

December 14, 2007

Changes made to Subsistence Hunting Licence

Edmonton... It is now easier for Albertans who rely on wild meat for sustenance to apply for a special hunting licence for moose, elk or deer. The Subsistence Hunting Licence is available to qualified applicants free of charge from any Fish and Wildlife District office.

Although this licence is not new, the provincial government has made the following changes to make it available to more Albertans.

- Licences may now be used anywhere in the province, not just north of Highway 16.
- Licences are now available all year.
- Licence holders may take moose, elk or deer based on local game populations.

In addition, the \$5 fee for a Domestic Fishing Licence has been dropped. This licence can now be obtained free of charge by eligible applicants.

Ted Morton, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development, said that he hoped the changes would help Alberta families in need. He also noted that they address the difficult situation of some Métis who have not yet applied for or received confirmation of their harvesting rights, but need to hunt or fish to feed their families.

“There’s no need for anyone to break the law to get meat for their family,” Morton said. “Just come in to one of our local offices and apply for a licence.”

A person applying for either licence must show evidence that they, or their family, have no other source of meat or that they have a special health requirement for wild meat.

For more information on the Subsistence Hunting Licence and the Domestic Fishing Licence, including the location of the nearest fish and wildlife office, call Service Alberta at 310-0000.

Alberta’s Subsistence Hunting Licence is part of Premier Ed Stelmach’s plan to secure Alberta’s future by building communities, greening our growth and creating opportunity.

Media enquiries may be directed to:

Darcy Whiteside
Public Affairs Officer
Sustainable Resource Development
780 427-8636

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.