

**Subject:** SWITCH news February 9th  
**From:** "SWITCH" <switchkingston@gmail.com>  
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**SWITCH**

*The Sustainable Energy People*

*SWITCH news, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010*

*This week's edition sponsored by:*



Greetings Everyone!

**The next SWITCH Open Meeting** will take place on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 8 am, Queen's Innovation Park, 945 Princess St. The speaker will be John Marriott from OSISOFT Canada ULC, *Improved facilities energy management using real-time equipment data.*

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 March open meeting will be sponsored by John Marriott, OSISOFT Canada ULC, April will be sponsored by SWITCH member **CPE Division-L Inc.** The May open meeting will be sponsored by NEDCO. *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 and badge you in. **Parking is available in the WEST parking lot.**

### ***SWITCH News & Announcements***

1. A big welcome to new members **Fred Faust, David Kay, Air Liquide, The Cataraqui Cemetery Co., Ivana Zelenika, Rob Andrews, and AEPAY.** A special thank you to renewing member **Anton Driesse.**
2. Del Stowe and Rachel Quittkat from the City of Kingston Building department will be giving a seminar on permit requirements for solar panels, tomorrow, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 8 am, Innovation Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lecture room. A light breakfast will be provided courtesy of SWITCH member **KEDCO.** If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca). **To watch a webcast of this seminar go to the SWITCH homepage <http://www.switchkingston.ca/index.php> and follow the**

**instructions listed beside the share widget.** (You must register at least 1 hour before).

3. SWITCH is looking for a recent graduate to make a joint application to NRC-IRAP's Youth Internship program for a 6 month placement at SWITCH working with the executive director. Please see the attachment for more details. **The deadline to apply is Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.**
4. **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 [www.switchontario.ca/wiki](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.
5. SWITCH is offering a series of business presentations on *How your rooftop can make you money: The new Green Energy Act and your business* January through March 2010. **Stay tuned for updates.** Launched on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, the new Green Energy Act will enable Ontario businesses to unlock their rooftop asset and earn revenue by generating solar energy and feeding it back into the grid. There are also incentives for your business to become part of the quickly growing renewable energy market by diversifying your products or processes. **The following dates have been confirmed:**
  - February 16, 7 pm, Marble Church Arts Centre, Actinolite
  - February 17, 8 am, Bancroft
  - February 17, noon, Haliburton
  - February 25, 9:30 to 3:00, United Church, Elginburg – *this meeting is targeted towards the Agricultural Industry. If anyone is interested in carpooling, please get in touch.*
  - March 9, 8 am, Peterborough
  - March 10, time TBA, Smiths Falls

Please RSVP [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca)
6. Tony Fleming, from Cunningham Swan, will be discussing legalities for installers, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 am, Innovation Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lecture room. A light breakfast will be provided courtesy of SWITCH member **KEDCO**. Please RSVP to [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca)
7. Hugh McLaughlin, Biochar, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 9 am, Wilton Women's Institute Hall, **Biochars - what we know, what we think we know and what we do not know**, see attachment for more details. RSVP to [register@switchkingston.ca](mailto:register@switchkingston.ca). The venue for this event was arranged by SWITCH member **Burt's Greenhouses**. You can purchase biochar and other plants on Burt's Greenhouses e-commerce site <http://www.burtsgh.com/index.php/cre/>.
8. For a link from your website to the SWITCH website, you can use the following code: `<a href="http://switchkingston.ca/index.php"></a>`. For a link from your website to the SWITCH Energy Digest please use: `<a href="http://switchkingston.ca/wiki/doku.php"></a>`. For an example of this, please go to the website of SWITCH member **Ontario PV Power**, <http://www.ontariopvpower.com/switch-kingston.html>.
9. Website feature: <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/residential/personal/new-homes.cfm?attr=4>
10. SWITCH staff members Mark Gibson, Jennifer Kiwala and Pierre Nadeau are 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 until the end of March. **If you know of an SME that we might not have thought of, please contact us.**
11. If you have any leftover nametags that you have received from conferences, please consider donating them to SWITCH to reuse and recycle.
12. **"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***

#### **The ELORIN corner:**

1. Biobreakfast, February 11, 7 – 9 am, Donald Gordon Conference Centre, 421 Union St. The speaker will be Lori Gadzala, the Executive Director of the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC), Ottawa Region, *Green Building and LEED 2010 – an update*. Lori Gadzala will be discussing the LEED Canada Initiative, green building projects in Eastern Ontario, and why people choose to build green. Tickets are \$30 (\$15 for full-time students). Registration and cancellation deadline is February 9, 5:00 pm, [http://www.elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.eventDetail&event\\_id=157](http://www.elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.eventDetail&event_id=157)
2. *Notes from the Underground* Volume 7 & 8 from SWITCH member **Moore Partners** are now available on our resources page <http://www.switchkingston.ca/resources.php> under "Recent Releases and Announcements". Volumes 7 & 8 discuss reclaimed lumber.
3. **Update:** CanSIA Solar Hot Water System Installer Workshop, Saturday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 8 to 5 (exam 3 – 5), at SWITCH member **St. Lawrence College**. The cost for CanSIA members is \$225, the cost for non-members is \$275, the exam fee for both is \$75. Please see the attached information sheet and registration form.
4. In preparation for the Earth Hour: Kingston Unplugged concert, the **Kingston Sustainability Centre** [www.kingstonsustainabilitycentre.com](http://www.kingstonsustainabilitycentre.com) is hosting a speech competition for local high school students. The winning speeches will be delivered at the concert in between the acts. For information about the competition, please contact [danieljameshendry@gmail.com](mailto:danieljameshendry@gmail.com).
5. SWITCH member **AEPAY Global Energy** is looking for large commercial rooftop space for lease for the installation of solar panels. AEPAY plans on having several 250 kW arrays in place by the summer. Any inquiries can be directed to SWITCH member **Chris Morris**, sales representative with RealtySource Inc., brokerage. (613) 546 4208 (office), (613) 539 8438 (cell), [chris@chris-morris.ca](mailto:chris@chris-morris.ca). Please see the attached for more information.

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

1. **Event:** Kingston Technology Council luncheon, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am, The Harbour Restaurant, 53 Yonge St. Dr. Warren Mabee will be speaking about "Canada's Climate Policy Conundrum: 10 provinces, 3 choices, 1 decision". Pre-registration by February 17<sup>th</sup> is required. Tickets are \$35 for regular admission and \$20 for students. You can register by email to [hanley@kingstoncanada.com](mailto:hanley@kingstoncanada.com) and pay at the door.
2. **Event:** The Limestone Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association presents "Wood Burning Under Fire", March 17<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm, St. Alban's Hall, Odessa. John Gulland will be speaking about responsible wood heating. For more information, please contact Kris Colwell, (613) 542-4393, [kris@kauffmann.ca](mailto:kris@kauffmann.ca).
3. **Update:** Kingston Unplugged, An Earth Hour Event, is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, Springer Market Square. Vendor and display opportunities are available during this year's event (attached). If you are interested in helping to sponsor Kingston Unplugged, please read the attached sponsorship form. You can visit the Earth Hour website by going to <http://www.earthhour.org>.
4. GreenCentre Canada has partnered with the North American plastics recycling company NexCycle Plastics Inc. (NPI). NexCycle Plastics Inc. is a full service recycled plastics compounder and distributor of polymers. They service a network of manufacturers across Canada and in the

northeastern and midwestern United States.

5. **Updated Event:** Queen's Commerce and Engineering Environmental Conference (CEEC): Exploring the Green Advantage, March 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. This conference brings together students from multiple disciplines of study and is a truly unique sponsorship opportunity. Significant exposure and promotion to students and the public is offered. For more information, please contact [andrew.mutrie@ceec.ca](mailto:andrew.mutrie@ceec.ca). This year, **CEEC is holding the Green Globe Awards, to nominate individuals or groups who have made a significant positive impact on green initiatives on the Queen's campus or within the Kingston community.** Please see the attached nomination form to participate.
6. **Event:** The Cataraqui Source Protection Committee is presenting a talk by Bruce Davidson, co-founder and vice-chair of the Concerned Walkerton Citizens, on **February 11<sup>th</sup>**, 8:00 pm, Davies Hall, St. Lawrence College. Admission is free – all are welcome. Bruce Davidson will be discussing how we can protect local drinking water. The Cataraqui Source Protection Committee will be meeting in Davies hall from 5 to 7:30 pm. The meeting is open to the public.
7. The granting committee of the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA) is currently accepting Letters of Intent for projects that "*...strengthen and enhance the quality of life within our community.*" The deadline to apply is 4:30 pm on **February 12<sup>th</sup>**. For more information please visit their website, <http://www.cfka.org/article/call-proposals-cfka-spring-2010-community-grants>.
8. **GreenUp! 2010** is looking for volunteers to take a lead organizational role in helping to organize this year's event. SWITCH is helping the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA) to solicit names of potential volunteers. Please email SWITCH, [info@switchkingston.ca](mailto:info@switchkingston.ca) if you are interested.
9. **Event:** 2010 Fifth Annual Sustainable Living Symposium, March 20<sup>th</sup>, Loyalist College, Belleville. The event will be followed by a Green Homes Bus Tour by the County Sustainability Group on March 21<sup>st</sup>. To register please go to <http://www.quintesustainability.ca/>.
10. The official website for Sustainable Kingston (an ICSP from FOCUS Kingston), can be viewed by going to <http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/>. Comments on the plan are easy to make by clicking on the blue circular icons found throughout the website. **Comments will continue to be accepted for the future drafts.**
11. Wintergreen Studios, <http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/>, an off-grid education and retreat centre located in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, offers meeting and retreat facilities, as well as one and two-day workshops at a 10% discount to SWITCH members. Please advise them you are a SWITCH member when registering in order to receive the discount.
12. **New Grant program:** The Community Energy Partnerships Program, <http://news.ontario.ca/mei/en/2009/09/ontario-supports-local-investments-in-green-energy.i> 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.

### **Non-local News & Announcements**

1. The Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board has announced they will purchase five 3.5kW Vertical Axis Wind Turbines (VAWT) from producers Cleanfield Alternative Energy Inc. The Durham Catholic District School Board will be purchasing three. The wind turbines were purchased through Ontario's Green Schools Pilot Initiative. You can read more about green energy infrastructure at various Ontario schools by going to <http://www.green-business.ca/Energy/Clean-Tech/News/cleanfield-providing-green-energy-solutions-t>
2. Schuco Canada is currently seeking an intern student for solar PV. The position will start sometime this spring. Please contact Ron Mantay, [ronmantay@schuco.ca](mailto:ronmantay@schuco.ca) if you are interested.
3. A University of Toronto study recently published in *Environmental Science & Technology* "...found that using 100 per cent wood pellets instead of coal reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 92 per cent." Please go to <http://www.thestar.com/business/article/758625--knock-on-wood-biomass-power-is-coming> to read more about the study's findings.

4. 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.sdtec.ca/en/funding/NextGen\\_Biofuels\\_Fund/index.htm](http://www.sdtec.ca/en/funding/NextGen_Biofuels_Fund/index.htm)
5. The Ontario Government, through the Ontario Solar Thermal Heating Initiative (OSTHI), has increased the incentives available for solar hot water systems fivefold. OSTHI will now provide a maximum of \$400,000 per project. For more information, please go to <http://www.news.ontario.ca/mei/en/2009/12/solar-technologies-help-build-ontarios-green-economy.ht>
6. **Funding Opportunity:** Earth Day Canada is now accepting applications for the spring grant period of the Community Environment Fund. The deadline to apply is **February 28, 2010**. Please go to this site to learn more [http://www.earthday.ca/pub/resources/media\\_releases/2009-12-03\\_cef\\_schools\\_engo\\_outreach/index](http://www.earthday.ca/pub/resources/media_releases/2009-12-03_cef_schools_engo_outreach/index)
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 event,

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

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!

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.

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