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To News Editor

NORTH WEST DISTRICT CONFERRED ASEAN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE CITIES (ESC) AWARD 2017 IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

The award is a recognition of the district's efforts in driving Green initiatives over the past 3 years and a testament to the synergistic people-private-public partnerships. North West District was also conferred the ASEAN ESC Award 2014 previously.

To stimulate, benchmark, and recognize exemplary efforts on environmental sustainability, ASEAN initiated the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Award programme in 2008. In its fourth edition running, the ASEAN ESC Award serves to recognise ten ASEAN cities/townships/districts that had implemented exemplary initiatives towards environmental sustainability and keeping the cities clean, green, and liveable. With the collective support of corporate, community and school partners, green volunteers and residents towards North West Community Development Council (CDC)'s 10 Year District Eco Plan known as the "Green Living @ North West", **North West District** has been awarded the title "**ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable City**", for a second time, by the **ASEAN National Committee** at **ASEAN ESC Award 2017** held **today (12 September 2017)** in **Brunei Darussalam**.

2 **Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District says**, “The North West District is very honoured to receive the ASEAN ESC Award 2017. With strong support from our 3Ps partners, green volunteers and residents, in 2016, the North West District has rolled out more than 80 sustainable programmes to reach out to 745,000 residents under the five pillars of the Eco Plan. Looking ahead, we will continue to develop innovative programmes to equip residents with green living capabilities and steer them towards greater environmental ownership and resource conservation practices. The North West CDC will also provide more training opportunities for green volunteers to ensure that their knowledge and skills on environmental issues stay up-to-date.”

3 To track and communicate sustainability efforts in the district more effectively to stakeholders and residents, and to inspire the district to embrace green living, North West CDC launched the inaugural **Green Living @ North West Sustainability Report (SR)** in May this year. The Green Living @ North West Sustainability Report is the first of its kind produced by a CDC in Singapore. It summarises the progress of the North West CDC’s Green Living @ North West initiatives since the inception of the 10-Year Eco Plan from 2009 to 2016, measures its impact on the community and assesses North West CDC’s future sustainability plans to stay on-track with the goals set out in the Eco Plan.

4 Supported by five pillars, the Eco Plan focuses on two thrusts in the key targets – one focuses on awareness and the other on participation. Besides advocating Green Education and Action, many of these programmes also incorporate elements of bonding the people and assisting the needy.

5 One of North West CDC’s key programmes, **Recycle @ North West**, has collected over 376,500kg of sorted, non-contaminated recyclables since 2012 with the support of 600 volunteers. The programme rallies residents to care for the environment together with proper practice of the 3Rs – Active Recycling through sorting and segregating recyclables at the 21 recycling points, also platforms for bonding, around North West District.

6 Another focus programme is the **Reduce @ North West** initiative, which engages students to learn about and spread tips on reduction in energy and water consumption and food wastage to mitigate climate change. Residents are also encouraged to sign up for an energy and water audit contest to raise funds to help low-income families defray utilities bills. Now into its seventh year, 12,643 households have pledged

their commitment to conserve energy since 2011. This translates to at least 220,000 kWh of energy saved, enough to power up close to 850 three-room flats for a month.

7 **Eco CC @ North West** was launched in October 2016, a **key environmental sustainability initiative**, to **promote green living in the community** and transform community centres and clubs (CCs) into **Centres of Green Living**. Under North West CDC's **10 year eco plan "Fight Climate Change" pillar**, the initiative integrates both relevant "hardware" features and "software" practices to drive resource conservation and achieve tangible savings within the environment of a CC. It is also in line with the **Public Sector Taking the Lead in Environmental Sustainability Programme (PSTLES)**, i.e. all existing and new government buildings are to achieve at least BCA Green Mark Gold Award by year 2020.

8 The Sustainable Singapore Blueprint (SSB) 2015 highlighted one key ingredient for a sustainable Singapore – an Active and Gracious Community, which emphasises the importance of collective effort by a committed Government, forward-looking industry partners, and an active civic society. It is this concerted effort which helped the North West District achieve the Best Community Achievement Award at the Clean and Green Singapore Awards last year. This national award is given to the district which best meets the challenges of achieving environmental and public hygiene and cleanliness outcomes successfully with strong support and commitment from its community, and can be held up as the role model in terms of its community commitment and involvement in this area.

About North West Community Development Council (CDC)

Established on 24 November 2001, the North West Community Development Council (CDC) functions as the local administrator of the North West District; initiating, planning and managing community programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. Being closer to the ground, the CDC will be more attuned and responsive to the specific needs of our communities.

We strive to align our activities and efforts with our mission:

(a) Assisting the needy

To help the less fortunate through local assistance 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 strategic partnerships with corporate and community partners to better serve our residents

About Green Living @ North West

Green Living @ North West is a 10-year district Eco Plan launched in the North West district on 8 Nov 2009. It serves to provide an identity and platform to engender a “green” sense of pride and belonging for the North West District. Supported by five pillars namely “CLEAN Everyday, Lead Everyone Against Dengue (LEAD), Fight Climate Change, 3Rs and CLEAN Toilets, the Eco Plan aims to permeate its programmes throughout the constituencies in the North West District. The ultimate aim is to build a green culture by cultivating a green lifestyle and in the process, promoting community bonding and social cohesion.

Green Living @ North West Sustainability Report 2016

Electronic copies of the SR is available on the North West CDC's website via:

www.cdc.org.sg/NorthWest/SustainabilityReport

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