

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

Japanese delegation visits Great Southern

Regional investment opportunities were in focus when eight Japanese delegates, including the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, Mr Toshizo Ido, visited Albany in April.

The visit was hosted by the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) to promote the region as an attractive investment opportunity, particularly for tourism and aquaculture.

Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan traveled from Perth to join GSDC Chair Ross Thornton and the Japanese visitors for a tour taking in aquaculture facilities and some tourism highlights.

Mr Thornton said the Great Southern aimed to double the economic contribution of the tourism sector relative to the rest of the regional economy.

“Our natural environment is a great setting for adventure tourism, with opportunities for hang-gliding, rock climbing, surfing, mountain biking and bush walking,” Mr Thornton said.

“When it comes to aquaculture, the south coast has the right ocean temperature and water quality to grow great seafood, including abalone, mussels and oysters.

“We welcome business investment in aquaculture projects,” Mr Thornton said.

The group visited Emu Point where Great Southern Shellfish director Robert Michael explained the aquaculture industry at Oyster Harbour.

The tour also included the shellfish hatchery at Frenchman Bay and the recently upgraded viewing platform at The Gap.

After a luncheon featuring Great Southern produce, Governor Ido and his colleagues inspected the Albany Entertainment Centre and viewed a presentation by the GSDC, showcasing the region as an investment and tourism destination.

Media contact: Bruce Manning, ph. 9842 4888



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