The inaugural Open Territory program of events has been declared an overwhelming success after delivering two months of international and domestic events showcasing Territory business, trade and investment opportunities.

Minister for Business Peter Styles said the event had now drawn to a close after more than 59,000 people attended 154 Open Territory events from March to May 2016.

“As Minister for Business I’m extremely proud of what the Open Territory program of events has been able to achieve in its first ever year,” Mr Styles said.

“The wide variety of events showcased what the Territory has to offer across an array of industry sectors and provided our small to medium enterprises (SMEs), as well as local entrepreneurs an opportunity to raise their profiles locally, interstate and internationally.

“Open Territory’s success is a credit to not only the organisations that took part but also the Northern Territory business community, residents and interstate and international representatives who supported it.”

This year’s program of events included expos, guest speakers, forums, workshops, conferences and sporting and cultural events across the Territory, showcasing trade and investment opportunities and strengthening business to business relationships.

Key themes explored business through; technology & communication; sport; food & agribusiness; trade & investment; and arts & culture.

Highlights included the arrival of international and interstate delegates to explore trade prospects and strengthen political, economic and cultural engagement within our region through; the first Red Carpet Investor Forum, the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-The Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Ministerial Meeting and the inaugural Regional Australia-Asia Chambers Forum.

More than 8500 people attended the first Territory Taste Festival to sample the best food, wine and beer the NT has to offer. The two-day festival showcased Territory businesses, suppliers and industry with cooking demonstrations from local, national and internationally renowned chefs and organisers are already in planning for a bigger and better event next year.
Local businesses and not-for-profits showcased their wares and services from a wide range of industry sectors at the Territory Expo.

The Business Technology Conference and Expo was a hit offering a range of IT solutions to help propel local businesses into the future.

While the 17th Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar and Alice Springs Mining Service Expo were great opportunities for industry to access the latest in fresh exploration ideas and geoscientific data on the Territory’s minerals, oil and gas resources.

“The Country Liberals Government is pleased to announce Open Territory will be back in 2017,” Mr Styles said.

“I would like to thank the 2016 sponsors for making this year’s inaugural event a success and I look forward to seeing Open Territory prosper into the future.”

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