Northern Territory businesses have a new avenue to showcase their capabilities as part of a Northern Territory Government two-day business and trade Expo to be held during the inaugural Open Territory program of events.

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Business Peter Styles said the Territory Expo will not only offer Territory businesses the opportunity to showcase locally but also to raise their interstate and international profiles.

Mr Styles said the NT Government is collaborating with a number of agencies, industry bodies and private businesses to deliver the first ever Open Territory program running over more than eight weeks from March through to May this year.

“Open Territory includes a series of domestic and international events to profile business capability in the NT, as well as highlight trade and investment opportunities alongside sport, arts and cultural events,” Mr Styles said.

“Support within the local business community has been overwhelming and when nominations closed on 5 February we had over 100 partner events registered and interest is such that we expect some more late additions.

“One of the highlights, particularly for Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) will be the two-day Territory Expo coordinated with the Chamber of Commerce of the Northern Territory which will involve over 100 booths.”

The Territory Expo will be held 29-30 April 2016 and follow directly from the BIMP-EAGA (Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-The Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area) Ministerial Meeting on 27 April which will attract high-level officials from some of our nearest regional neighbours.

It will also run alongside the Regional Australia-Asia Chambers Forum which has attracted a strong response from interstate and international Chamber of Commerce representatives.

“We expect the Territory Expo exhibitors will be made up of around 80% SMEs and 20% major businesses from industries such as Oil and Gas, Agribusiness and Defence,” said Chamber of Commerce NT CEO Greg Bicknell.
“There will also be a contingent of international exhibitors from Timor Leste and Eastern Indonesia.

“The first morning of the two-day event will be for ‘business only’ and the second day will be open to the general public including entertainment and refreshments in a festival environment.”

One of the first locally-owned businesses to sign on for the Territory Expo was Telstra Store Darwin in the Mitchell Centre.

“We are very excited to be part of Territory Expo. We see it as an excellent opportunity to build both business and community relationships with locals and visitors” said Telstra Business Centre Northern Territory Licensee Wendy McKenzie.

More information on the Open Territory program of events is available at www.openterritory.nt.gov.au.

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