http://www.frankhorvat.com/performance/tour/kingston.html>

4. Brockville Climate Action Group monthly meeting, April 25, 2 to 3:30 pm, Brockville Public Library, 23 Buell Street, *Stoneleigh: The Economy Trumps Peak Oil and Climate Change*. Stoneleigh, editor of the financial blog The Automatic Earth, will discuss how the concepts of peak oil, empire and credit bubbles intersect, and how individuals can prepare for a different financial future.
5. **Event:** Earth, Body, Spirit Expo, June 5-6, Invista Centre. There will be opportunities for exhibitors, workshop presenters, demonstrations, sponsorships, and volunteers to participate. For more information go to www.EarthBodySpiritExpo.com, or call 613-767-9721, info@withinkingston.com. **The application deadline is April 10th. A 10% discount is available to all SWITCH Members.**

Non-local News & Announcements

1. The Ontario Power Authority issued an RFP yesterday for a review of the domestic content regulations of the feed-in tariff program, <http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Page.asp?PageID=751&SiteNodeID=135>
2. To join a discussion group organized by Green Communities Canada about federal and provincial home energy programs, including the ecoENERGY program, go to this site: http://greencommunitiescanada.org/mailman/listinfo/positiveenergy_greencommunitiescanada.org
3. **Event:** Eastern Ontario Manufacturing Network breakfast and workshop, *The Impact of Carbon Footprints on Manufacturing*, April 23, 7:30 am, Algonquin College, Salon A, Building D. The keynote speaker will be Brett Wills of High Performance Solutions, http://www.omnet.ca/index.php/events/details/the_impact_of_carbon_footprints_on_manufacturing/
4. **Event:** Powering up Aboriginal Energy, April 26-27, Delta Chelsea Hotel, Toronto. To find out more and to register, go to this site <http://www.canadaforum.com/> and click on upcoming conferences. For anyone interested in, or pursuing, clean energy projects in collaboration with First Nations, Inuit or Metis communities, you can contact Christopher Henderson, president of Lumos Energy, chenderson@lumosenergy.com, (613) 562-2005 x225.
5. This year marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22nd, <http://www.earthday.org/>.
6. To read an article discussing competition in the PV industry in 2010 go to <http://online.qmags.com/REW0310/default.aspx?sessionID=820FB967BED214E0F3F6A1E39&cid=1486117&eid=15144&pg=47&mode=2#pg47>
7. Canada has agreed to harmonize its fuel efficiency standards with those recently announced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Almost one third of Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation, <http://www.thestar.com/news/sciencetech/environment/article/790160--hamilton-time-right-to-test-our-mettle-on-emissions>.
8. 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.**

9. Schuco Canada is offering a series of training sessions for solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar thermal starting in March and April. Please go to their website for full details of each course, http://www.schueco.com/web/ca/commercial/trainings_events/solar_trainings_events.
10. Clean Tech Funding is available through SDTC (Sustainable Development Technology Canada). SDTC is accepting statements of interest from **February 24 to April 21, 2010**. "The SD Tech Fund™ invests in late-stage development and pre-commercial demonstration of clean technologies by Canadian companies." Please visit their website for more information, http://www.sdte.ch.ca/en/funding/NextGen_Biofuels_Fund/index.htm

Bringing **new life** to energy

Hope to see you at the SWITCH open meeting on Friday,

Ted Hsu, Executive Director; Mark Gibson, Green Energy Business Consultant; Jennifer Kiwala, Outreach & Event Coordinator; Pierre Nadeau, Sustainable Energy & Internet Communications Assistant; Catherine Humphreys, Administrator

SWITCH

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<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.