The North spawns many trade shows

Oil and gas, transportation among sectors covered

Kivalliq Show is newest addition to already-fertile roster

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NWT/Nunavut

Trade shows bring people, money and ideas to a number of communities in both Nunavut and the NWT every year. The shows are growing in such numbers that they are beginning to constitute a sort of cottage industry.

Here's a rundown of some of them.

Inuvik Petroleum Show

Billed as the "Biggest Show in the North," the Inuvik Petroleum Show saw a further drop in attendance in 2010 as delegates continued to await the completion of the National Energy Board's regulatory review of the Mackenzie Gas Project.

The show attracted approximately 400 people last July, down from around 600 in 2009 and 669 in 2008.

With many weary of the delays to the pipeline, the Town of Inuvik, which organizes the annual conference, steered the conversation during presentations to future opportunities coming from Arctic offshore drilling in the Beaufort Sea.

Kitikmeot Trade show

This year's show, which took place in mid-February, drew 50 exhibitors and 200 delegates – on par with the previous year.

The trade show offered a forum for companies like Newmont Mining Corporation and Sabina Gold & Silver Corporation to give residents of the Kitikmeot region updates on their respective exploration projects in the region.

First-time delegates included Monster Recreational Products of Hay River and Pamela Strand, president and CEO of Shear Minerals. The latter company is seeking to reopen the Jericho Diamond Mine, which closed in 2008 after only two years of operation.

Cambridge Bay resident Wilf Wilcox, owner of Jago Services, won the Willie Laserich Memorial Corporate Citizen Award.

Nunavut Trade Show

Organized by the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Nunavut Trade Show in Iqaluit brings delegates from across the country for three days of deal-making and networking.

Last year's trade show, the 19th annual, saw attendance increase to 400 from 360 the previous year, with 130 businesses represented.

Presentations covered the gradual implementation of the Inuit Language Protection Act and what it means for businesses and the launch of several new Internet tools by the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation and its partner SSI Micro.

Nunavut Mining Symposium

The 14th annual Nunavut Mining Symposium was held this year on April 5-7, once again in Iqaluit.

The show attracted 450 people this year, up from around 400 in 2010 and likely attributable to the projected rise in mineral exploration spending in the territory this year.

The NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines used the trade show as the venue to announce the opening of its first-ever Iqaluit branch office in April.

Yellowknife's Greatest Indoor Show

Yellowknife's Greatest Indoor Show, organized by the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce, brings together a blend of exhibitors each May.

This year, the largest to date, more than 9,000 people attended the event over May 7 and 8, with 174 businesses, including non-government organizations, having booths. "This was the first year we have ever sold out of booths," said Tim Doyle, the chamber's executive director.

Last year there were approximately 100 booths and 7,000 visitors, and in 2009, 125 booths and the same amount of visitors.

Geoscience Forum

Organized by the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines, the Geoscience Forum attracts delegates from mining firms, exploration companies and related services.

Attendance increased to approximately 779 last November, compared to 750 in 2009, a year when many companies reduced their trade show spending, sent fewer delegates than normal and, in some cases, opted out of having a booth on the exhibit floor.

The trade show boasted a number of NWT-focused mineral exploration companies and operators with displays, including De Beers Canada, Rio Tinto, BHP Billiton, North Country Gold, Canadian Zinc, Tyhee Development, Selwyn Resources, Darnley Bay Resources, Peregrine Diamonds and Fortune Minerals.

As in previous years, the Capitol Theatre served as the venue for technical presentations on topics as varied as uranium exploration to the recently formed Northern Projects Management Office, an offshoot of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency.

Prospects North

Held every three years in Yellowknife, Prospects North returned to the territory's capital city in September 2010.

The event, which drew 200 delegates, was co-organized by the NWT Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Aboriginal Business Association.

The latter association essentially launched itself at the trade show, unveiling its logo and snagging an additional 30 members to bring its total member count to 78.

Presentations touched on the Mackenzie Gas Project, the Gahcho Kue joint venture and issues such as devolution, which was the focus of Premier Floyd Roland's keynote speech on the first day of the conference.

Northern Lights Trade Show and Conference

After making its debut in Ottawa, the biennial Northern Lights trade show moved to Montreal for 2010, attracting approximately 700 delegates and 150 exhibitors.

The conference is a joint project between the Baffin Regional and Labrador North Chambers of Commerce.

The show will return to Ottawa for its third outing, scheduled for February 1-4, 2012.

Fort Smith Trade Show

The sixth annual Fort Smith Trade Show was scheduled to take place on April 30.

Last year's event, which took place in the Fort Smith Centennial Area, attracted 45 exhibitors and between 700 and 800 visitors.

The show is organized by Thebacha Business Development Services, one of seven Community Futures development corporations in the territory geared to foster local entrepreneurship.

Start Your Engines

Launched in 2006 in Hay River, the Start Your Engines Transportation Logistics Conference brings together delegates from various sectors of the NWT's transportation sector.

Held every other year, the event was last staged in May 2010, drawing 140 delegates for three days of information sessions, presentations and networking opportunities.

It was a more modest affair compared to two years before, when 200 delegates attended.

Mining companies developing projects with ties to Hay River, including Tamerlane Ventures and Avalon Rare Metals, update attendees on the status of their projects.

Kivalliq Trade Show

Making its debut in 2010 was the Kivalliq Trade Show in Rankin Inlet, the first of its kind for the Kivalliq region.

Taking place from Nov. 15 to 18, the trade show drew 130 delegates.

According to one estimate, the event brought $350,000 in business to the community.

The show wrapped up with a tour of the Nunavut Trades Training Centre, which opened two months earlier.

Guy Quenneville/NNSL photo

***The NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines'** 2010 Geoscience Forum in Yellowknife drew 779 delegates, up from 750 the previous year.*

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Kivalliq Inuit Association

photos courtesy of Jamie Bell

ᑭᕙᓪᓕᕐᒥ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᑲᑐᔾᔨᖃᑎᒌᖕᒋᑦ ᑎᒃᑯᐊᖅᑕᐅᓯᒪᓪᓗᑎᒃ ᐃᓄᖕᓄᑦ ᑎᒥᕐᑯᑎᒋᔭᐅᕗᑦ ᑮᓇᖅᑐᖅᑐᑦ ᐱᓇᓱᐊᕈᒪᓂᖕᒋᓐᓂᒃ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᕿᒪᐃᑉᐱᐅᔪᒃᓴᐃᑦ ᑭᕙᓪᓕᕐᒥᐅᑕᐃᑦ.

ᐱᓕᕆᖃᖅᐲᕐᓂᐊᖅᓯᒪᕗᒍᑦ ᑮᓚᖅᑐᕐᓂᕐᒥᒃ ᕿᒪᐃᑉᐱᐅᔪᒃᓴᓂᒃ ᑭᕙᓪᓕᕐᒥᐅᑕᓂᒃ ᒪᑯᓂᖓ ᐱᕚᓪᓕᐊᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ, ᓴᐳᔾᔨᓂᖅ, ᐊᐅᓚᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐱᕚᓪᓕᐊᖅᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐱᔪᓐᓇᐅᑎᖕᒋᓐᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐱᑕᐅᒃᓯᐊᒃᓴᖕᒋᓐᓂᒃ; ᐊᒻᒪᓗᑦᑕᐅᖅ ᓴᖅᑭᔮᖅᑎᓪᓗᒋᑦ ᑮᓇᐅᔭᓕᐅᕈᑎᑦ, ᐃᓅᓯᒃᑯᑦ, ᒐᕙᒪᓕᕆᓂᒃᑯᑦ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐃᓕᖅᑯᓯᒃᑯᑦ ᖃᓄᐃᒻᒥᖃᖕᒋᓐᓂᖕᒋᑦ ᓯᕗᓂᕐᒥ ᑭᖑᕚᑎᒍᑦ.

ᑐᕌᒐᖅᐳᑦ ᐱᓇᓱᐊᖅᓗᒍ ᑖᓐᓇ ᐱᓕᕆᐊᖑᔫᒪᕐᓂᐊᖅᓯᒪᔪᖅ ᐅᑯᐊᖑᕗᑦ;
- ᐊᓯᐅᑦᑕᐃᓕᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᐱᐅᓯᑐᖁᑎᖏᓐᓂᒃ, ᐃᓕᖅᑯᓯᖓᓂᒃ & ᐅᖃᐅᓯᖓᓂᒃ
- ᐊᐅᓚᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᓇᖕᒥᓂᖃᖅᑕᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᓄᓇᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᑕᒫᓂ ᐊᕕᑦᑐᖅᓯᒪᓂᕐᒥᑦᑐᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᑐᓴᕐᕆᐊᕈᑎᖃᖅᑕᖅᑕᐅᖅᑎᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐊᐱᖅᑯᑦᑎᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᑖᕐᓂᒃᑯᑦ ᕿᒪᐃᑉᐱᐅᔪᒃᓴᓂᒃ ᐱᑦᑐᒍ ᓄᓇᐅᑉ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᓂᖓ
- ᓴᐳᔾᔨᓂᖅ ᐅᐱᒃᑲᖅᑕᐅᔾᔪᑉ ᐆᒪᔪᕐᓂᒃ ᐊᒻᒪ ᐊᕙᑎᖓᓂᒃ, ᑕᐃᒪᓐᓇ ᓴᐳᑎᓗᑎᑦ ᐱᕋᔭᒍᑎᖃᖅᓯᒪᔪᑎᒍᑦ ᐊᑐᖅᑕᐅᓂᖕᒋᑦ ᒫᓐᓇ & ᓯᕗᓂᒥ ᑭᖑᔫᓄᑦ
- ᐃᑲᔪᖅᑕᐅᓂᐊᕐᓗᑎᒃ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᑭᕙᓪᓕᕐᒥᐅᑦ ᐃᓕᓐᓂᐊᖅᑎᑕᐅᓂᖏᑦ ᓯᕗᓂᒃᓴᖓᓂᐊᖅᑕᖓᓄᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦ

The Kivalliq Inuit Association is a Designated Inuit Organization that represents the interests of the Inuit beneficiaries of the Kivalliq region.

Our mission is to represent the beneficiaries of the Kivalliq Region in the development, protection, administration and advancement of their rights and benefits; as well as to promote their economic, social, political and cultural well being through future generations.

Our goals to fulfill this mission are;
- To preserve Inuit heritage, culture & language
- To manage Inuit owned lands in the region and provide information to and consult with land claims beneficiaries on land use
- To protect Arctic wildlife and the environment, thereby preserving traditional uses for current & future generations
- To assist Inuit in the Kivalliq Region in training for the future of our Territory

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