

KDCA

SMOKE TRAILS NEWS

KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Your Local Tourism Lobby Association Representing the Federal District of Kenora.

NEXT MEETING

Friday
May 4, 2012
Waldhof Hall,
Waldhof, ON

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To Hon. Michael Gravelle,
Min. of Natural Resources

N.O.T.O. Convention Report

Building Northwestern Ontario
Tourism Through Snowmobiling:



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President's Message:

SPRING, 2012

Wow, what an amazing spring so far. While we are enjoying the record high temperatures across the Northwest and having had some positive announcements made this spring, our industry has many reasons to be optimistic.

The most notable is the "Tourism Facilitation Action Plan" announced by MP Kenney, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. This plan appears to be a great first step in allowing individuals with 1 minor criminality offence access into Canada through a 1 time no-charge TRP, of course at CBSA Border Agent discretion. The effectiveness of this initiative will be reviewed with industry input, to determine if changes need to be made, in the fall.

In February, Tom Pearson, Randy Hanson and myself, as members of the NWOTA/KDCA Working Group travelled to Thunder Bay for a meeting with MPP Gravelle, Minister of Natural Resources. We were allocated 45 minutes so it was decided that we should focus on the issues regarding the Whitetail Deer hunt. Many of these issues really highlight problems facing our entire industry, not just the operators involved in the Whitetail hunt. Both KDCA and NWOTA have been trying to have our concerns addressed for 13 years now. Acknowledging the time committed by our organizations, attending committees struck by the MNR, to not having recommendations acted on, the Minister was very apologetic. Although we are still awaiting follow-up from Minister Gravelle's office, we all left the meeting feeling quite positive that our industry's concerns were heard and would be addressed.

In March there was an email sent out requesting comments on recommendations put forward for the Zone 5 Fisheries Management Plan. I hope all the members affected took the time to contact Karla Clark, our tourism representative on the Fisheries Management Council, with their comments on the proposals put forward by the MNR members. Karla is graciously contributing her time the least we can do is provide her our feedback and support her advocacy on behalf of our industry.

Please mark Friday May 4, 2012 on your calendar to attend the KDCA Spring Meeting. This is a great opportunity to become informed of the issues & any policy changes that affect our industry and specifically your business. We anticipate presentations by the MNR on the LAS (Automated Licensing System) and Fishery Management Updates; Canada Border Services on the 'Tourism Facilitation Action Plan'; Forest Marketing on the 'Importance of Snowmobile Tourism'; OMBAAC; NOTO; Ministry of Tourism; OTMPC; Sunset Country and RTO13; Patricia Regional Tourist Council. The evening's steak barbeque & dance is always lots of fun & an opportunity to reconnect and mingle with other resort owners and the allied members that support our organization. Hope to see you all there!

Sincerely,
Jaqui

Jacqui Haukeness, KDCA President

SPRING ISSUE 2012

WE SUPPORT OUR ALLIED MEMBERS

PLEASE SUPPORT KDCA ALLIED MEMBERS

Alex Wilson Coldstream Ltd.	807-223-2381
All Canada Shows	1-800-325-6290
B. Taylor Home Hardware	807-223-3381
Bay Lakes Marketing/All Canada Shows	920-983-9800
BDO Financial Services	807-468-5531
Bilsbarrow & Assoc/Darkwater Development	807-223-2465
Bobby's Corner	807-227-2099
Border Bob's	218-283-4414
Boreal Signs	807-223-2528
Busters Restaurant/BBQ Sauce	807-227-5256
City of Dryden	807-223-2225
Clean More Janitorial Service	807-223-2467
Consumer Frosted Foods	807-468-8995
DFA Operations	204-989-9898
Dingwall Ford	807-223-2235
Domtar	807-223-9035
Downtown Dollar Store	807-223-7994
Dryden GM	807-223-7123
Dryden District Chamber of Commerce	807-223-2622
Dufresne Furniture Ltd.	807-223-8009
Duty Free America	218-283-2556
Eagle Junction	807-755-2226
Egli's Sheep Farm	807-755-5231
First Choice/Clean Rite	807-223-3889
Flexfish Inc.	1-877-799-7935
Four Season's Footwear	807-223-2129
Gates Taxidermy	204-989-0188
Gillons' Insurance	807-274-7716
Hook, Sellar, Lundin	807-468-9831
Investors Group-Fred van Vogt	807-223-5440
J. Webb & Sons	1-800-465-5089
K.K. Penner Tires	807-223-3194
Kantola Motors	807-468-8984
K-Sports	807-468-4475
Kupper Contracting	807-227-2194
Lake of the Woods Insurance	807-467-8800
Latitude 50 Realty	807-223-4950
Lund Boats	204-479-8855
MacPrint	807-223-5599
McAuley & Partners/Thunder Mgt.	807-223-2254
McKinstry Chrysler	807-223-4214
Mercury Marine	905-636-4700
Morgan Fuels-Vermilion Bay	807-227-2669
Morgan Fuels-Sioux Lookout, Kenora	807-468-6050
Northern Lights Credit Union	807-223-5358
NMMA Sport Shows	612-332-8330
Ontario's Sunset Country	807-468-5853
Patricia Area Community Endeavours	807-221-3293
Royal Bank-Kenora	807-468-4735
Royal Bank-Dryden	807-223-5251
Skene Transfer & Supply	807-937-5960
Square One Printwear	807-223-3885
Steven Blair Contracting	807-937-5877
Sunset Baits	807-468-9567
Sysco Foodservice	807-938-8111
TD Canada Trust	807-223-5237
Telesky Taxidermist	204-775-6769
The Flower Forest	807-221-2121
The Magnes Group	416-234-8721
The Sam Group Ltd.	613-727-0446
The Standard Insurance	807-468-3333
Timbermax	807-223-6699
Try Smith Propane	807-727-2172
Vermilion Bay Co-Op	807-227-2160
Village Corner/Casually Hip	807-227-2183
Winters, Owchar, Fuerst Financial Services	807-223-6835
Wolfraes Inc.	807-468-4338
Woodlake Marine	807-468-2628
Yamaha	807-468-3485



TENTATIVE MEETING AGENDA FOR May 4, 2012 Waldhof Hall

- 9:00 a.m. Doors Open/Coffee & Conversation
- 9:30 a.m. Call to order. Introductions-Jaqui Haukeness, President
Corrections/additions to agenda.
Approval of KDCA fall meeting minutes.
Treasurers Report-Steve Hartle
- 9:45 a.m. New Business
KDCA Constitution-discussion on updates required-
Mal Tygesson
- 10:00 a.m. Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corp. (OTMPC)
- 10:15 a.m. Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:45 a.m. MNR LAS Presentation
(45 minute presentation, 15 min. question period)
- 11:45 a.m. Ontario Moose & Bear Allocation Advisory Committee
- 12:00 noon Lunch**
- 12:45 p.m. MNR-Zone 5 Fisheries Management Council Update
- 1:15 p.m. MNR- other updates
- 1:30 p.m. Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)-Kevin Begin
- 2:00 p.m. NOTO- Doug Reynolds
- 2:20 p.m. Coffee Break
- 2:35 p.m. Sunset Country & RTO13 Update- Gerry Cariou
- 3:05 p.m. Snowmobile Tourism-Pat Forest, Forest Marketing
- 3:25 p.m. Patricia Region Tourist Council Update-Mike Loewen
- 3:40 p.m. Business Development Bank - Rick Klimczak
- 4:00 p.m. Wrap-up
Date of Fall Combined KDCA/NWOTA Meeting to
be decided
Adjournment
- 5:30 p.m. KDCA Social Meet & Greet Hour
- 7:00 p.m. BBQ Dinner followed by Dance

Need directions to the Waldhof Hall?

Call any of the Executive or Directors listed in the newsletter.

KDCA Spring Social & Dance
Kenora District Camp Owners Association Friday, May 4, 2012 - Waldhof Hall

Cook Your Own Steaks  Live Band

5:30 Meet & Greet Hour / 7:00 p.m. Dinner & Dance
Tickets \$30.00 ea. LOTS OF GREAT DOOR PRIZES

Reserve Your Tickets Now!
Call Mal Tygesson at (807) 755-2434
or E-mail: info@evergreenlodge.net



UPDATE
KDCA/NWOTA WORKING GROUP'S
CONCERNS PRESENTED REGARDING
NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO'S
WHITETAIL DEER
MEETING WITH HON. MICHAEL GRAVELLE FEB. 2012

February 10, 2012

Attn: Hon. Michael Gravelle, Minister of Natural Resources

NWOTA/KDCA Working Group's Concerns Regarding NW Ontario's Whitetail Deer

Over the past 13 years Ontario's NON-Resident Whitetail Deer has been a focus of concern with ongoing discussions and presentations. Advisory Committees have been formed with all resource users involved; including The Ministry of Natural Resources, Tourism Representatives, OFAH, local hunters and stake holders.

Although there has been consistent consensus on the 'Need for Action' and recommendations having been put forth in 2008, from the then Re-established Northwest Region Deer Committee, the Ministry of Natural Resources still has not implemented any changes nor appears to be so determined.

With all due respect surely the Ministry can appreciate our industry's frustration having witnessed the fruition of all the originally raised concerns of 1999, with the Non-resident Whitetail Hunt being a prime example of many of the issues our industry faces. The concerns listed below have been highlighted time and again and verifiable through years of inaction by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Ontario is the ONLY Canadian province without a consistent 'Big Game Outfitter' Requirement. For the sake of all stake holders we request that they be taken seriously and expediently acted upon.

- Over hunting and serious 'Quality' harvest decline
- Resident/Non Resident hunter conflict
- Non-resident Guiding Business's operating through private cabins, utilizing Ontario's Resources, accessing Ontario's Crown Lands and conflicting with Ontario Registered Tourism Business's with all monies changing hands outside Ontario and no taxes being paid. There are countless examples of Non-resident's purchasing land and having many friends hunting on a weekly basis throughout the Whitetail season. These are not seasonal cottages. These are underground business's that bring everything with them including cabin packages and persons to construct them. Their ultimate goal is to take advantage of the resources Ontario gives away so freely.
- Tremendous increase in the # of 'fly by night- tailgate' outfitters and outfitters strictly wishing to fill cabins at any cost with very little value retained for the resource.
- Unfettered access to Ontario's Crown Lands for large numbers of Non-resident hunters, including Crown Land camping. The lack of management control for one of Ontario's Big Game Animals to the detriment of resident hunting opportunities and taxing Ontario Tourism Business's is unacceptable. Many tourism business' are relegated off Ontario's vast crown lands onto expensive private leased land hunts in order to continue offering the quality hunting experience expected. As noted in the hunting forum information the quality high budget trophy hunter has been driven out of Ontario and we are left with nothing but "do-it-yourself" hunts that do little for the economy and employment in Ontario.
- Large quantity of Baiting. Literally everywhere you go the last week of October or the first week of November you will find huge bait piles deposited on crown and private lands... some as large as 1 ton. This is not only a wildlife health concern but also congregates the Whitetail around bait sites leading to higher predation. The practice also seems entirely contradictory to MNR's expenditures studying and attempting to reduce the spread of CWD.
- Ontario's Trophy Whitetail Hunting has literally made the 'Craigslist' of bargain hunting

Over the past 13 years the Tourism Industry and other stake holders have been given every excuse and stall imaginable by the Ministry of Natural Resources. With Ontario being the ONLY Province not to have an Outfitter requirement for All Non-Resident Big Game Hunting, contravention of NAFTA was often cited as reason for refusing demands for Outfitted Non-Resident Big Game Hunts. However many provinces have instated the same requirement post NAFTA. PEI as late as 2005 introduced Guided Non-resident hunting for Migratory Bird.

Ontario's reputation as a World Class Hunting and Fishing Destination has been seriously eroded through years of Ministry of Natural Resources mismanagement and inaction. There can be no disputing the economic impact of a strong Tourism Industry and also no denying 99.9% of NW Ontario's Tourism is Resource Based. Northwestern Ontario's tourism industry is struggling. In order to pick up the pieces and hopefully move forward we need the Ministry of Natural Resources to give more than lip service to managing ALL of Ontario's resources for 'Social and Economic Benefits' This includes keeping one eye trained squarely on the needs of the Resource Based Tourism Industry and fully comprehending the effects of the MNR's decisions on this industry. There is without doubt no other Ministry within the Ontario government with such a profound influence over the success or failure of the Resource Based Tourism Industry.

Presented by Jaqui Haukeness, Tom Pearson and Randy Hanson along with other supporting documents/research & findings.



The convention was held in Sudbury and was fairly well attended with a very informative agenda. All the presentations can be seen on the NOTO website and there is a lot of good stuff for you to read, including the presenters and how to contact them.

FireSmart planning was the same but we all need to prepare for the worst as MNR only has limited equipment to help us as some found out last summer. Right now it looks like another very dry year, so clean up around cabins and outposts-maybe invest in some sprinkler systems. Also, check your insurance coverage before the season starts and make the necessary adjustments.

The new POS fishing/hunting license demo went well with lots of questions, some answered some not as those already are finding out. There have been some glitches, that are being addressed now. My advice is to get it going as soon as you can-you will need several hours for the training session on the phone. We will have a demo at the spring meeting. You will need a hard line connection (phone or internet) and may want to consider a backup power source. No one has figured out what our guests will be able to do if they arrive at their destination and cannot buy their license for a day or 2 if the system is down. Isn't that just great?!

Nothing new in the safe drinking water program-they are going to take a look at the regulation one more time and tie up loose ends. They are still going to get around to all properties for an inspection.

From the water safety/boating session, they are thinking about a bare bones charter re: commercial vessels and guide/or operator license with a first aid course. NOTO is still trying to get boats under 6 meters back into the recreational department. After all, that is what they are built for.

From Stephen Harvey senior MNR planning advisor, RSA's are not being widely used, but the Planning Guide is and the users are not asking for changes. MNR is currently reviewing the Guide as required every 5 years.

Mercury Marine has made changes to 30hp and down to make them more lay down friendly and beefed up the lower units. EPA has required changes to the hose and bulb, and Merc has water cooled the fuel pump. Also, talk about metal gas tanks again to bear proof them for the outpost folks.

Social networking by Sofa Communications is good for those who use it, including best times and days and why.

The RTO has some problems and that will be gone into at the spring meeting, not that I am sure tourism matters to the Liberal Gov now that they closed all our OTCs.

And my favorite was the CBSA presentation! They began an agenda change in 2011 to improve front line delivery service and better understand client expectations and needs, Management people making sure they have the right people with the right skills to handle the job, and management excellence to provide consistency across the agency. From the fall KDCA/NWOTA meeting most in attendance felt there had been a good change in attitude at our crossings. My feeling is time will tell as they implement the new policy on minor convictions this season and their commitment to consult with us on how it's working and where to go next this summer.

Respectfully, Mal Tygesson, Past President

Building Northwestern Ontario Tourism Through Snowmobiling



Forest Marketing has been engaged by the OFSC to develop and deliver an outreach program to "significantly raise the understanding and support for snowmobile trail tourism" among government, business, tourism and economic development organizations. Snowmobile tourism here in the north is not quite as positive as it should and has been. Snowmobiling tourism has declined in all districts of the north since the 1990's. A lot of factors come into play some of which will be easier than others to resolve.

I encourage you as important members of Northwestern Ontario's tourism industry to "keep it going", emphasizing to anyone that will listen that snowmobiling tourism needs support not just from the OFSC and the clubs but by the district as a whole including businesses, municipalities, enforcement agencies and tourism operators. Let's not let this important winter economic opportunity slip away through inattention and neglect. It will be very difficult to rebuild if we let it fail.

Pat Forrest, Forest Marketing + Communications/info@forrestmarketing.ca

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If for any reason you wish to speak with the executive or directors, and cannot reach them directly at their listed telephone number, please call or email the KDCA Secretary.