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**SPEECH BY MS DENISE PHUA LAY PENG,  
MAYOR OF CENTRAL SINGAPORE DISTRICT AT  
LAUNCH OF SKILLSFUTURE@CDC ON  
SATURDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024, 2.35PM AT  
PLAZA SINGAPURA ATRIUM (LEVEL 1)**

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1. Greetings and Thank partners
2. Key Objectives of SkillsFuture @ CDC
3. Highlights of SkillsFuture @ CDC
4. Lifelong Learning @ CS CDC

**GREETINGS**

1) A very good afternoon:

a) **Our Guest of Honour, Minister for Education:**

i. Mr Chan Chun Sing

b) **Fellow Mayors:**

- i. Ms Low Yen Ling, Senior Minister of State, Chairman of Mayors' Committee, Mayor of South West District;
- ii. Mr Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District;
- iii. Mr Mohd Fahmi Aliman, Mayor of South East District;
- iv. And also we have Mr Chandra Mohan, Co-Chairman, Lifelong Learning Standing Committee, North West District, representing North West District as Mr Alex Yam, Mayor of North West District who is unable to join us at today's event.

c) **Key Partners:**

- i. Mr Jimmy Toh, Chief Executive Director, People's Association (PA)
- ii. Mr Tan Kok Yam, Chief Executive, SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG)

- iii. Mr Andrew Ho, Director, Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI)
- d) Central Singapore CDC District Councilors, Invited Guests, the 20 over partners who are participating in the Skills for Good Festival today;
- e) Student volunteers from ITE College Central and;
- f) Our fellow residents.

Welcome to the launch of SkillsFuture @ CDC.

#### **ABOUT SKILLSFUTURE @ CDC**

- 1) The five Community Development Councils (CDCs) will kick off the ‘SkillsFuture @ CDC’ today at Plaza Singapura.
- 2) This marks the 7<sup>th</sup> year of collaboration between SkillsFuture Singapore and the CDCs. The series of ‘**SkillsFuture @ CDC**’ (**SF@CDC**) will run from 26 July to 18 August 2024.
- 3) The CDCs’ partnership with SkillsFuture Singapore and Lifelong Learning Institute aims to “level up” engagement and support of residents seeking to upskill for career opportunity and progress.
- 4) We seek to address the demands of the rapidly changing job market and equip residents with the essential skills needed to thrive in Singapore’s growth economies: The **Digital**, **Green**, and **Care** economies. This will enhance employability, foster innovation and drive sustainable economic growth within our community.
- 5) As each local district’s needs and priorities may differ, each SkillsFuture Festival @ CDC is curated for its respective residents. This will include workshops, seminars and live demonstrations anchored around the three growth economies. Participation in these activities is free.

- 6) At **Central Singapore District**, SkillsFuture@CDC takes the form of **Skills for Good Festival**. The event will run from 26 - 27 July 2024. It encourages residents to take concrete steps to upskill and embrace lifelong learning for the good of **Self, Community and Life**.
- 7) Next weekend, South West CDC will be organising their SkillsFuture Festival on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> August at Keat Hong Community Club. You can learn through hands-on activities and demonstrations such as electric vehicles, robotic arms and many more.
- 8) On the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> August, both North East CDC and North West CDC will bring these festivals to Sengkang Grand Mall and Kampung Admiralty Community Plaza respectively. Over at North East CDC's Festival, it will focus on support for Mid-Careerists with Career Transition courses and other resources to equip you for a smoother career transition. At North West CDC's festival, you can explore job opportunities on site and attend talks to learn about in-demand topics.
- 9) This year's SkillsFuture Festivals @ CDC will conclude at the Skills & Learning Festival @ South East CDC on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August at Kallang Wave Mall. Besides promoting skills in the Digital, Care and Green economies, participants can also learn about practical trades and craftsman skills for daily use. I urge all of you to be curious and visit these festivals in the next few weeks to connect and build that habit of lifelong learning. Take your personal and career to the next level by joining all these activities put together by all the 5 CDCs.
- 10) Another key programme that the CDCs have partnered with SSG and LLI is the SkillsFuture Advice. In the first quarter of this year, more than 20,000 residents have attended Skillsfuture Advice workshops across the different CDCs. The CDCs have offered residents with new bundled in-demand topics from the growth economies; Digital, Green and Care economies, such as Artificial Intelligence Application, Data Analytics, Shaping Young Minds (Early Childhood sector), Essential Caregiving Tips and Sustainable E-commerce business.

- 11) In addition, the CDCs have also enhanced our SkillsFuture Advice workshops to help our residents gain deeper insights on industry jobs and skills in demand of the rapidly changing job market.

### **WHAT IS SKILLS FOR GOOD FESTIVAL?**

- 12) For the Skills For Good Festival that is happening here at Plaza Singapura, we are happy to bring together more than 20 partners from Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs), training partners, public agencies and corporates for learning and career opportunities. You can Explore new skills & job opportunities in the growth economies and gaining insights on skills in demand and job opportunities.
- 13) There are onsite activities such as include flying an indoor drone, getting a hands-on experience on sound mixing, generating impactful images using AI, learning what a cybersecurity Specialist does and understanding the possible career and jobs opportunities in the 3 growth economies.
- 14) All these are possible because of the wonderful partners we have for this year's festival:
1. Academy of Design Arts & Media (ADAM);
  2. Asian Culinary Institute;
  3. At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy
  4. Boston Consulting Group (BCG)
  5. Centre For Seniors;
  6. ITE College Central;
  7. James Cook Institute;
  8. KLC International Institute;
  9. Nanyang Polytechnic;
  10. NTUC LearningHub;
  11. Singapore Institute of Retail Studies (SIRS); and
  12. Social Service Institute (SSI)
  13. Association of Information Security Professionals (AiSP);

14. CapitaLand Development
15. Cisco Systems (USA) Pte Ltd;
16. CREUSE;
17. McDonalds;
18. N&N Agriculture; and
19. Sustainable Living Lab.
20. National Council of Social Service (NCSS); and
21. Workforce Singapore (WSG)

### **Conclusion**

- 15) In conclusion, Lifelong learning is an important life habit and should not be left to chance. We want to support our residents to develop a passion and curiosity to learn throughout our lives. Start learning today. Invest in yourself today for growth and better opportunities tomorrow. I urge our residents to seize every chance to self-drive their learning and upskill for the good of themselves, others and for life.”
- 16) And with that, I wish you a wonderful day at the Skills for Good Festival today and the other SkillsFuture Festivals from now till 18 August 2024. May the next few weeks be an enriching learning time for all of you!
- 17) Thank you.

**# END #**