



TAKING AIM

Patrick Kraushaar takes aim at a target at the shooting range on Aug. 29. The Hay River Shooting Club and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources were hosting an open house for gun owners to help them properly sight their guns.

Minister focuses on fish and farming

Ramsay talks to Chamber

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DAVID RAMSAY: Spoke to the Hay River Chamber of Commerce on Aug. 26.

David Ramsay, the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, gave an upbeat speech in Hay River on Aug. 26, touting the GNWT's contribution to the local economy.

In particular, Ramsay – in an address to the Hay River Chamber of Commerce – pointed to two initiatives specific to Hay River that the GNWT is working to have in place before the 17th Legislative Assembly expires on Oct. 8.

The first is a formal strategy document on agriculture, while the second is a business plan for the growth and revitalization of the Great Slave Lake fishing industry.

Ramsay noted that last year, the federal government announced \$2 million to establish a permanent campus in Hay River for the Northern Farm Training Institute and up to \$2 million toward the launch of the Northern Greenhouse Initiative to advance greenhouse projects across the NWT.

"This summer, the Department of ITI completed a public engagement and consultation process to inform its drafting of a formal Agriculture Strategy and Action Plan," said Ramsay, noting he is bringing the results back to the legislative assembly in the fall.

"Our strategy, when it is presented, will not focus on securing large quantum of land for commercial farm operations," he said. "That is not something that is seen as viable – and it is not what NWT residents have said is needed or warranted."

Instead, the goals of the strategy will be to sow the seeds for investments and initiatives that will increase the availability of local food, reduce the cost of food, encourage and support the transfer of food production skills, incorporate the NWT's traditional food gathering activities and support sustainable food production.

As for fishing, Ramsay said the fishers and producers on Great Slave Lake have completed their revitalization strategy and business plan for the commercial fishery.

"Safe to say, it is ambitious – and presents a significantly different approach than we have seen in the past – vesting NWT fishers directly in the challenges and success of their fishery," he said. "The plan aims to not only serve markets both north and south, but to contribute as partners to the marketing efforts of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. Meanwhile, our fishers will assume the responsibility of both the plant and operations in Hay River, as well as the business of the fishery – including the setting of prices to be paid to participants in the industry."

▼
"This is a new and exciting direction for the fishery, for Hay River and for the NWT."

David Ramsay ▼

It will cost roughly \$5 million to implement the plan, but it has the support of both the fish marketing corporation and the GNWT. Ramsay hopes to work with industry to leverage the federal government for a significant portion of that money. The minister said he is looking forward to bringing the strategy to the legislative assembly when it convenes for a final time in September.

"This is a new and exciting direction for the fishery, for Hay River and for the NWT," he said.

Ramsay praised the business community in Hay River as being committed and equipped to move the community's economy forward.

THANK YOU

The Gateway Jamboree Society sends a **GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who made our 17th Annual Enterprise Gateway Jamboree a **HUGE SUCCESS!!**

Thanks to our Generous Sponsors, Contributors, and Donators:

The Hamlet of Enterprise and their great staff who were tremendous to work with.
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THANK YOU to the Food Vendors, Craft Vendors, and Information Vendors - Northern Farm Training Institute and the Cree Language Program, Hay River Fire Department for letting Sparkie come and play, Sport North for Sportin' Norton's Visit, HR Girl Guides and Treehouse Drop In Centre for their amazing help in the kids tent, our Jigger Jodi Danais, and our Impromptu Scarf Dancers - Georgina Fabian, Georgina Webb, and Charlie Hardisty.

A Great Big Thank You to our amazing and tireless volunteers - you rock! And a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you who joined us at the the 17th annual enterprise gateway jamboree - **YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!**