

SWITCH - Kingston's Alternative Energy Cluster
945 Princess St., 2nd Floor
Kingston, Ontario, K7L 5L9
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Website: <http://www.switchkingston.ca/index.php>



Help us meet our Membership Goals for 2008/09

SWITCH is a network of sustainable energy businesses; research, education, and public institutions; professionals; community-minded volunteers; and students. Operating under a volunteer Board of Directors, and supported by people like you, SWITCH has an energetic membership working to position the Kingston region as a leading centre for sustainable energy innovation, education, adoption, products, and services.

SWITCH maintains a unique level of community cohesion surrounding energy issues. With monthly round table meetings, SWITCH provides a networking opportunity where individuals can remain current and involved in the sustainable energy sector.

SWITCH creates a competitive advantage for its members by bringing together researchers, educators, entrepreneurs, students, community organizations as well as involved and interested individuals to collaborate on projects, share information, and leverage knowledge in the quest to promote sustainable energy options.

By becoming a member of SWITCH, you gain access to the following services:

- Business development support including: funding proposals, assistance finding customers, partners, or suppliers; as well as SWITCH connections to confidential reviews and recommendations by technical and financial experts.
- Access to the project facilitation, networking, and lobbying services of SWITCH and personal attention from SWITCH staff.
- Opportunities to influence municipal, provincial, and federal policymakers face to face at meetings organized by SWITCH.
- Profiling your organization on the SWITCH website and the opportunity to have your accomplishments publicized in SWITCH's regular press releases.
- Access to local, national, and international news and event listings through inclusion on SWITCH's email distribution list, and access to SWITCH's database of local people, projects, companies, news items and funding sources.

Your support of SWITCH will help to maintain the services that promote the development and commercialization of sustainable energy alternatives. We thank you for supporting **SWITCH** through membership dues to help fund operational costs for the coming year.

Ted Hsu:
Executive Director
SWITCH, The Sustainable Energy People



SWITCH

The Sustainable Energy People

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____ Existing member who referred you to SWITCH (if any) _____

Applicant Name: _____ No. of Employees: _____
(Corporate/Business/Individual/Student)

Mailing Address: _____
Street City Province Postal Code

Phone: _____ Ext. _____ Fax: _____

Primary Membership Contact: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Fax: _____

▶ Attach or forward any additional names, together with email addresses that you wish to have included on the SWITCH Distribution List as part of your membership service.

▶ **Please provide a short bio for our webpage.**

Please indicate below all sectors relevant to your areas of interest in order that SWITCH can ensure that you receive the appropriate notifications and information such as: notices of meetings, seminars, conferences, research, announcements, incentives etc.

All members will receive general information regarding SWITCH events and meetings.

Bioenergy _____ Conservation _____ Education _____
Energy Recovery _____ Fuel Cell _____ Ground Source _____
Landfill _____ Solar _____ Wind _____
Other (please specify) _____

Check the appropriate box indicating your membership support: *(25% of membership dues may consist of a written pledge of in-kind time or resources on your letterhead. Startup companies may join at the individual rate for the first year after the initiation of the company).*

CORPORATE – INSTITUTIONAL	\$1000.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
SMALL BUSINESS (UP TO 10 EMPLOYEES)	\$ 300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
INDIVIDUAL	\$ 150.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
STUDENT	\$ 15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

As a member of SWITCH, we would like to post your logo, corporate or individual name, contact information and a brief bio or industry outline. Please attach this information or forward to the address below. SWITCH would be pleased to add your name, or the name of your organization or business, to our growing list of success stories for 2008-09.

Make cheques payable to:

SWITCH - Kingston's Alternative Energy Cluster

945 Princess St., 2nd Floor, Kingston, ON, K7L 5L9

Email: info@switchkingston.ca

SWITCH is considered a small supplier for purposes of GST. As such, GST is not collected on membership fees.



Your Membership helps SWITCH to:

Promote Sustainable Energy by Serving Our Members and Community

The SWITCH staff looks out for opportunities for its members.

In March 2008 we held the SWITCH Energy Conservation & Renewable Energy Fair and brought 600 community members to meet 20 exhibitors. SWITCH member, Renewable Energy of Plum Hollow, appreciated the opportunity SWITCH provided to meet so many potential customers and told us,

“I just wanted to send you an email to thank you for the SWITCH Fair... We were very surprised at the large turnout and the depth of questions that the public had about Renewable Energy products. I think we were able to help educate a number of folks in our local community about Renewable Energy. I really hope that you will put another fair like this on in the future. If you have another fair like this in the future, please count on us.” Brad Leonard, Renewable Energy of Plum Hollow.

Provide Productive Networking Opportunities

SWITCH holds monthly roundtable meetings, providing an open forum wherein news from the sustainable energy sector is shared. Bringing together people from all backgrounds, these meetings provide an excellent opportunity to learn about what is happening in the Kingston region. SWITCH offers access to practical support as well as technical advice from world-renowned experts. It provides business development support for entrepreneurs and acts as an informational resource for consumers.

“I am writing to express my gratitude for the wonderful work SWITCH Kingston has done! Over several meetings, I have made essential contacts that will help further my Biofuel/Electricity generating project. I hope to be in full operation in 1 year, generating 1920 MWh per year of electricity for the grid powered solely by recycled cooking oil. SWITCH has made pursuing my renewable energy ambitions easier, and for that I am grateful.” Rick Roos, Roos Renewable Energy Inc.

Maintain an Information Database in Sustainable Energy

SWITCH maintains an impressive list of contacts and activities in sustainable energy. As a First-Call resource, SWITCH responds to questions by providing responses from experts, or by linking people to those with shared interests, research, or market needs. The SWITCH information network continues to expand - collecting and monitoring sustainable energy news, events, research, incentives and support programmes. SWITCH distributes timely information to members keeping them “in-the-loop”.

Address Environmental and Economic Concerns in the Community

SWITCH coordinates and facilitates the efforts of researchers, educators, governments, businesses, community groups and individuals interested in helping reduce the impact of energy production and consumption. SWITCH has assisted in establishing businesses, in developing environmental initiatives, and in obtaining funding options for research. SWITCH continues to promote and support sustainable energy technologies with the goal of reducing the environmental impact of fossil fuels while, at the same time, creating new economic activity, jobs, and interest in this growing sector.

In July 2008, SWITCH arranged a private meeting between the Leader of Opposition, the Hon. Stéphane Dion, and SWITCH members to discuss federal policies and other issues related to promoting renewable energy.

Support Education and Employment

Closely linked to Queen’s University and St. Lawrence College, SWITCH has helped bring new funding options to research, new programming to schools and has provided both students and educators with an expanding resource base for continued development of their interests in sustainable energy technologies.

In 2008 the first class graduated from St. Lawrence College’s Energy Systems and Engineering Technologist and Technician program. Every graduate found employment. This program has its roots in an education committee of SWITCH.

TESTIMONIALS

SWITCH is proud to represent all sectors of the community.

Research & Educational Institutions

"On behalf of the research portfolio at Queen's University, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to SWITCH for the letter provided in support of our campaign to secure funding for our Advanced Research and Innovation Institute. ... Our focus on environmental technologies combined with SWITCH's community-driven mission will help to differentiate Kingston and the surrounding region as a centre of excellence in alternative energy technology."

K. Rowe, Vice-Principal, Research, Queen's University

Public institutions

"KEDL appreciates the support that SWITCH has lent to our efforts in hopes of increasing the amount of renewable, distributed energy generation in our community."

S. Sottile, Utilities Kingston

Businesses

"Being involved in SWITCH has enabled CPE Division "L" Inc. to make good contacts with like-minded companies and individuals who are involved in promoting the use of renewable energy. During the monthly public forums, we learn of new technologies. In addition, CPE can gain knowledge of local projects, which would require alternative energy and the support of the organization to participate in them. We find our involvement in SWITCH to be a valuable asset to our organization."

M. Chaput, CPE Division "L" Inc.

From the very outset, I knew I wanted to build the greenest dairy in North America—but how? We had the desire but not the knowledge or list of contacts to help us put together our green energy and green design plans for our dairy in a cost effective, expedient way. Along the way, we encountered a lot of enterprises selling equipment and consulting services. But it was not always easy to discern who had real expertise—and who were just green enthusiasts themselves getting in on the eco-act! We paid for a lot of superficial advice and at times, ill-informed advice. We were indeed becoming frustrated. Then, I came across SWITCH Kingston in an incidental way via a meeting with Don Young for a different reason. He invited me to attend a meeting. I did. Upon meeting with members and attending a meeting or two, I realized that I had finally found a credible, thoughtful group of passionate "green" people who had the network and more importantly, DEPTH of expertise, to help us make the best decisions for our green dairy venture. Switch Kingston and their members played an important role in the development and completion of our Platinum LEED dairy—the first and only in North America.

Funding for this organization is money well spent!

Petra K. M. Cooper, Fifth Town Artisan Cheese

Students

"It was great meeting you ... the (SWITCH) group seems super keen and always ready to help out anybody with a like mind, which was incredibly encouraging to see, especially as a new grad. ... Working with CEEC this year, my exposure to all of the initiatives and new opportunities in environmental technology has gotten me excited for chances to get involved in something new! I was very impressed and excited to get exposure to the initiatives in which SWITCH is involved; it was very inspiring to see the pro-action that SWITCH has taken in the community's sustainable initiative. Everyone at the meeting was very kind and inviting and I look forward to attending future SWITCH meetings! "

A. McCarry, CEEC 2007 Engineering Co-Chair, Queen's University