Indigenous Economic Development Forum

The Minister for Regional Development, Karl Hampton will officially open the 4th Indigenous Economic Forum in Alice Springs this week.

“Indigenous Territorians must have the opportunity to take part in the Territory’s economic growth and prosperity if we are to build our regional economies,” Mr Hampton said.

“The 2009 IED Forum will provide opportunities for people to come together from a diverse range of backgrounds to promote services and programs, share knowledge and experiences and explore opportunities and business partnerships.

“The Northern Territory Government’s new Indigenous Economic Development Strategy, that will lead to more indigenous jobs, businesses and economic opportunity in communities, will be launched at the forum.

“Developing new business opportunities and partnerships in our Indigenous communities will stimulate and sustain economic growth, provide real jobs and create sustainable regional communities.”

Mr Hampton said a range of prominent keynote speakers will be sharing their experiences and expertise in the indigenous economic development arena.

“One of the speakers is Canadian First Nations Chief Clarence Louie who will outline the success his Osoyoos Indian Band has had in growing businesses and economic participation, and the improvements that have resulted in the social health of his community.

“As part of the Forum an Indigenous Business Expo will provide Indigenous businesses with an opportunity to showcase their products and services to a targeted business and investor audience.

“The Northern Territory Government is focused on developing our regions and ensuring Indigenous communities maximise the opportunities arising from increased government investment in the regions.”

The 4th IED Forum will be held at the Alice Springs Convention centre on October 6th and 7th, more information about the forum can found here - http://www.nt.gov.au/d/iedforum

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