The Territory Government is using interstate job expos aimed at skilled workers to promote hard-to-fill job vacancies on behalf of local businesses.

Minister for Employment and Training, Dave Tollner, who will attend an expo in Melbourne on Saturday, said the events were an ideal way the government can help address the local skills shortages.

“Territory employers have an opportunity to promote current and predicted job opportunities through the expos,” he said.

“As a Government, we are committed to jobs for Territorians first and foremost but if we can’t find the skills business needs locally, the next step is to market those opportunities interstate,” Mr Tollner said.

The Department of Business has been encouraging employers to provide details of vacancies that can be marketed directly to skilled workers at expos around the country. The jobs can either be current, or a call for registrations of interest from people with a specific skill set.

“If a business was facing a shortage of boilermakers, they could place a general call for people with this trade. All vacancies will be displayed at each event,” Mr Tollner said.

“Training and improving the skills of Territorians is a priority for the Giles Government but the strong growth in our economy creates a demand for additional workers that we need to source from interstate.

“With the slowdown of the resources boom in the West and the dramatic decline in car manufacturing, there are some skilled people facing uncertainty. We’d love to attract these people to the Territory and the job expos are a good way to promote our diverse opportunities,” he said.

Greg Bicknell CEO Chamber of Commerce NT will attend the Melbourne event alongside Government.

“The draw on local labour as a result of major projects like Inpex is creating difficulties on small-to-medium enterprises in the Top End. It is critical for business profitability that they
have access to a pool of skilled labour. These events are critical in attracting these types of people to join the Territory workforce,” Mr Bicknell said.

To support the promotion of NT job opportunities, the Department of Business has also updated its website, www.australiasnorthernterritory.com.au which is designed for people interstate and overseas who are interested in moving to the Territory.

The site also provides information about the business support programs offered by the Territory Government to assist employers to fill vacancies.

The Territory Worker Database has also been upgraded and can be accessed through this site, offering skilled people looking for jobs and businesses needing their services to connect.

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