



People's Association

8 September 2014

MEDIA INVITATION

SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS AND LAW SOCIETY ANNOUNCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY LEGAL HUBS TO BENEFIT MORE RESIDENTS

The five Community Development Councils (CDC) and The Law Society of Singapore are pleased to announce the collaboration of Community Legal Pro Bono Services Network in the five districts in Singapore to bring free legal advice closer to residents.

There will be a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Office of the Mayors and People's Association; and The Law Society of Singapore, on **Friday, 12 September 2014 at Treetops @ *Scape. Media arrival is at 6.30pm.**

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam will preside over the MOU signing. President of the Law Society, Mr Lok Vi Ming will give a welcome address. Minister Shanmugam and Mayor Dr Teo Ho Pin, Chairman of the Mayors' Committee, will each deliver an address thereafter.

Since 2007, there has been a growing demand for free legal guidance and knowledge at Law Society's Community Legal Clinics. To provide greater accessibility to the residents, Law Society, in partnership with the CDCs, will establish an island wide network of Community Legal Hubs in five districts.

This initiative will not only provide greater convenience to residents, but also enhance holistic care through targeted referral of residents to the relevant social services agencies within their communities. In addition, through this community involvement, Law Society will be able to customise Law Awareness activities and initiatives for residents based on legal issues of most concern. At the legal clinics, people will benefit from legal advice and guidance from lawyers who have volunteered themselves at Law Society's Pro Bono Services Office. Establishing the network will increase the accessibility of residents to legal advice and this will allow more people to benefit.

The increase in the number of legal clinics will also see greater involvement of lawyers who will now have a platform to reach out to the residents within their communities. This aligns with one of CDCs' key focus areas in promoting volunteerism and the spirit of giving back.

MEDIA INVITATION

Members of the media are invited to the MOU signing. The programme is at Annex A.

Details of the signing ceremony are set out below:

Date: Friday, 12 September 2014
Time: 6.30pm
Venue: Treetops, Level 5 at *Scape
2 Orchard Link
Singapore 273978

ABOUT THE LAW SOCIETY

The Law Society of Singapore was established in 1967 under the Legal Profession Act. It carries out various statutory functions prescribed under the Act, including maintaining and improving the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Singapore, the facilitation of the acquisition of legal knowledge by members of the legal profession, and protecting and assisting the public in all matters ancillary or incidental to the law. For more information on the Law Society, please visit www.lawsociety.org.sg.

ABOUT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS (CDCs)

There are five Community Development Councils, namely, North West CDC, North East CDC, South East CDC, South West CDC and Central Singapore CDC. Mayors of the Districts are Chairmen of the respective CDCs. According to the protocol of the Office of the Mayors, the Mayors are:

- Mayor Dr Teo Ho Pin, Chairman of the Mayors' Committee, Chairman of North West CDC;
- Mayor Mr Teo Ser Luck, Chairman of North East CDC;
- Mayor Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman, Chairman of South East CDC;
- Mayor Ms Low Yen Ling, Chairman of South West CDC; and
- Mayor Ms Denise Phua, Chairman of Central Singapore CDC.

The CDCs' mission:

(a) Assisting the needy

To help the less fortunate through local assistance schemes and programmes

(b) Bonding the people

To bond the community through projects & programmes to bring them closer to one another

(c) Connecting the community

To develop and strengthen partnerships and networks with Government, corporate and community partners to better serve our residents

**SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FRIDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2014
AT TREETOPS, LEVEL 5, *SCAPE
PROGRAMME**

6.30pm	Registration Media Arrival
6.50pm	Arrival of Mayors Dr Teo Ho Pin Chairman of Mayors' Committee and Mayor of North West District Mr Teo Ser Luck Mayor of North East District Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman Mayor of South East District Ms Low Yen Ling Mayor of South West District Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng Mayor of Central Singapore District
7.00pm	Arrival of Guest-of-Honour Mr K Shanmugam Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law
7.05 pm	Welcome Address by Mr Lok Vi Ming, President of the Law Society Address by Dr Teo Ho Pin, Chairman of Mayors' Committee Address by Minister K Shanmugam
7.20pm	Signing of MOU by Chairman of Mayors' Committee on behalf of 5 CDCs & President of the Law Society
7.25 pm	Photo taking
7.30 pm	Presentation of certificates of appreciation to Law firms
8.00 pm	Dinner Reception cum networking Door-stop interview
9.00 pm	End of programme