



Buona Vista Citizens' Consultative Committee 波那维斯达公民咨询委员会

Pledge of Support for UNESCO nomination for Hawker Culture at Commonwealth Crescent Market and Food Centre

Buona Vista Constituency plays an active role in bringing people together in community and one of the most important networking point is at our hawker centres.

2. The hawker culture embodies the different life stories of our residents, a daily mingling point for seniors, a go to point for young families for good food and a source of affordable food for those less well off. The hawker culture is dynamic and at Buona Vista, the hawkers form an integral part of our social fabric.

3. The hawkers are also active community builders in Buona Vista and always gave strong support to major grassroots events such as the Pioneer Generation Dialogue, Buona Vista Chinese New Dinner and PAssion Silver Card launch etc.

4. On 12 January 2019, Commonwealth Crescent Market and Food Centre pledged their strong support for the hawker culture.

5. Also enclosed are some photos of our hawkers, such as from Rice Garden Foodstall, Henry's Chicken Rice and Yu Wei Ren Sheng, pledging their support for the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



Your Sincerely,

Mr Kun Kay Hong, BBM(L)

Chairman

Commonwealth Crescent Stallholders' & Shopkeepers' Association

c/o BUONA VISTA CONSTITUENCY OFFICE, BLK 36 HOLLAND DRIVE, #01-01 SINGAPORE 270036. TEL: 67731283 FAX: 67792993



Buona Vista Citizens' Consultative Committee 波那维斯达公民咨询委员会

Pledge of Support for UNESCO nomination for Hawker Culture – Buona Vista Constituency

During one of our market visit on 12 January 2019, Commonwealth Crescent Market and Food Centre pledged their strong support for the hawker culture, with our Commonwealth Crescent Stallholders' & Shopkeepers' Association Chairman, Mr Kun Kay Hong, BBM(L) leading from the front.

2. All the hawkers, shopkeepers and residents were forthcoming and hope this unique culture of Singapore can be recognised at an international level.
3. The hawkers are also active community builders in Buona Vista and always gave strong support to major grassroots events such as the Pioneer Generation Dialogue, Buona Vista Chinese New Dinner and PAssion Silver Card launch etc.
4. Also enclosed are some photos of our hawkers, such as from Ting Le Xi Desert stall, The Best Indian Food stall and Huang Da Fu Bar Chor Mee, pledging their support for the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



Your Sincerely,

Ms December Pang, PBM
Chairperson
Buona Vista CACC

c/o BUONA VISTA CONSTITUENCY OFFICE, BLK 36 HOLLAND DRIVE, #01-01 SINGAPORE 270036. TEL: 67731283 FAX: 67792993

UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Object: "Hawker Culture of Singapore" – Nomination for UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Dear UNESCO,

The Selamat Datang Mee Soto and Mee Rebus stall is one of the oldest and most popular hawker stall at Adam Road Hawker Centre. It is known for its savoury Mee Soto soup, Bergedil and thick tasty Mee Rebus gravy. The stall is a 3rd generation family owned business which was started in the early 70s by Bapak Temon who passed the stall to his son, Pak Sapari, when he became incapacitated. When Pak Sapari health deteriorated acutely in 2012, his eldest son, Mr Sumadi decided to quit his stable, comfortable and well-paying job as an engineer to take over the family business. "I felt sad to leave my career. But I would also have felt sad if I had let my parents down", Mr Sumadi said.

Over the past 30 plus years, the stall has garnered a loyal following of regular customers and has built an impressive reputation for itself over the years, having been featured in popular blogs, newspapers and food programme. Mr Sumadi too has gone on to grace the kitchen of Singapore's Istana and the lawns of London during Singapore Day there.

Like many other Singaporeans, my Dad used to take my siblings and me to the stall for its delicious Mee Soto. Most times, there would be a long queue at the stall but we did not mind, as the food was really yummy. I can still picture it vividly my Dad carrying the tray containing our savoury Mee Soto and Mee Rebus and we would boisterously finished it up as soon as the food touched the table ! Of course, those days our meal would not be complete without Coca Cola in its retro glass bottles!

Tertiary school, as well as time in the Army, were no different. My friends and I would often 'lepak' or hang out at Adam Road Hawker Centre where we would talk about anything and everything – school, exams, our worries about the future, girlfriends, etc. Throughout all these, Mr Sapari, with his infectious smile was always there serving us our tasty Mee Soto and Mee Rebus. My friends and I would spent hours at the hawker centre, re-ordering our teh tarik as we went through these periods of our lives.

These days, as a father of three, I often take my children to the Selamat Datang Mee Soto and Mee Rebus stall, the same one my Dad took me. While the tables and seats of Adam Road Hawker Centre may have been spruced up, the colour on the walls may have changed, Coca Cola now comes in cans and Mr Sapari had sadly passed on due to cancer, we still get the same awesome tasting Mee Soto from Mr Sumadi.

Everyone I know from ex-schoolmates, soccer teammates, army buddies, fellow dads, etc., has their own 'Mee Soto, Mr Sapari and Mr Sumadi' story growing up. Hawker culture is inherent in ordinary Singaporeans everyday lives. Besides getting our food, we also spend our time there with other social activities like playing checkers, plucking guitars in a sing along, coming together for discussion, just hanging out after work and many more.

At Centre For Fathering (CFF), a Volunteer Welfare Organisation (VWO) I currently worked for, we strived to turn the hearts of children towards their fathers. One way we do this is to get

fathers to be more involved with their kids. To that end, we run a programme called '*Eat With Your Family Day*' where we encouraged fathers to end their work early to spend time with their family by eating together. It is very heartening to see very strong support for this programme from the community, which enables many fathers and their families to spend precious family time together while tucking away at our local delicacies across various hawker centres.

CFF strongly supports the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. We believed Hawker Culture is an inseparable part of what it means to grow up Singaporean and fingers crossed; we hope the nomination will be successful.

For more than 30 years, from Great-Grandfather to Grandfather to Father and now to Mr Sumadi's son, 13 yr old Harris, the secret to the delicious taste of Mee Soto and Mee Rebus has been passed from one generation to the next. When the food hit the table, it is now my kids and their friends who boisterously finished it. Long may our Hawker Culture continue.



Bryan Tan

CEO Centre For Fathering



Jawatankuasa Perundingan Rakyat Chong Pang
忠邦公民咨询委员会
சொங் பாங் குடிமக்கள் ஆலோசனைக்குழு
Chong Pang Citizens' Consultative Committee

18 January 2019

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear Ms Felicia Toh

**Support the Nomination of the Hawker Culture of Singapore to the UNESCO
Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage**

1. Chong Pang Community Club is located in the heart of Chong Pang City, surrounded by the shops, market, lock up stalls and hawker center. Chong Pang Community Club is managed by Chong Pang Community Club Management Committee (CCMC). The main objectives of the CCMC and other Grassroots Organisations (GROs) are to promote social bonding and to connect residents with the government.
2. Chong Pang Community Arts & Culture Club (Chong Pang CACC) is one of the GROs in Chong Pang and a coordinating arts & culture club managed by like-minded volunteers with a passion in promoting community arts. The main objective is to better leverage on arts & culture as a means to reach out and engage the residents from childhood to golden age, of all races and from all estates.
3. Every year, Chong Pang CACC organized activities next to Chong Pang hawker center. The activities are PassionArts Hotspots, Christmas caroling, PassionArts display & etc. This year, to support the traditional food in Singapore, Chong Pang CACC organized traditional hawker food recycled arts and the arts products were displayed next to Chong Pang hawker center. Many hawkers and patrons of the hawker centres also joined in the activities as well.
4. Chong Pang hawkers have a close relationship with Chong Pang GROs. Over the year, we have worked together for many projects to improve the community as a whole. For example, Chong Pang hawker supported the needy residents by working with Chong Pang GROs and to provide food vouchers for needy residents to purchase subsidized food in Chong Pang hawker center. In addition, Chong Pang Hawkers has supported the NS50 campaign several years to show recognition to our NSMen for serving the nation.





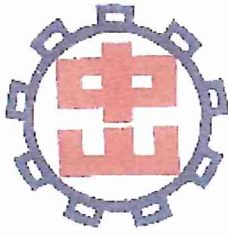
Jawatankuasa Perundingan Rakyat Chong Pang
忠邦公民咨询委员会
சொங் பாங் குடிமக்கள் ஆலோசனைக்குழு
Chong Pang Citizens' Consultative Committee

5. Hawker culture has a long history in Singapore, and it is part of the Singaporeans' life. It is integral part of our way of life, where people from all walks of life gather, mingle and enjoy the tasty, yet affordable food at centralized and convenient locations.
6. On behalf of the Chong Pang GROs and all Chong Pang Grassroots Leaders and volunteers, we support and hope that the nomination of hawker culture is successful.

Yours faithfully

Mr Teo Choon Hock, JP, BBM(L)
Chairman
Chong Pang Citizens' Consultative Committee





新 加 坡
中 山 會 館

CHUNG SHAN ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

8th March 2019

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Letter of Support for the UNESCO Nomination of Hawker Culture

Dear Sirs

Chung Shan Association (Singapore) which has been in existence since the year 1837 has the objective of looking after the welfare and well-being of members and society. The association intends to support the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

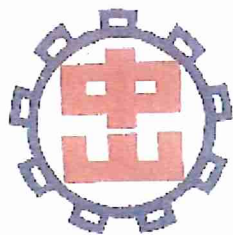
Our association has its beginnings when migrants from the town of present day Zhongshan, Guangdong province, China came to Singapore looking for economic opportunities. The association was formed to help them integrate into the local environment with the aim of either helping them secure jobs or starting businesses, if they so desire. Some of them indeed had small businesses including being hawkers. There was a deep sense of camaraderie among these hawker-members when in later years the government consolidated them into hawker centres.

In 2014, Singapore was the host country for the 10th Worldwide Zhongshan Associations Convention. Being the host, Chung Shan Association (Singapore) had to organize all activities including programmes, accommodation and other logistics. Planning begins two years prior to the event and many of our ad-hoc and formal meetings were held at hawker centres. The importance of these hawker centres and hawkers to this activity cannot be down-played as it provides both a cost-effective method of keeping expensing budget and providing locations familiar to all organizing committee members. There was also no need for "reservations" unlike restaurants. We also realized Singapore's hawker culture has become renowned when foreign participants to the convention requested casual dining at specific hawker centres.

Our association is an active organization with many programmes and activities held throughout the year. Whenever there are major up-coming programmes such as the annual anniversary celebration pro-tem organizing committees are formed. Frequently before and after each meeting we would gather at hawker places or centres to have informal discussions and relax. The sense of community and social cohesion in those moments has helped to build harmony and teamwork in the association.

The hawker culture as can be seen has played a significant role throughout the 182 years of the existence of Chung Shan Association (Singapore). We envisaged that in future years we will remain to hold many meetings and gatherings both formally and informally at hawker stalls and

Chung Shan Association (Singapore)
20B Keong Saik Road
Singapore 089127
Tel: (65) 62230600 Email: csa_sg@yahoo.com.sg



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CHUNG SHAN ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

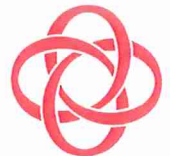
centres. We would therefore affirmatively support the nomination of the “Hawker Culture of Singapore” to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Yours sincerely

Wong Keng Chee
President
Chung Shan Association (Singapore)

4 January 2019

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892



People's Association

Kreta Ayer – Kim Seng
Constituency Office
28A Kreta Ayer Road
Singapore 088995

Attn: Ms Felicia Toh (Assistant Manager, Heritage Research and Assessment)

Dear Ministry,

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE TO THE UNESCO
REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY**

We are a group of food lovers and cooking interest group whom gather together because of our love for food. We gather monthly together for the love of Singapore's delicious local food. We have always enjoyed the local hawker culture where hawkers gather at each housing estate to provide Singaporeans and tourists with the huge variety of foods. Hence, we are supportive of the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Hawker Culture has always been a part of every Singaporean's lifestyle, besides providing with affordable food, it carries much of Singapore's local culture. Through the different kinds of food, one can understand the different taste that stems from various dialect group and races. It is a special place, where foods of different cultures and race gathers together to complement one another, making hawker an extremely unique place. Hawker food is of a wide variety and people from all over the world will definitely be able to find something unique that suits their taste.

Image below shows both locals and tourists patiently queueing at one of the world's cheapest Michelin-star meal, a famous icon of Singapore's Hawker Culture



Image below shows Hawker Food Preparation of Cooking Interest Group



Food always brings people together despite the nationality or cultural differences just like it has brought this Interest Group together. Monthly, we gather to learn and try to make our own hawker food. We hope that more people can experience the joy of hawker culture that it will be transmitted to the future generation by becoming a symbol of the identity for Singaporeans.

Yours Sincerely,
Cooking Interest group at Covent-Indus

chia

Ms Chia Luan May

To :
National Heritage Board Singapore
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

From :
Dick Yip and his Minstrels@the Serangoon
Serangoon Community Club
10 Serangoon North Avenue2
Singapore 555877

26 November 2018

Our objective: In strong support that the “Hawker Culture in Singapore” be added to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Dear National Heritage Board of Singapore,

Dick Yip and his Minstrels is a ukulele interest group serving with the Active Ageing Committee, Serangoon Community Club/People’s Association. It was initiated in 2008 by Dick Yip with a Vision of ‘A Happy Senior’ and a Mission to ‘enable a Senior to befriend the humble ukulele as a constant companion’. The group has 50 members made up of seniors, cancer survivors and cancer patients. Hawker Centres which are the associated spaces of Hawker Culture in Singapore, are very much part of our lives – from those growing years to now our glowing years!

A key objective of the group is to raise the self-worth of the members through music and performances. Some highlights of the group’s achievements are:

- Dick Yip broke the solo-ukulele world record (25 hours) and set a new record of 32 hours from 31 July – 1 August 2015 as a gift to Singapore on her 50th birthday. This was affirmed by the Singapore Book of Records
- Leader: Set a record of Longest Ukulele Concert - 32-hours.
He inspired his Minstrels to set a world record of the longest Ukulele concert – 32 hours from 31 July – 1 August 2015, as a gift to Singapore on her 50th birthday. This was affirmed by the Singapore Book of Records
- Organised the Pesta Ukulele 2016 - a ukulele performance for friends and loved ones of the Minstrels. In their appreciation, ‘love gifts’ for PERTAPIS were given (we collected \$7,000).
Seniors who participated felt a deep sense of joy and fulfilment.
Another concert with the same objective has been scheduled on Wednesday, 26 December 2018 at the Serangoon CC.

- Organises regular picnic jams and performances at various Hawker Centres to add vibrance and promote healthy living. Some highlights are
 - La Teh La Kopi - 11 August 2016 from 3 - 4 pm at 115 Bukit Merah View Market and Food Centre
 - Christmas in the Neighbourhood (1) - 23 December 2017 - breakfast at Serangoon Gardens Hawker Centre - 8 - 9 am - to bring the spirit of Christmas to the diners
 - Christmas in the Neighbourhood (2) - 23 December 2017 - breakfast at the market place - Serangoon North Plaza - 9.30 - 10.30 am
 - Beachfront East Coast Lagoon Food Village on 22 August 2018 from 3 pm – 7 pm
 - Christmas with Dick Yip and his Minstrels at Kampong Admiralty Hawker Centre on 21 Dec 2018 from 5-8 pm

Hawker Centres are meeting points for ALL people in Singapore, irrespective of social status, age, race or religion. They are our melting pots of different cultures. Hawker Culture in Singapore is an integral part of our way of life, where people from all walks of life gather to dine and bond over their favourite hawker food, which are prepared by hawkers from stalls selling Chinese, Malay, Indian and many other diverse types of dishes – prepared by local hawkers with years of experience. Many of these dishes originated from the food cultures of different immigrant groups who settled in Singapore. Over time, they have evolved to be the distinctive local dishes that we love, and form an important part of our food heritage. This is our PRIDE and JOY.

Many of our working adults will head straight to the Hawker Centres for a satisfying lunch with colleagues or to meet friends. Most often treating themselves to delightful local desserts and take-away snacks. Our young students enjoy a balanced and healthy lunch at the Hawker Centres too, as many of their families have working mothers who will not be able to cook. Families gather for dinner too before heading for home as our hawker food is as good as home-cooked meals. Our Hawker Centres offer warm and affectionate venues for meeting up with friends and the retirees will certainly affirm this! Our Hawker Culture and the Hawker Centres are our priceless assets of culture heritage where learning, sharing and appreciation of one another's culture from different ethnic groups takes place naturally.

For these reasons, we strongly support that the “Hawker Culture in Singapore” be added to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

On behalf of Dick Yip and his Minstrels, thank you



Daisie Yip
Administration Manager
Dick Yip and his Minstrels
c/o 25 Simon Place
Singapore 545965

email: daisiechyip@gmail.com

The Eurasian Association, Singapore

(Established July 1919)

PATRONS

Mr. H R Hochstadt • Mr. George Yeo

EURASIAN ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES

B. Desker • T. J. de Souza • G. M. Minjoot • G. F. De Silva • J. E. J. Prakash • E. A. D'Silva

25 November 2018

Mr Yeo Kirk Siang
Director, Heritage Research and Assessment
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear *Mr Yeo*

The Eurasian Association (EA) Singapore would like to offer its strong support of the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Eurasians are one of the four pioneer races of Singapore and this small and important community has played a key role in nation building. The EA's mission is to enrich the legacy of the Eurasian community that is integrated with and contributing to a multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and multi-cultural Singapore. It strives to promote the economic, social, cultural, physical and intellectual advancement of the community through focusing on three main pillars:

- Education: to advance the academic achievement of all Eurasian students and continue to encourage academic excellence.
- Family Support Services: to provide assistance and guidance to needy Eurasians, especially the elderly and families at risk.
- Community Development: to promote stronger bonds and build synergy within the Eurasian community, and with the Singapore community through various programmes and initiatives.

A significant part of the EA's efforts in community building centre around food and fellowship, and the cultural traditions associated with this. Eurasians have a proud heritage of preparing and serving food that has its roots in European cuisine but which is also inrefutably Asian in its influences. Many of our treasured dishes share common traits with Chinese, Malay and Indian recipes. Through Eurasian food, we are able to connect with our fellow Singaporeans, demonstrating how Eurasians are the embodiment of what it means to be a multi-racial, multi-cultural, modern society.

Singapore's hawker culture also epitomizes this multi-racial, multi-cultural, modern society. Our hawker centres typically feature a range of cuisines from different ethnic groups, prepared and cooked in a single facility. This reflects Singaporeans' tolerance and understanding of different religious beliefs and food-preparation practices, attributes that the EA, and indeed, all of Singapore, cherishes.

Hawker centre food is also relatively affordable and allows those less well-off in our society to eat out in comfort. Our hawker culture is therefore a great social leveler. This outcome is closely aligned to the EA's mission of assisting the underprivileged in our community.

The EA looks forward to the recognition of Singapore's Hawker Culture as Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alexius A. Pereira', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Alexius A. Pereira
President



Helping Families Thrive

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY
SINGAPORE LTD

9 Bishan Place, #08-03
Junction 8 Office Tower, S579837

E focus@family.org.sg

T 6336 1444

F 6491 0707

28 January 2019

Letter of Support for the Nomination of Hawker Culture in Singapore

Dear Nomination Committee,

It is commonly said that *"a family that eats together, stays together"*. From our multiple family-related events over the years, we have witnessed the continued hope of strengthened relationships when our participants – both young and old – bond meaningfully with their family members over a meal, complemented by conversations shared across the table. For many, the shared love for food among family members continues to spark joy and memories.

One such place where many Singaporeans gather and bond over daily meals is at our hawker centres. Our hawker culture represents a critical component of our family heritage and national sense of belonging. Many Singaporeans have grown up eating local delights and learning about one other's culture and traditions. Our hawker culture has become an integral part of every Singaporean's daily life.

Beyond the Singaporean love for food, our hawker centre is also a social space where people – regardless of race, religion and family background – gather and relationships are forged. It functions as a place for community bonding and cross-cultural appreciation. Many mature neighbourhoods remain vibrant today because of the existence of hawker centres in the vicinity where the residents can gather for meals, meet up with neighbours, and share both their common life experiences as well as different ethnic recipes.

As a pro-family organisation with a passion to serve everyday families in the community, we applaud the government's stance in promoting timeless family values and preserving our multicultural heritage through the initiative to inscribe our Hawker Culture of Singapore in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

We hope that through a successful nomination, the recognition of the value – and not just the taste and affordability – of hawker food will allow us to share the heritage of familial and societal relationships, as well as the diversity of cultures from our different ethnic groups, with all around the world. And like all good and timeless family values, our hawker culture will continue to be transmitted from one generation to the next.

We pledge our support for this initiative and look forward to the celebration of our national heritage!

Joanna Koh-Hoe
Chief Executive Officer

ABOUT FOCUS ON THE FAMILY SINGAPORE LTD

Established in 2002, Focus on the Family Singapore Limited is a local charity with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status, dedicated to *helping families thriveSM* at different stages and phases of life through preventive family life education and resources.

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

Frederick Douglass

With 17 years of practical and hands-on experience in walking alongside families in Singapore as a trusted, compassionate guide and an inspiring family advocate, our unique value proposition stems from our extensive range of programme offerings and a current understanding of the local context built on personal and relevant connections.

We partner with the Ministry of Social and Family Development and over 400 educational institutions, government agencies, corporations, grassroots organisations and faith communities to promote strong families. Backed by the expertise from a dozen international associate offices, we develop and deliver some 400 experiential workshops, inspirational talks and differentiated events each year. Our programmes address marriage, parenting, work-life effectiveness, sexuality and values-based relationships, with a reach of over 40,000 parents, married couples, working professionals and youth annually. This is supported by a professional counselling team of associates and volunteers.

Our impact activities are complemented by content placements in various media (TV, radio, newspapers, magazines & web) and supported by the yearly distribution of approximately 35,000 family life resources (books, curriculums, magazines, booklets and DVD/CDs). Every month, 24,000 families receive family life encouragement and support through our e-newsletters.

(Find out more at www.family.org.sg.)

11 Feb 2019

Dear Sir and Madam,

Support of Nomination of Food Culture in Singapore

Food gen 2 is made up of members who have succeeded their family businesses in the food industry. We have 5 different categories of members:

- Hawker
- Restaurant
- Catering
- Manufacturing
- Wholesale

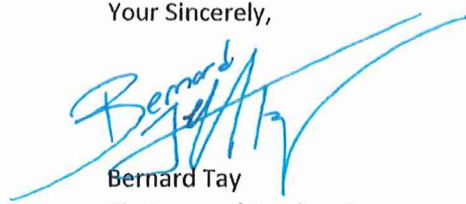
Most of our family businesses have been around for decades and **some even** span across 3 generations. Our vision for this club is to preserve Singapore Food Heritage and encourage the younger generation to take over their family business.

Amongst the different F&B sectors, we feel that Singapore Hawker Culture plays a huge part in our local food heritage. We have a number of family businesses that started from hawker stalls and till this day, are still operating in hawker centres. Some of these brands are, Ming Fa Fishball Noodles, Kim's Hokkien Noodles and Xi De Li Youtiao. These are local food that Singaporeans grew up with and are a large part of our food identity. These stalls that are still operating in hawkers are trying their best to serve Singaporean and tourists food that are passed down from their parents and grandparents. This is our way to keep local traditional food alive and available to generations after generations of Singaporeans.

Some of these heritage brands have also managed to step out of Singapore. Ming Fa and Xi De Li have opened branches in Indonesia, and Kim's Hokkien Noodles is expanding to Dubai. It is heartening to see our local food being accepted overseas and we are proud to promote the Singapore brand through our local food culture.

It is with great pleasure that Foodgen2 supports the nomination of Singapore Hawker Culture into UNESCO because we strongly feel that preserving Singapore's traditional food is our way to preserve Singapore's unique identity.

Your Sincerely,



Bernard Tay
Chairman of Foodgen2



INTER-RELIGIOUS ORGANISATION, SINGAPORE

(ROS 0176/1949 REL)

7 Maxwell Road, #05-02 MND Building, Annex B Complex, Singapore 069111

Tel: (65) 6221 9858

Fax: (65) 6221 9212

Website: www.iro.sg

Email: contact@iro.sg

HINDU JEWISH ZOROASTRIAN BUDDHIST TAOIST JAIN CHRISTIAN ISLAM SIKH BAHAI

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

19 March 2019

Dear National Heritage Board

SUPPORT FOR UNESCO HAWKER CULTURE NOMINATION

Inter-religious harmony is the bedrock of Singapore's success which has facilitated economic and social stability. Singapore is an inclusive nation ranked as the most religiously diverse country in the world. To achieve such existential status, our government, NGOs and community leaders have continued to take conscientious efforts to promote the harmonious living.

The Inter-Religious Organisation, Singapore (IRO) has been actively building friendship and trust between Singapore's diversity of religions. Through the fellowship of religious leaders since its founding 70 years ago in 1949, IRO has spearheaded peaceful interfaith relations to help bring about religious harmony in Singapore. Thus the IRO, a non-government organisation, has had significant impact on the development of multi-religious Singapore.

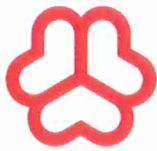
Nothing brings people together like food does. The IRO's interfaith gatherings are unique as they respectfully cater for dietary concerns of members from the major religions in Singapore; Hinduism, Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Taoism, Jainism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and Baha'i Faith.

The IRO encourages the act of eating together despite the dietary differences. For this reason, we see the hawker centres as a common place for Singaporeans to have their meals together. People of all races and religions have a convenient access to the food they like, while also maintaining their religious principles. It also provides them an opportunity to understand each other better thereby strengthening religious harmony in Singapore.

For this reason, the members of IRO consider it important and strongly support the nomination of hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Yours sincerely,

Ben J Benjamin
President



加基武吉公民咨询委员会

KAKI BUKIT CITIZENS' CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

c/o Kaki Bukit Constituency Office, Kaki Bukit Community Centre
670 Bedok North Street 3, Singapore 469627
Tel: 6445 4223 Fax: 6241 8261

18 February 2019

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892
Attn: Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager
Heritage Research and Assessment

Dear Ms Toh

**SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF THE "HAWKER CULTURE OF SINGAPORE" TO
THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Kaki Bukit 511 Area Sub Committee (ASC), a sub-committee of Kaki Bukit Citizens' Consultative Committee (CCC) fully supports the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The committee looks after the interests and serves as a bridge between the government and Block 511 Wet Market Stall Holders, surrounding vicinity Shopkeepers and in particular, the 511 Food Centre's Hawker Stalls and work very closely with its Management Association (MA) located at 511, Bedok North Street 3, as part of our continuous effort to outreach and engage Kaki Bukit estate residents.

2 Over 75% of Singapore's residential profiles are under public housing. Therefore, it is not surprising that the local government invested heavily on infrastructures, facilities and amenities including Hawker/Food Centres in public housing estates to better serve the majority of its people where they live. As such, Hawker/Food Centres can be commonly found in neighbourhood estates across the island. Dining at these public eateries has become part of most Singaporeans' lifestyle and daily routine. It offers not only varieties of delicious local hawker delights, more importantly, it is economical and value for money when compared to the high-end, Five Star-Michelin rated fine dining which are often expensive and extravagant where it goes beyond the reach of most middle to lower-income earning Singaporeans and foreign workers. Due to its strong attractions in offering a varieties of good local ethnic food at affordable pricing, Hawker/Food Centres also serve as a community platform that does not discriminate and are common meeting places among friends, colleagues, families and even tourists of all races and beliefs. Such casual dining at these public eateries helps strengthen and deepen family bonds, inculcate friendships, promote social cohesion and racial harmony.

3 For Kaki Bukit 511 ASC, the 511 Food Centre has become an important outreach and engagement tool of its residents and most often, it is the main focal point where most of its joint festive celebrations with its MA and hawkers were held. Such activities included the

annual Chinese New Year and the Muslims' Hari Raya Light-Ups, Chinese New Year Mandarin Orange and National Day Flag distributions to the hawkers and residents/visitors to the hawker centre. These activities not only provided opportunities for 511 ASC to forge closer working ties with our local community partners and stakeholders to deepen our outreach and engagement efforts of our residents, it also brought people of different races and cultural backgrounds together to build the much desired social cohesion and racial harmony that our country strive for.

Kaki Bukit 511 ASC and 511 Food Centre MA Collaborations



Chinese New Year 2019 Light-up



Hari Raya Light-up 2018



National Day Flag Distribution 2018



CNY Orange Distribution 2018

4 As a semi- retired hawker myself with my sons progressively taking over and learning the trade and also the originator of the famous Blk 85, Fengshan Food Centre's Mince Pork Noodle (a family branch-out), it is an important endeavour to put forth the Hawker/Food Centre Culture of Singapore internationally as it is only unique to Singapore and it plays an important role in up-keeping family traditions and values amongst the many hawkers and helps Grassroots Organisations like the Kaki Bukit 511 ASC to build social cohesion and racial harmony for the residents it serves.

5 On behalf of the Kaki Bukit 511ASC and other grassroots organisations in our estate, I wish Singapore every success in putting the Hawker Centre of Singapore to the UNESCO representative list of intangible cultural heritage.

Your sincerely

MR TAN POH CHYE
Chairman
Kaki Bukit Area Sub-Committee (ASC)



22 January 2019

**Letter of Support for Nomination of Hawker Culture for UNESCO
Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage**

The history of Hawker Culture in Singapore traces back to the 18th Century, with street hawkers who honed their culinary skills with a simple set-up of a push-cart and portable furniture. Since then, it has evolved to the vibrant Hawker Culture we have today, with Hawker Centres well distributed around the island, and many locals can find sumptuous food offerings a stone's throw from their homes. In fact, Hawker Centres are now an indispensable part of our lives, and many of us turn to them not just for affordable meals, but also for community bonding, a sense of identity and a reflection of diverse cultures within Singapore.

2 In Kampong Chai Chee Division, food options are aplenty, and as a Grassroot Leader, I often meet residents who share their gratefulness for the availability of these affordable food options. In particular, we have a Food Centre and Market located at Block 216 and something unique about this Food Centre is that it is particularly lively in the mornings, when residents of all walks of life would congregate after their morning exercises, grocery shopping, and before they begin their work day. A typical morning at the Food Centre would be one which is packed full of hungry Kampong Chai Chee residents enjoying their bowl of noodles, cup of Kopi or devouring their plate of Kway Chap. The Food Centre has become a regular dining point for the seniors from the "Infinite Youth" group after their exercise session on weekend.

3 Apart from just the food, the Block 216 Food Centre and Market is also a common meeting point for many groups of people, including families, cliques of friends, and neighbours. With it being located right next to Heartbeat@Bedok, my fellow Grassroots Leaders and I would often meet to have our tummies filled before heading to a meeting or event. It has become an integral part of daily lives.

4 Many of the Hawker Stall Owners have also been mending their stalls for many generations and practically like family! Recently, the Food Centre also managed to attract young hawkers to start their ventures there, continuing this unique Singapore Hawker Culture and ensuring it's not lost after the current generation of Hawker Owners retire. The Block 216 Food Centre and Market has become a place for youths to chase their dreams and work on what they believe in.

5 For the aforementioned reasons, me and my fellow Grassroots Leaders consider it important and would like to give our strongest support for the nomination of Singapore's Hawker Culture for UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Oh Teck Siong', written in a cursive style.

Oh Teck Siong, Ivan BBM
Chairman
Kampong Chai Chee CCC



金声民众联络所

KIM SENG COMMUNITY CENTRE

570 Havelock Road Singapore 169640 Tel: 62723878 Fax: 62700301

31/12/2018

To: National Heritage Board

In support of the nomination of Hawker Culture for the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

We are a group of grassroots leaders from Kim Seng Community Club (CC) Women's Executive Committee (WEC) which supports the Women's Integration Network (WIN) Council's vision and efforts to promote social, cultural, educational, and recreational activities for the women in our Constituency. We also support the People's Association's efforts to connect the government to people, people to government and people to people.

Our WEC is based at 570 Havelock Road Singapore 169640 and has been organizing classes; activities and starting interest groups to encourage women with common interests to meet and mingle regularly to exchange ideas on networking, so as to promote community bonding and we also help the less fortunate, as well as to create opportunities for women to participate in community and national affairs.

Singapore's food culture is greatly influenced by its geographical location and our diverse population. The demand for cheap and affordable hawker food continues even today when our people are more affluent.

Our Hawker culture, with a wide variety of affordable local food at our hawker centres, provides an important place for social interaction and community bonding. People from all walks of life, including families, gather at hawker centres to dine and bond over their favourite hawker food. Over the years, the hawker culture has become reflective of Singapore multicultural society, with stalls selling Chinese, Malay, Indian and other types of dishes. Many of the food types originated from the food cultures of our early immigrants who came to Singapore and they evolved over time to become our distinctive local dishes today.

At the hawker centres near Kim Seng CC, we can see people from all walks of life engaging in conversation with friends and family over a meal or cup of coffee, just like a communal dining hall. Hawker Centres are also spaces where people bond and foster a common identity as they bond over their shared experiences. We, ourselves, also gather at hawker centres before or after our events or meetings. It provides a good ambience where all of us can meet over meals or drinks.

We strongly support and recommend the nomination for Hawker Culture for the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. as we would like more people in Singapore and around the world to recognize the value and importance of Hawker Culture. We also hope for the hawker's knowledge, culinary skills and values to be passed from one generation to the next.

Mdm Chee Yoke Lan, Lilian
Chairman
Kim Seng CC Women's Executive Committee

MHF/COR/MISC/01.3-2019

14 February 2019

Ms Chang Hwee Nee
Chief Executive Officer
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road #03-08
Singapore 178892

Dear Ms Chang

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION HAWKER CULTURE TO THE
UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF
HUMANITY**

The Malay Heritage Foundation (MHF) was formed in July 1999. Its primary mission is to safeguard and promote Malay heritage for all. Enhancing awareness and appreciation about the Malay community in Singapore is part of the foundation's strategic outcomes. On behalf of MHF, I support the nomination of Singapore's hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

2 Multiculturalism forms the core of Singapore's national identity. While we celebrate diversity, one common denominator that brings its people together is food. Our hawker culture in one way contributes and facilitates cross-cultural exchanges between different ethnic groups living here. Over many generations, our hawker culture has grown and evolved. Influences from various parts of the world has further enriched our hawker culture.

3 Our hawker centres contribute to the cultural experience in Singapore. All ethnic communities living here have contributed to make this cultural experience, but I shall focus on how the Malays have played their part. Centuries before we gained independence in 1965, Malays from different parts of the *Nusantara* had braved the seas in search of better opportunities and many eventually made Singapore their home. They brought along with them not only their beliefs, culture, arts, but also food and culinary skills. Today, we see that Malay cuisines have significantly impacted the menu of our hawker centres.

4 Many of Singapore's favourite hawker fare include Malay dishes. One example is the *nasi lemak*. This nutritionally balanced meal is made of plain white rice, steamed in coconut milk; sometimes flavoured with ginger, lemongrass, or shallots and/or pandan to create the trademark subtle taste; accompanied by slices of fresh cucumber, boiled eggs, fried anchovies and nuts, a fried fish, and a spicy, semi-sweet

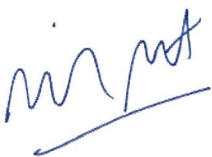
chili paste is drizzled on the side of the plate. Most hawker centres in Singapore will most likely feature one stall selling nasi lemak. And today, there are many versions of the *nasi lemak*, incorporating influences from other races as well. In 2016, the *nasi lemak* was named as one of the 10 healthy international breakfast foods by TIME Magazine. On 31 January 2019, Google released a Google Doodle celebrating *nasi lemak*.

5 Apart from the *nasi lemak*, our hawker centres offer other Malay cuisines that all Singaporeans identify with. One common staple is the *nasi padang* –steamed rice served with other Malay dishes. And, among the top in everyone’s list is the *satay* (skewered and grilled meat) – which had its roots from the Javanese community who settled in Singapore in the early 19th century. Many satay sellers would hawk along the entertainment centres along Beach Road. Another hawker centre favourite, the *mee rebus*, was also believed to have evolved from this satay selling tradition. Hawkers started offering a dish made up of parboiled yellow noodles, beansprouts with satay gravy, alongside their satay offerings. Enjoying satay by the sea became such a hit among both the locals and expatriate communities that a designated site Satay Club was established near the Padang. Although it was demolished in 1995 to make way for new development projects, many more ‘satay hubs’ began to develop and be established at many parts of the island, such as the East Coast Hawker Centre, Lau Pa Sat Hawker Centre within the Central Business District and Satay by the Bay, co-located with one of Singapore’s latest attraction, Gardens by the Bay. *Satay* has also been adopted and adapted by the other communities in Singapore, so that there are many different versions of satay.

6 The hawker centre also functions as a social leveller. It is a microcosm of Singapore culture that facilitates interaction between a wide spectrum of Singapore society. Everyone knows where to go to enjoy the best *nasi lemak* or *satay* in Singapore. A commoner might just be in the same queue or sharing a table with a royalty, politician, a CEO of an multinational corporation, while queueing for your favourite *nasi lemak* at the Adam Road Hawker Centre or tucking into delicious satay at East Coast Park Hawker Centre and *nasi padang* at the Geylang Serai Market.

7 While there now exist many other options such as the air-conditioned food courts, despite Singapore’s humid weather, these open-air hawker centres remain everyone favourite place to come together, to catch up with family and friends. It is a cultural experience that is part of the legacy that we hope to pass on to future Singaporeans. For these reasons, MHF considers it important and strongly support the nomination, with the hope that it continues to be transmitted from one generation to the next.

Yours sincerely



Dr Norshahril Saat
CHAIRMAN



蒙巴登区公民咨询委员会
MOUNTBATTEN CONSTITUENCY CITIZENS' CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

c/o Mountbatten Constituency Office
35 Jalan Satu Singapore 399479 * Tel: 6346 0620 * Fax: 6440 4196

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

**Letters of Support for Nomination of Hawker Culture for UNESCO Representative
List of Intangible Cultural Heritage**

Dear Sir/Madam,

When we mention the term 'Hawker Centre', the first thing that comes to our mind for Singaporeans is the link with food. It is an identity in Singapore where people from all walks of life come together and bond over hawker food. Hawker Centre thus becomes part of Singaporeans everyday lives. Over the years it has evolved to selling rich variety of food which is able to showcase Singapore rich and diversified culture.

Mountbatten Grassroots Organisations (GROs) collaborate with Old Airport Road Merchants Association and Tanjong Rhu Hawkers and Merchants Association every year to visit Old Airport Road Hawker Centre and Jalan Batu Hawker Centre during the Chinese New Year period to acknowledge the hawker stalls hard work and effort in selling food at affordable prices, promoting hawker fares and cultures to the people.

To enable more people to appreciate the hawker fares and culture, Mountbatten Citizens' Consultative Committee (CCC) purchased hawker food and showcased to the residents during the constituency events such as National Day event. This will encourage more people to know how important hawker culture is to Singaporeans.

Mountbatten Community Development and Welfare Fund (CDWF) Management Committee also works with the Old Airport Road Hawker Centre, Jalan Batu Hawker Centre and coffeeshops to launch the Mountbatten Free Meal Coupon Scheme to the needy residents while at the same time promoting local business of hawkers within Mountbatten and also hawker culture to Singaporeans.

In addition, without fail, after every week of Mountbatten Community Sport Club's (CSC) brisk-walking sessions, we will see a group of brisk walkers walking over to the nearby hawker center to chit chat over a cup of coffee/tea or have breakfast together. It is not only a common place for them to dine but also for them to build up their relationship with one another and to share information such as exchanging views on government policies. They also build strong relationships and trust with the hawkers whose stalls they patronise where they can share information with one another and even give discount when they patronise their stalls.

Without hawker centers, it will be difficult to bond together and they may be a great disparity of the social status among Singaporeans especially so with today's rising inequality.

For all these reasons, we strongly support the nomination of Hawker Culture for UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



Chew Siong Huat, PBM
Chairman
Mountbatten Citizens' Consultative Committee



20 December 2018

OFFICE OF THE MAYORS
c/o People's Association
9 King George's Avenue
Singapore 208581

Dear Sir or Madam,

CONSENT AND SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE IN SINGAPORE

The Office of the Mayors serves the residents in the five geographic districts of Singapore. Each district is helmed by a Mayor, who also serves as a Chairman of the Community Development Council (CDC) in that particular district. There are currently five CDCs - Central Singapore CDC, North East CDC, North West CDC, South East CDC and South West CDC. Each CDC looks after a district in Singapore. The mission of the five CDCs is to assist the needy, bond the people and connect the community towards a more caring and cohesive community. They do so by bringing people together through their programmes.

2 This letter, signed by the Chairman of the Mayors' Committee on behalf of the Singapore Mayors, expresses the strong support for the nomination of "Hawker Culture in Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

3 We recognise the important role in which Hawker Culture plays to strengthen social cohesion among our residents in Singapore.

4 The Hawker Culture in Singapore is a living heritage that has evolved over time and reflects the multicultural and multiracial identity of our people. Hawker Culture brings people together and is an endearing part of our people's way of life. Our CDCs are home to a total of 114 hawker centres across Singapore. These are communal dining spaces that are associated with the Hawker Culture in Singapore. Hawker centres have seamlessly integrated themselves into the lives of most citizens and serve as important spaces where people gather and interact over food regardless of age, dietary preferences or religious practices. Hawker food prepared at the hawker centres by skilled hawkers, who are considered the practitioners of the culture, reflect the migrant roots and multicultural identity of our people.

5 Apart from providing affordable food for people, hawker centres serve as important community spaces. Here are examples from each of the five CDCs:

- (a) Central Singapore CDC: The Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre used to be known as Seng Poh Road Market and functioned as a “town hall” where important meetings attended by residents were held. It was at one of these meetings in 1951 where the residents decided to establish a community centre for Tiong Bahru. The hawker centre is popular among office workers and nurses from the nearby hospital, and serves as an important community node for the residents of the area;
- (b) North East CDC: The Tampines Round Market and Food Centre, is one of the most recognisable landmarks in Tampines. It serves as an important social and community hub for Tampines since the 1980s;
- (c) North West CDC: The Adam Road Food Centre, opened in 1974, was unique for food centres of the time in that it was built independent of a wet market. It is well known for traditional Malay food and popular among students from the nearby university;
- (d) South East CDC: The Geylang Serai Market and Food Centre, which is situated in South East CDC has a long history and started as a thriving Malay marketplace from the 1930s. The marketplace found a permanent place, when street hawkers were resettled in the 1970s. Today, the space is a major community node in the Geylang Serai area of Singapore; and
- (e) South West CDC: The Taman Jurong Market and Food Centre was formed through the merger of two food centres, Corporation Drive Market and Food Centre and Yung Sheng Food Centre. Corporation Drive Market and Food Centre was the first hawker centre built to accommodate resettled street hawkers in the 1970s. Today, it is a popular community place for people living in Jurong.

6 The hawker centre is also a place where people learn to develop social graciousness. The CDCs work with partners to bring about a more vibrant hawker scene through various activities. Below are some examples of activities which were organised at the district and local levels to celebrate Hawker Culture, with enthusiastic participation from residents:

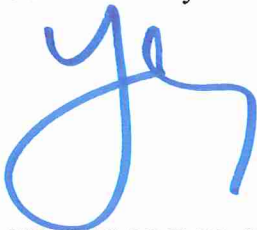
- (a) **Community activities** – Organise a People’s Vote Healthier Local Food Hunt at hawker centres and annual Calligraphy Distribution during Chinese New Year to distribute calligraphy scrolls containing auspicious words of blessings to residents at the hawker centre. Hawker centres have become an integral part of our way of life and the dissemination of educational materials and collaterals during the dengue prevention campaign at the hawker centres allow residents to understand more about dengue and its prevention;
- (b) **Promote hawker food** – Feature hawker food in CDC’s community newsletter to promote different affordable and delicious hawker dishes to their residents; and
- (c) **Inculcate values** – Run campaign with partners to inculcate gracious acts among patrons such as tray return initiative to create a pleasant and conducive dining experience at hawker centres. The CDC also works with partners to promote public health e.g. promoting clean, dry toilets and mozzie-free environment at the hawker centres.

7 We believe that the recognition of Hawker Culture as an intangible cultural heritage on the Representative List will strengthen the safeguarding of this living heritage, provide recognition to the hardworking hawkers and inspire the younger generation to continue its transmission for many years to come.

8 On behalf of our residents, we recognise the importance of Hawker Culture as a living heritage of Singapore and sincerely hope that the “Hawker Culture in Singapore” will be successfully inscribed to the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely



LOW YEN LING (MS)
CHAIRMAN OF MAYORS’ COMMITTEE AND
MAYOR OF SOUTH WEST DISTRICT

On behalf of the following Mayors of Singapore

- Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Mayor of South East District;
- Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District;
- Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng, Mayor of Central Singapore District; and
- Mr Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District

OPSG/19/C3-004

15 Feb 2019

Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager,
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear Mdm

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE TO THE
UNESCO LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY**

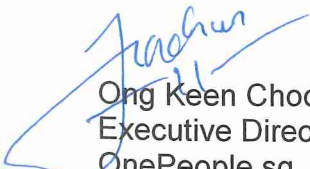
Singapore has long benefited from its rich and long history of multiracial and multiculturalism. Safeguarding such diversity of cultures and traditions is crucial in producing a harmonious and prosperous Singaporean society. Since its independence in 1965, Singapore has known to be a multiracial and multicultural society. The diversity of races and cultures can be seen manifested in its Hawker Centers; culminated to Singapore's Hawker Culture.

2 OnePeople.sg (OPSG) supports the nomination of the "Hawker Culture in Singapore" to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO's representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage for Humanity as it aligns with our mission to nurture a harmonious society through cross-cultural education, and further contribute to the success of multicultural and multi-racial Singapore. The Hawker Centre symbolises one of the common spaces shared amongst the diverse ethnic, racial, religious and cultural communities in Singapore. It encourages intimate and friendly interaction and engagement amongst the different racial communities.

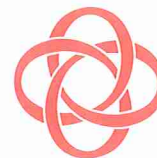
3 Individuals from different ethnicity and races, i.e. Chinese, Malay, Indian, Eurasian and others can also be found sitting side-by-side enjoying and sharing the different cultural delights as a community. Such scene highlights the inclusivity aspect of the Hawker Culture, which is an integral component for the every-day life of all Singaporeans. Nearly all of Singapore's neighborhoods and housing estates have the Hawker Centre and its culture in sight; as it is easily accessible to all.

4 OnePeople.sg hopes that the nomination effort of the Hawker Culture to the UNESCO's list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity is successful. The Hawker Culture can be a starting point for all communities to gather, interact and share the common spaces together as one people.

Yours sincerely


Ong Keen Choon
Executive Director
OnePeople.sg





People's Association

9 King George's Avenue
Singapore 208581
www.pa.gov.sg

28 January 2019

National Heritage Board

61 Stamford Road

#03-08 Stamford Court

Singapore 178892

Attn: Ms Felicia Toh

Assistant Manager, Heritage Research & Assessment

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE SINGAPORE HAWKER CULTURE

The People's Association (PA) Active Ageing Council is a grassroots volunteer organisation in Singapore that oversees the many active ageing initiatives in the community. Its mission is to reach out and engage senior citizens and keep them active mentally, physically and socially. The Council achieve this by working together with other voluntary organisations, grassroots organisations, community partners and municipal agencies to realise policies and programmes targeted at the elderly, so that senior citizens can age gracefully and age in place. One of these places in the Singapore neighbourhood where senior citizens can age in place, where they feel comfortable in, where people usually know neighbours and friends by name, where they can have their comfort food, and where they can keep abreast of what is happening around world, is at the hawker centre.

2 In Singapore, hawker centres are a ubiquitous gathering place not just only for filling one's tummy with the wide array of food, but more importantly, the hawker centre is a melting pot for the many different cultures, races and dialect groups. It is thus not farfetched to say that hawker centres, and by extension the Hawker Culture, plays an important role in bonding Singaporeans of different race, ethnicity and religion through better understanding of preparation, purchasing and partaking of food.

3 With the hawker centres being a common space with stalls selling a myriad of Chinese, Malay, Indian and even international fares like European and Middle Eastern cuisines at reasonably affordable price, the Hawker Culture thus inevitably becomes a way of life for all Singaporeans. Being a hawker in a hawker centre has also become a lifeline for many families supporting generations of Singaporeans.

4 Many tourists from all over the world who have visited Singapore can attest to the uniqueness of the Singapore Hawker Culture. Many hawker stalls which have been passed down for generations, or even young and aspiring hawkers creating their first dish from hand-me-down techniques or newly concocted recipes, have found their way into tourist guidebooks and the hearts and bellies of people from all over the world.

5 The People's Association (PA) Active Ageing Council strongly supports the inclusion of the Singapore Hawker Culture into the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), so that this unique heritage will withstand the test of time and be passed down to future generations.

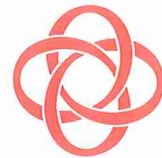
Yours sincerely



DAVID SOH ENG HOCK
VICE-CHAIRMAN

PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION ACTIVE AGEING COUNCIL

People's Association Integration Council,
c/o Integration Division
9 King George's Avenue Singapore 208581



People's Association

9 King George's Avenue
 Singapore 208581
www.pa.gov.sg

**People's Association Integration Council strongly endorses the nomination of the
 "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of
 Intangible Cultural Heritage**

Background of Council

The People's Association (PA) Integration Council's mission is to promote an inclusive and integrated community through purposeful, effective and sustainable engagement with the diverse communities in Singapore.

2 The PA Integration Council functions are;

- (a) To guide the Grassroots Leaders and volunteers in the Integration and Naturalisation (IN) Committees nationwide in engaging the community through a wide range of outreach programmes;
- (b) To assist IN Committees and other grassroots organisations to identify and recruit suitable Integration and Naturalisation Champion (INC) volunteers; and
- (c) To facilitate collaborations between IN Committees and other grassroots organisations and the larger community.

Community bonding at hawker centres

3 The PA Integration Council promotes an inclusive community by providing platforms for local Singaporeans and new immigrants/foreigners to interact and build friendships with each other. These platforms include the Community Centres/Clubs, shopping centres, void decks, parks as well as places of interest, such as Gardens by the Bay, Marina Barrage and the Singapore Discovery Centre.


4 Singapore's hawker centres provide a unique cultural experience for our residents, from all walks of life, to enjoy local, western and other dishes at affordable prices. The hawker centres also provide yet another common space for families and friends to have their meals together over meaningful conversations.

5 The PA Integration Council has an affinity with hawker centres as they provide a convenient place for Singaporeans, new immigrants and foreigners to interact with each other. The Council leveraged the Eunos Crescent Market and Food Centre to stage an interactive forum theatre play entitled “Living the Norm Way” to exemplify the importance of observing the desirable social norms in our daily lives at common spaces. This Forum Theatre enabled residents to appreciate and share the importance of social norms at hawker centres, such as not littering, sharing a table with others and queuing up in an orderly manner when purchasing food. Photos on the Forum Theatre are appended in Annex 1, for reference, please.

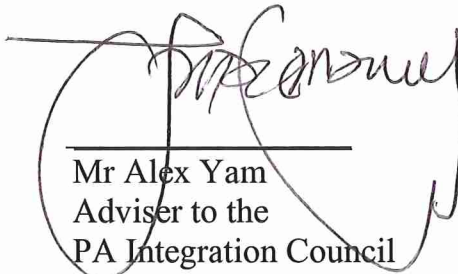
PA Integration Council’s Endorses UNESCO Bid

6 The PA Integration Council strongly affirms the hawker culture as one of Singapore’s unique heritage and lifestyle which brings people of diverse ethnicity, nationality, religious and socio-economic backgrounds to a common space to dine and converse with each other and in the process build friendships with each other.

7 The PA Integration Council strongly endorses the Federation of Merchants’ Associations, Singapore, The National Heritage Board and the National Environment Agency’s nomination of Singapore’s hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



Professor Fatimah Lateef
Adviser to the
PA Integration Council

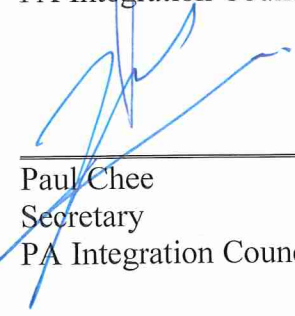


Mr Alex Yam
Adviser to the
PA Integration Council

The PA Integration Council




Goh Peng Hong, BBM
Chairman
PA Integration Council




Paul Chee
Secretary
PA Integration Council



Christopher Wang, PBM
Auditor
PA Integration Council



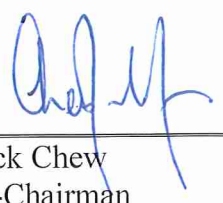
Tang Yiam Boh
Member
PA Integration Council



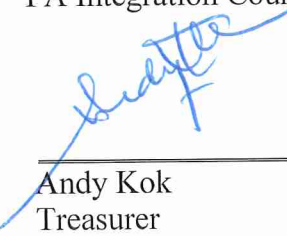
Perumal Moorthy, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



Tony Mok
Member
PA Integration Council




Patrick Chew
Vice-Chairman
PA Integration Council



Andy Kok
Treasurer
PA Integration Council



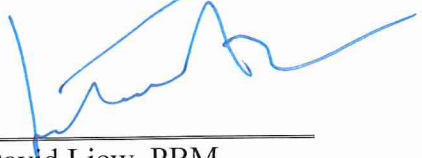
William Tan, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



Chew Lee Teck, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



Rokiah Bee Bte Mohamed
Member
PA Integration Council



David Liew, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council

The PA Integration Council



William Mok, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



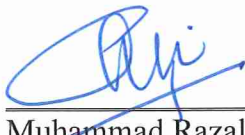
Dominic Wu, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



Fabian Ng, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



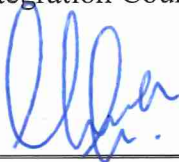
Leo Siang Kwong
Member
PA Integration Council



Muhammad Razali Bin Puasa
Member
PA Integration Council



Naidu Aarti
Member
PA Integration Council




Roger Chua, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council



Salim Bin Ali, PBM
Member
PA Integration Council

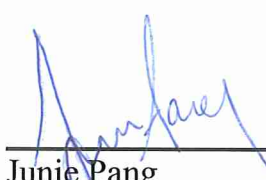
The PA Engagement Group/ Integration Division



Chia Tze Yee
Group Director
PA Engagement



Gilbert Fernandez
Deputy Director
PA Integration Division




Junie Pang
Senior Manager
PA Integration Division



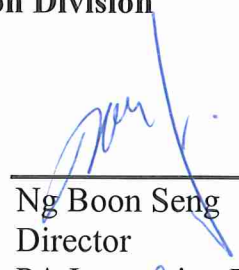
Nor Aziean Bte Buang
Senior Manager
PA Integration Division




Melody Wang
Senior Manager
PA Integration Division



Ethel Tan
Manager
PA Integration Division



Ng Boon Seng
Director
PA Integration Division




Suzanna Cheng
Assistant Director
PA Integration Division



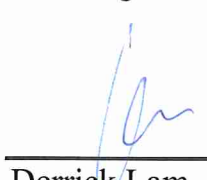
Vivian Kong
Senior Manager
PA Integration Division



Noormah Bte Azizi
Senior Manager
PA Integration Division



Lau Han An
Manager
PA Integration Division



Derrick Lam
Manager
PA Integration Division



A resident shares her views on social norms with a Forum Theatre actor



Comic guides on social norms were also distributed to the hawker centre patrons



Eunos Crescent Market and Food Centre was the venue for interactive play Living The Norm Way.
TNP PHOTO: TIMOTHY DAVID

Play about manners staged in food centre

A food centre became the stage for a play yesterday morning, with some in the audience taking part.

Eunos Crescent Market and Food Centre was the venue for interactive play *Living The Norm Way*, which encouraged the audience to be more aware of desirable social norms.

The play showcased undesirable behaviours such as littering, speaking loudly and not wanting to share a table with others. It also had the audience of more than 500 people suggest actions to foster a more gracious environment.

The play was staged by the People's

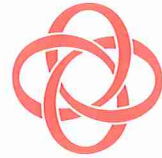
Association (PA) Integration Council.

It was introduced at PA's One Community Fiesta in Tampines GRC last September.

Associate Professor Fatimah Lateef, adviser to the council, said the play hopes to spur residents to adopt desirable behaviours "such that these become our social norms at public spaces in the neighbourhood".

"It is a reminder that all of us can play our part to shape a more inclusive and gracious Singapore," added Prof Fatimah, who is also an MP for Marine Parade GRC. — CALVIN YANG

Media publicity on the staging of a Forum Theatre on social norms



People's Association

9 King George's Avenue
Singapore 208581
www.pa.gov.sg

People's Association Malay Activity Executive Committees Council (PA MESRA),
c/o Integration Division
9 King George's Avenue Singapore 208581

People's Association Malay Activity Executive Committees Council (PA MESRA) strongly endorses the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Background of Council

The People's Association (PA) Malay Activity Executive Committees Council (PA MESRA) was established in 1988 to co-ordinate the work of the 97 Malay Activity Executive Committees (MAECs) based in the Community Clubs all over Singapore. Its core mission is to reach out to the Malay community and integrate them into the larger Singapore society so as to strengthen social cohesion and achieve One People, One Singapore.

2 The PA MESRA functions are;

- (a) To guide MAECs in engaging the community through a wide range of outreach programmes;
- (b) To assist M³@Town¹, MAECs and other grassroots organisations (GROs) to identify, recruit and induct Malay professionals into suitable GROs;
- (c) To facilitate collaborations between the agencies particularly Mendaki and MUIS, other GROs and the larger community; and
- (d) To be the enabler supporting the M³ framework through the various workgroups.

¹ M³ is an initiative that brings the three key Malay Muslim institutions in Singapore namely, the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (MUIS), the Council for the Development of Singapore Malay Muslim Community (Mendaki) and MESRA together to harness each other's strengths and serve the community by providing last mile service delivery. M³@Town is the local arm of M³ that implements the various initiatives at the local level. There are currently 8 M³@Town.

Fostering inter-ethnic understanding at hawker centres

3 The PA MESRA fosters inter-ethnic understanding by engaging the Malay community and encouraging them to participate in community programmes and activities thus promoting social mixing. These programmes and activities include *Gentarasa*, an annual musical production that showcases the rich culture and tradition of the Malay community to people of all races and backgrounds and *Pesta Pantun*, a Malay poetry festival. These programmes and activities are not only meant to preserve the Malay culture and heritage but served to promote inter-ethnic understanding. These programmes and activities are frequently organised in common spaces such as the community centres, public parks and gardens, civics hub such as Wisma Geylang Serai as well as hawker centres.

4 Singapore's hawker centres provide a unique cultural experience for our residents, from all walks of life, to enjoy Malay, Chinese, Indian and other local cuisines at affordable prices. The hawker centres also provide opportunities for people from various backgrounds to come together and forge a common experience. More recently, members of the MESRA Council visited Chinatown, including the hawker centre nearby, to distribute oranges and wish their Chinese friends "Happy Lunar New Year" (please refer to Annex).

PA MESRA's endorses UNESCO bid

5 The PA MESRA strongly affirms the hawker culture as one of Singapore's unique heritage and lifestyle which brings people of diverse ethnicity, nationality, religious and socio-economic backgrounds to a common space to dine and converse with each other and in the process build friendships with each other.

6 The PA MESRA Council strongly endorses the Federation of Merchants' Associations, Singapore, The National Heritage Board and the National Environment Agency's nomination of Singapore's hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

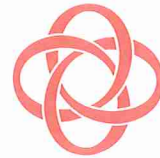


Mr Omar Ismail, BBM
Chairman
PA MESRA

**Distribution of Oranges at a Hawker Centre in Chinatown Complex in
Conjunction with Chinese New Year 2019**







People's Association

9 King George's Avenue
Singapore 208581
www.pa.gov.sg

11 February 2019

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892
Attn: Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager, Heritage Research & Assessment

Object: "Hawker Culture of Singapore" – Nomination for UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

The Women's Integration Network (WIN) Council is one of the grassroots bodies under the People's Association (PA), a statutory board which is a community development agency. Established in 1995 as the co-ordinating body of the Women's Executive Committees (WECs) - one of PA's grassroots organisations, the council is composed of 2,500 women volunteers or grassroots leaders based at the community centres and clubs.

The objectives of the WIN Council and WECs are to empower women to lead and contribute to the community and build a strong community network among women of all ages, social and economic profiles. The hawker culture of Singapore is one of the platforms for the Council and WECs to promote social cohesion and bring women from all walks of life together to bond through programmes such as cooking local hawker food in a healthier way, hawker centre trails and culinary interest groups.

In 2017, the WIN Council launched a set of 50 healthy recipe cards, featuring some of the different local and ethnic hawker food. These recipes were then taught at 50 cooking classes organised by the WECs for 1,000 residents. The WECs have also formed 74 culinary interest groups with over 700 members who share recipes of hawker food in Singapore with residents. Besides getting to know their neighbours and building friendship over multicultural food they love, the residents are also empowered to cook the dishes for their families, passing on the knowledge of cooking hawker food to the next generation. The WECs regularly organise hawker trails for residents to identify hawker stalls with healthier options as well as appreciate the popular hawker food. From February to April 2019, the Council will be organising 5 hawker trails with WECs in each of the 5 districts across Singapore to showcase Singapore's rich and diverse hawker culture.

We strongly support the nomination of Hawker Culture of Singapore in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage as hawker culture is an integral part of the everyday life of Singaporeans and helps to foster a common national identity. We greatly hope that the nomination will be successful and this strong cultural identity can be passed on from one generation to the next.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'NLM' with a flourish at the end.

NG LAI MIEN PBM

CHAIRMAN

PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S INTEGRATION NETWORK COUNCIL

Strong Support for the Nomination of Singapore's Hawker Culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

This letter, signed by the Chairman of the People's Association Youth Movement (PAYM) Central Youth Council and the Chairman of the Teens Network (T-Net) Advisory Council, confirms the strong support among youths for the nomination of Singapore's hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Background of PAYM Central Youth Council and Teens Network Advisory Council

2 The PAYM was first established in 1971 as a core youth movement in Singapore to engage youths in meaningful pursuits and support the Government in nation-building. PAYM offers a diverse and holistic range of programmes and activities for our youths to develop into responsible and active citizens who contribute to their local communities regardless of their background. Under PAYM, there are 101 Youth Executive Committees (YECs) based at the community clubs and centres across the island who aim to build social capital among youths in their respective local communities.

3 The PAYM Central Youth Council (CYC) outlines the strategic directions for PAYM and guides the YECs in those directions. The CYC is the co-ordinating body of the YECs and works closely with them to promote social cohesion, while the CYC members are elected from among the YEC chairmen.

4 The T-Net Club is also part of the People's Association's youth outreach network that specifically targets and engages teenagers between 11 and 18 years old through meaningful programmes. There are eight T-Net Clubs across Singapore that promotes youth development through subsidised activities among teenagers mainly from the lower income group.

5 The T-Net Advisory Council plans out the strategic directions for the T-Net Clubs and guides their programmes to ensure that their objectives are met.

Importance of hawker centres to youths

6 The hawker culture has inevitably become a way of life for many youths. While growing up, hawker centres in Singapore become a significant part of their lives as they provide a wide variety of food dishes at affordable prices. With over 110 hawker centres spread across the housing estates in Singapore, it also makes them an accessible dining location. More importantly, the delicious hawker fare drew many youths to hang out and have meals with their friends and families at hawker centres regularly.

7 The hawker centre is also a place where youths get to learn more about their own culture by seeing it being represented on a plate of food. Singapore's multiculturalism has led to many other international cuisines gradually finding their way into hawker centres nowadays. It is not uncommon to find Japanese, Italian or other types of dishes available in hawker centres. This allows youths to be exposed to other cultures. This is especially relevant and meaningful when set against the backdrop of an increasingly globalised world. Therefore, the hawker centre becomes an important place for youths to have a better understanding of their own culture, as well as other cultures, in order to gain a better appreciation of the cultural diversity in Singapore.

8 Moving forward, Singapore has observed a growing number of youths who are venturing into the hawker industry to be hawkers and learning not just culinary skills and recipes that have been passed down from older generations of hawkers, but also the tenacity of our pioneer generation. The hawker culture has become their livelihood and this emerging trend is crucial in sustaining this unique culture in Singapore. Having such long-term sustainability will encourage more youths to consider becoming hawkers themselves. Being part of the tech-savvy generation, many youth hawkers have also been using technology in their business model; from purchasing to payment modes, which keeps the hawker culture modern and relevant even today.

9 To express their support for the nomination of Singapore's hawker culture, students from various clubs and societies in the National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU) have produced a short video to share their sentiments on the importance of the hawker culture and how it has become part of the Singaporean culture. Screenshots of the video are attached below. We have also included the QR code and a copy of the video in a CD in the annex.



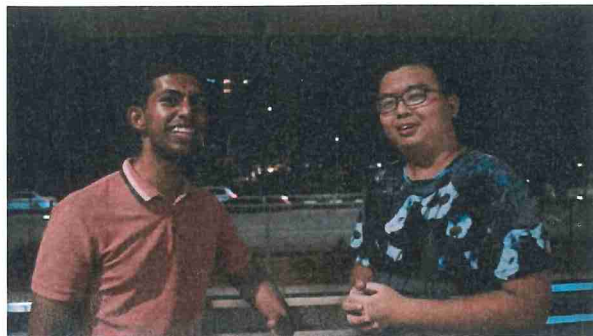
Vanessa from NUS introducing the video on the importance of Singapore's hawker culture



Youths from NUS, NTU and SMU expressing their support for Singapore's hawker culture



Youths bonding over food at a hawker centre



"So cheap, so good. All the things we love in one place."



"We have come a long way in preserving what truly is Singaporean."



"Hawker culture to me will always be a Singaporean thing."

10 The PAYM CYC and T-Net Advisory Council strongly endorse the nomination of Singapore's hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. We believe that a successful nomination will allow future generations of youths in Singapore to recognise the intrinsic value of our hawker culture and actively play a part in promoting it further.

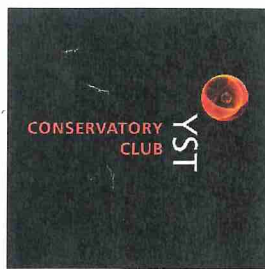
Mr Goh Jia Hao, PBM
Chairman
PAYM Central Youth Council



Mr Ong Kian Chew, BBM
Chairman
T-Net Advisory Council



Supported by:



**Video in Support of the Nomination of Hawker Culture – by PA Youth
Movement Central Youth Council; T-Net Advisory Council and Institutes of
Higher Learning**



30 January 2019

People' s Association
9 King George' s Avenue
Singapore 208581

Dear 人民协会,

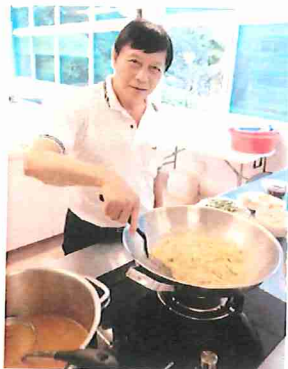
Subject: 小贩美食文化

1. 为了鼓励国人更加重视小贩美食文化，所以开课分享下饭美食。
2. 来上小贩美食烹饪课程的学员，都是小贩美食爱好者。
3. 小贩美食是新加坡特有的美食文化，老一辈的小贩经营者多数都已经年迈了，为了鼓励更多年轻一代的国人重视新加坡小贩美食文化，所以我主动参与开课分享小贩美食培训，希望对于小贩美食文化的分享、发扬与传承出一份力。
4. 我非常支持小贩文化。

From: 

Mr Teo Peck Leng, 张克明
PA Culinary Art Trainer conducting Hawker Food at Bishan
Community Club

Appendix



烹饪课程示范



炒福建面及配料



炒粿條及配料



学员们学习的热忱



亲身实践经验

Translation

Dear People's Association,

Subject: Hawker Culture

1. I started culinary classes on hawker food in order to encourage Singaporeans to have greater appreciation for hawker culture.
2. The attendees of these classes all love hawker food.
3. Hawker food has a special place in the food culture of Singapore. The older generation of hawkers are getting on in their years, and in order to encourage the younger generation to be involved in the hawker trade, I decided to conduct these classes to train people on the culinary practices of hawker culture. I hope that my efforts will help to raise awareness, promote and transmit this food culture.
4. I wholeheartedly support hawker culture.

From: Mr Teo Peck Leng

PA Culinary Art Trainer conducting Hawker Food at Bishan Community Club

Appendix

Please see pictures of the cooking demonstration, where students demonstrated their passion in personally preparing Hokkien *mee*, *char kway teow* and other side dishes.

1 February 2019

People's Association
9 King George's Avenue
Singapore 208581

Dear People's Association,

Re: Hawker Culture

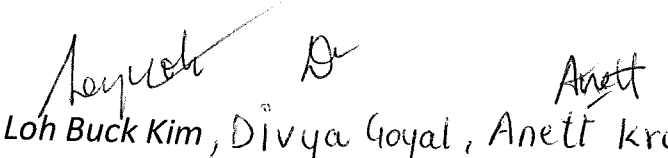
To stay healthy and foster a friendly neighbourhood, we encourage residents to our walking group. We normally start off at 7.15 am on every Saturday from Southaven II. After reaching our destination, we would then proceed to Bukit Batok for our favourite food before going home. We love Bukit Batok hawker food day as there are a wide variety of food including Vegetarian, Malay, Western, Indian and Chinese foods to suit all tastebuds.

Hawker culture is a life line of Singapore as not everyone can afford fine-dining in restaurants and it serve as a great alternative to have a little free and easy time by yourself or with family and friends. The food is not expensive and you have a great choice to try anytime something new.

Hawker Centre is clean and this encourages more people to eat out. It is also a place where we learn to be courteous and share our table with strangers. This give us the opportunity to socialise with people. This unique human interaction is the essence of hawker culture in Singapore.

I always enjoy it to come here. I support the Hawker Culture.

From:


Loh Buck Kim, Divya Goyal, Anett Kruger
Bukit Batok East Southaven II NC Culinary Interest Group Leader



Our first meeting point before proceed to hawker centre



A variety of hawker food from different races at one stop



Our favourite hangout @ Bukit Batok Hawker Centre



Clean, affordable price and relax environment



Different types of hawker food

6 February 2019

People's Association
9 King George's Avenue
Singapore 208581

Dear People's Association,

Re: Hawker Culture

Singapore has varieties of food available everywhere. We are spoilt for choice and with strict NEA ruling, our eateries are very clean. It is also a place for us to meet friends or gather family members for a good meal conveniently.

My friends and I meet up regularly to exchange tips and recipes of hawker food. We also teach each other on how to prepare different type of hawker food.

In conclusion, I support hawker culture.

Yours sincerely,



Sabariah Bte Yacob,
Woodgrove Zone 1 RC Culinary Interest Group Leader

Appendix A



Favourite family hang-out eatery at Woodgrove area.



Great catch-up with friends at Hawker Center to enjoy the delicious local food.

Pint of Science Singapore
8A Biomedical Grove
138648 Singapore

Object: Nomination of Hawker Culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Dear Ministry,

Pint of Science is a global non-profit campaign that seeks to bring science to the masses. The event seeks to provide a relaxed and casual atmosphere for scientists and the public to interact with each other through short talks and question-and-answer sessions. Scientists are commonly portrayed as unapproachable and detached from real-world concerns in popular media. Our campaign seeks to break down these stereotypes and misconceptions, in order to bridge this communication gap, and to share the wonder of science with the general public. We believe that our efforts will help to enhance support for scientific activities at the grassroots level, and inspire future generations of scientists.

Pint of Science originated in the United Kingdom in 2012. Its importance is underscored by the fact that the movement has expanded considerably within a short period of time. By 2018, it reached over 21 countries and spanned several continents, including Asia, Europe, and Australia.

This year, Pint of Science landed on the shores of Singapore. In the tradition of Pint of Science, most of our events were organised in pubs or bars. However, we wished to infuse the festival with local flavour to enhance its appeal to the general public, and few things are as Singaporean as the Hawker Centres.

A melting pot of the cuisines of Singapore's major ethnic groups, infused with both tradition and dynamism. The Hawker Centre is much more than simply a place to eat - it also functions as a social leveller, where people from all walks of life and socioeconomic statuses congregate under the name of good food, but also discover other cultures and meet new people along the way.

Our first edition of Pint of Science included a unique series of events at the Tiong Bahru Hawker Centre. By deciding to include this venue, our festival managed to reach the heartland of Singapore, which encompasses a much more varied demographic, such as young children and the elderly, who may not necessarily patronise pubs and bars. As such, the Hawker Centre afforded us an invaluable opportunity to reach the very people who might otherwise have been left out from our campaign.

Our events at the Tiong Bahru Hawker Centre were very well received by the community. We organized events on 3 evenings which dealt with different scientific topics:

Monday 14th May 2018, *Little stories of mosquitoes*: participants were invited to sit at a table with scientists to discuss about their research in tropical diseases. We also had a mosquitoes box for the greatest pleasure of the children;

Tuesday 15th May 2018, *Bits and bites of the earth*: an unique opportunity to learn about the fascinating phenomena behind our planet through interactive exhibition stands;

Wednesday 16th May 2018, *Children, gender norms and the future*: brings a social issue and open the debate with the public.

Our experience at Tiong Bahru Hawker Centre has reinforced our belief that the Hawker Centre is the place to be to encounter Singapore's local culture and reach an unique mix of people. Therefore, we want to encourage every initiative that highlights the importance of hawker culture all around the world and perpetuate this culture to the next generation.

For all these reasons, we strongly support the nomination of hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Pint of Science Singapore

The President: Angeline Rouers

29/11/2018

A stylized, abstract signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a horizontal line at the end.

The Community Manager: Flora Teoh

29/11/2018

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Flora Teoh" in a cursive, flowing script.

5 March 2019

Attn: Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager (Heritage Research and Assessment)
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

**LETTER OF SUPPORT: NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE IN SINGAPORE FOR THE
UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF
HUMANITY**

Dear National Heritage Board, Singapore,

THAT IS THE WAY TO SHOW THE WORLD

There could be the most beautiful scenery and street lights somewhere in the world that maintain alive that have set cities lovely and unforgettable. It could even be the three usual words, *"I love you"* that have been written in 311 different languages on Paris' Mur de je t'aime (Wall of I love you) on the Hill of Montmartre that makes places romantic. These could be every moment that looks perfect with beautiful people and landscapes where we call them places best remembered.

Singapore, once swampland, is a multicultural hub of commerce - nothing actually special about this place except everywhere is safe, clean, predictable and ethnically diverse. The glitz that probably catches the eyes could only be the Singapore Flyer or Marina Bay Sands hotel which dominates the skyline, looking like a boat has been carefully dropped upon it. There might also be colour and bustle in Chinatown, with its handsome temples within multi-racial and social cohesion. But one would say we do have something best known around the world – hawker food - and for their refined taste that captivates anyone's heart.

In any city around the world, people foster national unity and cultural diversity through multiracialism. With roots through multiracialism that can be traced to Singapore's street food heritage, hawker centres house rich and diverse culinary traditions passed down through generations. We see stalls all over that offer a rich array of food from various communities. To our new generations, it is essential to know more about

Singapore and its history as food culture does develop this sense of belonging to our country which broadens one's vision of many aspects in life too.

Local hawker food has become an integral part of our way of life where people, young and old will gather, interact and enjoy together at affordable price at their favourite hawker stalls.

My objective of making an animation MTV on hawker food is to illustrate culinary traditions which have passed down from one generation to another, multicultural and diverse food that reflects Singapore society and hawker centres serving as community spaces or "community dining rooms" where people of all backgrounds can interact and share something in common – **eat hawker food**.

The animated MTV, titled "That's The Way To Show The World", it is about a simple local dessert. It centres around a hawker selling ice kachang who started out as an itinerant street hawker and shows the progress of the hawker who leveraged his creativity and innovation to attain success and stay ahead of the times. It aims to nurture a love for hawker food, local culture and our living environment in the global community. The animated MTV can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/RkzibzhOuu4> with screenshots in the **Annex A**. It had also won the Best International Film in Royal Bali International Film Bifest held in 2018 in Indonesia.

Ice kachang has been a popular dessert since the 1950s and was served by itinerant street hawkers over pushcarts in Singapore. Due to food hygiene issues and urban relocation, they were resettled. Hawkers used hand cranked machine shaving ice blocks in making the dessert. The early version of the ice kachang came as ice balls. To many Singaporeans who grew up during the era around the 1950s and 1960s, they would surely have fond memories of them. Today, ice kachang is no longer just an ice ball, but with more ingredients such as red bean.

In Singapore, the delicious dessert is very much part of the local food scene and reflects our multicultural heritage. We had those old good days and shall look forward to new ideas. More people in Singapore and around the world will recognise the value and importance of Hawker Culture. Today hawkers leverage their creativity and innovative capacities to attain success and stay ahead of changing marketplace and competitive world.

For more than 50 years since Singapore independence, we build a fair and just society, regardless of race, language or religion; to achieve happiness, prosperity and progress for our nation. Sometimes it is really undeniable that food is so deeply ingrained in Singaporean daily lives and becomes a personal subject for most Singaporeans. We see long queues for food almost everywhere. Singaporeans are infamous food travellers and hunters. Also, with the prosperity of tourists' industry, more and more visitors have willingness to share their travel experiences on the internet about Singapore too. These travelogue tales contain rich information, particularly including location-representative knowledge such as places of attractions, arts, culture and especially on hawker food. This makes us proud.

So Singaporeans learn to realise these dreams and aspirations. With the rapid transformation of the urban landscape, Singaporeans will increasingly continue to look back to old good days. If hawker food has been daily obsession, memories and nostalgia in search of that good old flavour of childhood days shall also continue to tell more about this food narrative.

Yours Sincerely



Richard Wan Kum Wah

Composer, lyricist, producer of the MTV "That is the Way to Show the World"

ANNEX A

That Is The Way To Show The World (Promotional Trailer on Singapore Food Heritage)

Composer/lyricist/Producer: Richard Wan Kum Wah

Verse

Dreaming
Let's be creative
and make a brighter day
We know these dreams and hope will grow
That is the way we do it to show the world

Dreaming

Because we can achieve
When dreams meet reality
Now with every aspiration
Find out what's all about

Chorus

Our inspirations in every moment
Something we have been living with along
In our song loud and strong
Come to hand by me
Hear our story and our future
Feeling in our hearts
This could be the start
Start of something new it feels so right

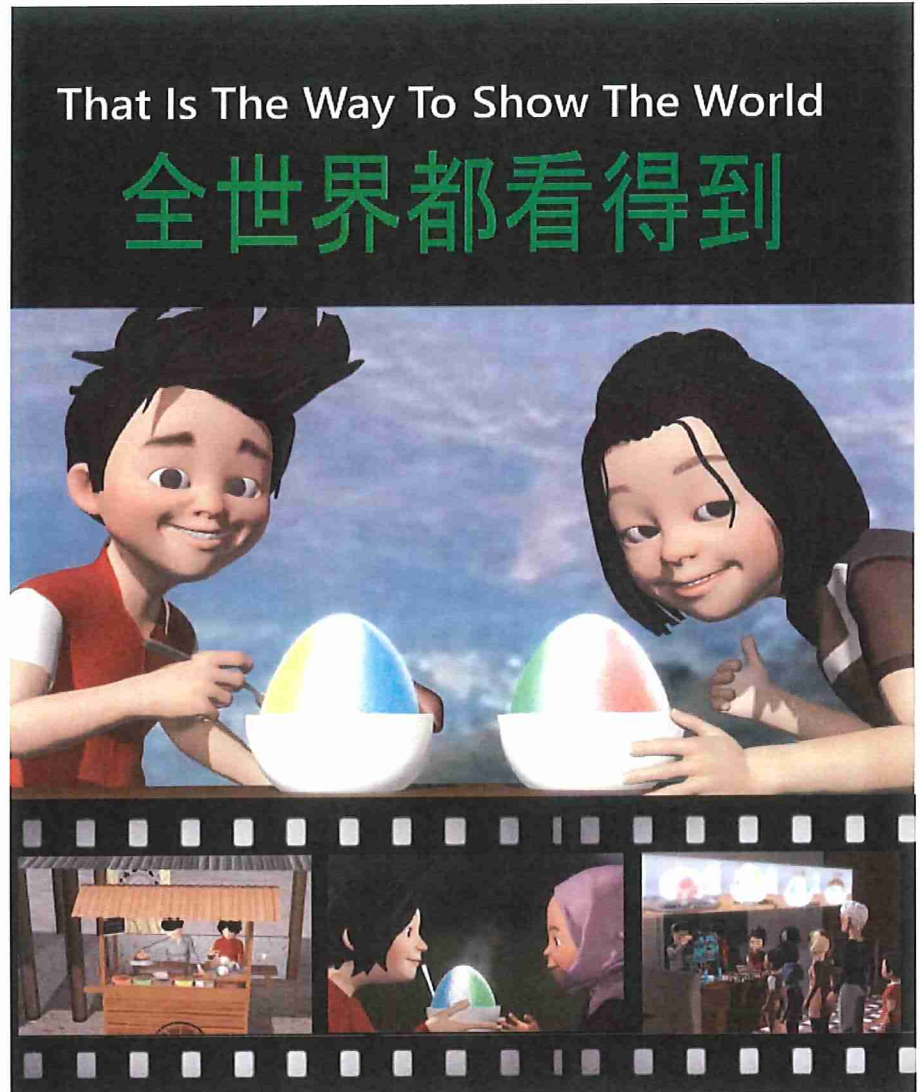
Music Interlude

Repeat Verse

Repeat Chorus

Song ending

Woo...woo....yeah...
We can



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Email: vvmmentp@singnet.com.sg

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温金华工作室
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Kenny Kong
President
Singapore Pastry Alliance
kenny.kong@rwsentosa.com

Ong Jing Qin
President
Singapore Junior Chefs Club
sjcc_ongjingqin@yahoo.com

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear National Heritage Board,

Being the official representative voice of the culinary profession and synonymous with all things food in Singapore, the Singapore Chefs Association recognizes and acknowledges the intertwining and significance between the Hawker Food Culture and Singapore's society.

For the past half a century, the Hawker Food Centre has been an integral part of the daily life of ordinary Singaporeans and it is a hub where people from all walks of life interact and bond. The Hawker Food in Singapore helps transcend races and cultures, reflecting the very fabric of society and becoming an indispensable social norm. Hence the Association's support for the nomination of Hawker Culture for the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage is clear and resounding.

Yours Sincerely,

Eric Neo
Vice President
Singapore Chefs Association





新加坡中華總商會

Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry

ERC/PUB/2018
28 November 2018

Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager, Heritage Research and Assessment
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Letter of Support
Nominating Hawker Culture in Singapore – The UNESCO
Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

Dear Ms Toh

The Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCCI) has a membership network comprising 5,000 corporate members and more than 160 trade association members, representing over 40,000 companies including large financial and business organisations, multinational corporations, government-linked companies, and small and medium enterprises from a wide spectrum of trades and industries.

Since its establishment in 1906, the SCCCI has the statutory aim of promoting and safeguarding culture and social cohesion in Singapore to ensure succession. Hence, we support the candidacy for the inclusion of “Hawker Culture in Singapore” within the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity Representative List.

Singapore's hawkers started out as migrants who peddled their food on streets and sidewalks. From the 1970s onwards, hawkers moved into purpose-built facilities set up by the Singapore Government. Hawker centres are still being built today and by 2027, there will be a total of 127 hawker centres islandwide. The bid to list Singapore hawkers would ensure the succession of Hawker Culture in Singapore so that our future generations can continue to enjoy the food passion passed down from our forefathers.

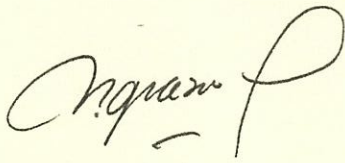
Hawker centres function as accessible multi-ethnic venues where people can feast on a wide variety of multi-generational and multicultural food offerings that have evolved over time. It is a source of affordable food, on which many rely on, and hawker centres are democratic and inclusive spaces shared by people of all backgrounds. The culture is built on the hard work, knowledge and culinary techniques and traditions of hawkers' past and present. Hawker

centres and hawker food have grown to become a unique part of the Singaporean identity and reflects our multi-cultural society. Hawker Culture in Singapore has developed a sense of belonging for our nation and promoted social cohesion, which makes it highly appropriate as a nomination.

We strongly support the nomination of Hawker Culture in Singapore to the Representative List of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. We wish more people in Singapore and around the world will recognise the value and importance of Hawker Culture and a successful nomination effort of Hawker Culture!

Yours sincerely

SINGAPORE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roland Ng', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roland Ng
President

23 October 2018

Mr Yeo Kirk Siang
Director, Heritage Research and Assessment
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear Mr Yeo

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR SINGAPORE'S FOR NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE TO THE
UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY**

The Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC) aims to nurture and promote Singapore Chinese culture, and to foster mutual understanding among all ethnic communities of our multicultural heritage. Mooted by the Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Association, SCCC was opened in May 2017 to be a community institution for everyone to come together and celebrate the distinctive aspects of our Singapore Chinese culture.

The 11-storey building includes several facilities to support various types of activities from local arts and cultural groups, schools, corporate organisations and other venue partners. These include a 530-seater auditorium, a 1680-sqm Multi-Purpose Hall, a 450-sqm gallery space for visual arts, a 280-sqm Recital Studio and other smaller rooms, as well as open areas in the Roof Garden and Concourse on the top and ground floors respectively.

Next year, we will be installing a long-term exhibition to showcase the distinctive aspects of Singapore Chinese culture. Although each is different and diverse, the Chinese, Malay and Indian communities residing in Singapore have come together to inspire a culture that we see as uniquely Singaporean today. Food is an area where such fusion is evident, and will be a key component of our exhibition, because it holds a central place in the hearts of many Singaporeans. We are proud of the range of cuisines available in our city-state, made accessible to the public through hawker centres around the island. Our exhibition will examine how certain street food like *chicken rice* and *mee rebus* have evolved over time to become distinctively local dishes beloved by many Singaporeans.

As such, we are happy to extend our support towards the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. This will give recognition to the food culture that defines our way of lives.

Yours sincerely



Low Sze Wee
CEO
Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre



Singapore Council of Women's Organisations

Chief Patron
President Halimah Yacob

12 February 2019

President
Dr June Goh

Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager, Heritage Research and Assessment
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

1st Vice President
Ms Junie Foo

2nd Vice President
Ms Trina Liang

Dear Ms Toh,

3rd Vice President
Ms Lavinia Thanapathy

Letter of Support for hawker culture in Singapore for the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Heritage

Hon Treasurer
Ms Avan Chan

The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) is the National Coordinating body of women's organisations in Singapore. We have more than 50 Member Organisations representing over 500,000 women in Singapore.

Asst Hon Treasurer
Ms Irene Boey

Hon Gen Secretary
Ms K. Thanaletchimi

Asst Hon Sec
Ms Margaret Thomas

Board Members
Ms Cheryl Chong
Ms Laina Greene
Ms Teo Lin-Lee
Ms Yeo Miu Ean

The SCWO supports the Singapore government's nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Hawker culture in Singapore is one which is deeply ingrained in our collective heritage. People from all walks of life enjoy food prepared by hawkers and dine communally in the hawker centres, allowing for bonding across the various communities and sectors of the population. Hawker centres are also a source of affordable food options – which means everyone can comfortably enjoy its many offerings. It is in this setting that everyone is truly equal. This very culture is in line with SCWO's mission of 'Equal Space, Equal Voice and Equal Worth', as in its very core, the hawker centre is an all-inclusive space for everyone. We believe that losing such an invaluable part of our Singapore culture would be an immense loss for our future generations, who would not get the chance to enjoy this unique experience.

We hope that the nomination of hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage would be successful, so that our future generations, as well as visitors to Singapore, would be able to enjoy this important cultural element, as well as understand how it has come to represent our multiracial, multi-cultural society.

Sincerely,

June Goh
President-SCWO

About SCWO

Incorporated in March 1980, the SCWO, having been founded by women, seeks to unite the various women's organisations, clubs, committees, groups and women leaders together, working in accordance with its various aims and objectives. The SCWO seeks to co-ordinate these associations into a national movement and to act on their behalf in matters for which is authorised by its members. It seeks to promote the ideals of 'Equal Space, Equal Voice and Equal Worth' for women in Singapore.



新加坡宗鄉會館聯合總會

Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations

397 Lorong 2 Toa Payoh Singapore 319639. Tel: 6354 4078 Fax: 6354 4095

Email: admin@sfcca.sg Website: <http://www.sfcca.sg>

支持小贩文化申遗

小贩中心与新加坡人的生活分不开，不论贫富、不分种族，小贩中心对他们都有一种吸引力。它不只为新加坡人提供相对价廉物美的熟食，平衡了新加坡的物价水平，也为人们提供了一个交流、互动的平台。任何人到了小贩中心，不管是为了解决一餐，或是只是跟朋友见面喝杯饮料，都会感到很自在，甚至一个人只是坐在这里头看报纸，也没有人会来干涉。小贩中心就是那么一个让人随兴随意、消费低的地方。这里，不同种族和信仰者的摊贩都可以和谐的营生，不同信仰者都可以坐在同一桌上享用各自的美食。这里的餐具回收架分清真和非清真，没有人刻意冒犯别人，大家尊重彼此不同的信仰，这里是新加坡和谐社会的缩影，是新加坡人的骄傲。

小贩中心不只是一个草根社会的设施，而已经是一种新加坡色彩浓厚的文化，小贩文化赋予新加坡人一种文化特征，它陪伴着一代又一代人的成长，每个人的记忆中都有自己的小贩中心，有自己出了国就会怀念的美食。它训练了新加坡人对美食的鉴赏能力，它提升了国人的生活情趣，更确保了新加坡人的基本生活素质。它是新加坡人的生活中心，它带动了社区的活力。它独具魅力，外来游客也喜欢到这里寻找地道食。

小贩中心在平凡中扮演着不平凡社会角色，是多元种族之间的桥梁，是新加坡人团结的象征。小贩文化是新加坡的一项文化遗产，本会积极政府以小贩文化参与联合国的申遗活动，祝愿这项申遗成功。

新加坡宗乡会馆联合总会

秘书长

谨启

方百成

2018年12月15日



新加坡宗鄉會館聯合總會
Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations

397 Lorong 2 Toa Payoh Singapore 319639. Tel: 6354 4078 Fax: 6354 4095
Email: admin@sfcca.sg Website: <http://www.sfcca.sg>

15 December 2018

To: Whom it may concern

Letter of Support

Eating at hawker centres has become an indispensable part of Singaporeans' lifestyle, regardless of social status and race. Hawker centres not only offer a wide range of food at an affordable price, they are also communal spaces that bring people from all walks of lives together where they could connect and forge community bonds.

Occupying a special place in the hearts of many, hawker centres are well-loved locations where one can relax and unwind, catch up with friends over a drink, get an affordable meal to satisfy their craving, or even read newspaper at their own leisure. This fuss-free and casual setting is distinctive to Singapore and has become a part of their life.

At hawker centres, stall owners and diners of various races and religious beliefs co-exist in harmony. People from different races and religions can share a table and enjoy their own food, which is a common sight that echoes the characteristic and colourful tapestry of Singapore's multi-racial society. Careful considerations are also exercised here, including details such as the demarcation of halal and non-halal tray return points which reflects one of the core values that underpins the Singaporean society – respecting and embracing differences. This is an embodiment of the Singapore society as well as Singaporeans' pride, all displayed through the hawker culture.

Hawker centre is not simply about a facility for the grassroots, it has over generations evolved into an integral part of Singaporeans' shared identity and memories. The hawker centres and hawker food resonate with Singaporeans and trigger a sense of place and belonging, in particular Singaporeans overseas. The hawker food has also trained the taste buds of Singaporeans and incited them to look for gastronomic delights among the hawker fares, which in turn proliferates the hawker culture, and alongside prompting tourists to visit these centres in search for local food.

Hawker centres may be a commonplace where people in Singapore carry out our routines, but they have played an extraordinary role in bridging people of different races and religions, rendering it as a cultural institution that reflects the Singapore story of one united people, and that is the Singapore hawker culture adored and valued by us.

Hawker culture is an important marker of Singapore's multicultural identity and the importance of safeguarding our hawker culture brings us to support the nomination of the "Hawker Culture of Singapore" to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible and we sincerely look forward to a positive outcome of the nomination.

Yours Faithfully,

Perng Peck Seng
Secretary-General
Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations



新加坡海南會館

THE SINGAPORE HAINAN HWEE KUAN

47 BEACH ROAD, SINGAPORE 189683
TEL: 63363457, 63399685 FAX: 63390815

24 January 2019

To: National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear Sir/Madame

RE: SUPPORT THE NOMINATION OF THE “HAWKER CULTURE OF SINGAPORE” TO THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

On behalf of The Singapore Hainan Hwee Kuan (Association) and the 300,000 Singaporeans Hainanese, the management committee supports the above nomination of the “Hawker Culture of Singapore”.

1) Mission Statement

The Association is established in 1854 for the purpose of carrying out the following objects among the Hainanese community and the general community at large: -

- (a) To foster friendship and interaction.
- (b) To represent the Hainanese community in matters affecting their common interests and rights.
- (c) To work towards the welfare of the Hainanese community and to promote the knowledge of its culture.
- (d) To inculcate a sense of civic consciousness and to foster national identity among its community.
- (e) To promote educational, social and community service activities
- (f) To facilitate the development of trade, commerce, industry and technology.

2) Brief History of The Hainanese Immigrants;

- (a) The ancestral home of all Hainanese immigrants is the current Hainan Province, People’s Republic of China.
- (b) Most of the early immigrants were illiterate and they were involved in various occupations like sea faring, stevedoring, food & beverage like coffee shops and food, cooks for the British officers.
- (c) It is in the food and beverage industry that The Hainanese is arguably the best in the Singapore scene.



新加坡海南會館

THE SINGAPORE HAINAN HWEE KUAN

47 BEACH ROAD, SINGAPORE 189683
TEL: 63363457, 63399685 FAX: 63390815

(d) The Hainanese Chicken Rice, Hainanese Curry Rice, Hainanese Satay, Hainanese Pork Chop, Shepherd Pie, toasted bread with Kaya/butter and the iconic Singapore Sling bears the hallmark of the Hainanese people.

3) Development of the Hawker Culture In Singapore

- (a) Before the 1960s, the hawkers will set up the stalls and peddle their food in any open space.
- (b) In the late 1960s and for hygiene and health reasons/concerns, these hawkers were re-settled in government-built hawker centres with proper pipe water, sanitary and plumbing and waste disposal.
- (c) Hence in every public housing satellite town, the hawker centres and the wet markets are the main meeting place for the community.

4) THE HAWKER CULTURE IS THE PULSE OF SINGAPORE

- (a) The hawker centres cater for all Singaporeans, regardless of race, language and religion.
- (b) It is the one-stop centre for all Singaporeans who needs an affordable food.
- (c) It is the one place where you can find Chinese food, Indian food, Malay food, Western Food, vegetarian food and even Thai & Vietnamese food.
- (d) As a result of this confluence of the multiculturalism and the easy accessibility in the neighborhood area, the social cohesion is greatly enhanced.
- (e) It is so common to see Chinese eating Indian or Malay food and sitting side by side with Indians and Muslim neighbours or vice versa.
- (f) In fact, this feature of people of different race, language and religion eating in the Hawker Centre is one of the primary reasons that Singapore is the few countries that is not beset by inter racial and religious strife.
- (g) In addition, it is the only place that is not plagued by the social divide. More often than not, the rich and upper income will queue, collect their food and sit at the table and eating their favourite food like Hainanese Chicken Rice, Char Koay Teow, Rojak (A Malay word for mixed salad with prawn paste, Nasi Lemak (A Malay food with coconut rice with chicken wing and Otak) and Nasi Briyani (An Indian Food with chicken and mutton curry)



新加坡海南會館 THE SINGAPORE HAINAN HWEK KUAN

47 BEACH ROAD, SINGAPORE 189683
TEL: 63363457, 63399685 FAX: 63390815

5) Why it is that our nomination of Hawker Culture Centre is Important?

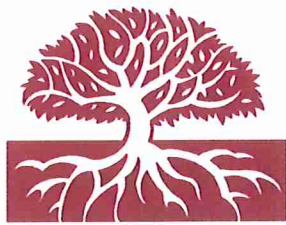
- (a) It is the social fabric of all Singaporeans regardless of Race, Language and Religion. It represents multiculturalism
- (b) It is an easily accessible meeting place for everyone of any race to bond over good food, enhance cohesion of different types of local cuisine and food for the Singaporeans, thus creating a harmonious environment.
- (c) It is the place that all Singaporeans regardless of the class that they will queue, collect their food and sit at the table and eating their favourite food.
- (d) There are many small businesses set up in Hawker Centres.
- (e) The Hawker Culture is a melting pot of a multicultural Singapore.

6) Summary

- (a) The hawker culture represents the heartbeat of a multicultural Singapore whereby the social cohesion and inclusivity of its citizens beat as one UNITED SINGAPORE.
- (b) Therefore, for a United Singapore, this Hawker Culture must be transmitted from one generation to the next generation.

Phua Kiah Mai
President
The Singapore Hainan Hwee Kuan





GIVING A FUTURE TO OUR PAST
**SINGAPORE
HERITAGE
SOCIETY**

18 February 2019

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

**LETTER OF CONSENT FOR THE NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE IN SINGAPORE
TO THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF
HUMANITY**

The Singapore Heritage Society ('SHS') express our full support and consent for the nomination of hawker culture in Singapore to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage ('ICH') of Humanity.

2 The SHS was founded in 1987 as a non-governmental organization dedicated to heritage conservation in Singapore. Our work is guided by our definition of heritage as "the living presence of the past". We believe that heritage is a vital part of our identity and social bonds are strengthened when people understand and cherish our heritage. These beliefs drive our efforts in research, public education and advocacy.

3 Our work covers both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. We reach out to the public through our publications, talks, exhibitions, guided walks and maintain an active presence on social media. Our approach is inclusive, and we work with communities through our various initiatives.

4 We believe hawker culture is a vital part of Singapore's heritage and identity. As a living heritage that is integrated into the daily lives of communities and individuals, hawker culture has proven to be adaptable, evolving with the city landscape and the ever-changing taste and lifestyles of the people.

5 Heritage is important to any society because it provides people with a set of common practices and traditions. This is especially important to a young nation like Singapore, the sense of identity of which is still a work in progress. Since the early years of our country's independence, hawker centres have provided people with a common space to dine and mingle with each other while enjoying affordable hawker food. As a country that greatly values multiculturalism, it is important that this practice be safeguarded for future generations, even as it continues to evolve.

6 The SHS is contributing to the safeguarding of hawker culture in Singapore through our research efforts. We will be commencing a two-year research project entitled *The Evolution of Singapore's Hawker Culture: Street Food and Changing Landscapes*. The project aims to document the change in hawking practices and culinary traditions over the past fifty years, while studying the link between hawker food and place, where experiences of one evoke memories of the other. The project will include ethnographic research, including interviews with at least 40 hawkers. As part of the project, we hope to develop a research report and a video documentary, and present the research findings in seminars, publications, websites and the media.

7 Our members have also been involved at various stages of the nomination preparation. Several of our members attended focus group discussions conducted in early 2018 where hawker culture was proposed as an element to be nominated to the UNESCO Representative List of ICH. I am a member of the Nomination Committee for Hawker Culture, which was involved in the preparation of the nomination forms and advised on ways to safeguard hawker culture and encourage community participation in the nomination process.

8 It is remarkable that hawker culture continues to thrive and survive in the face of globalization, with young hawkers motivated to take up family businesses or pursuing their passion of creating affordable, yet delicious meals. Hawker culture is a reminder to us that the simple act of dining together in hawker centres over the diverse hawker food dishes that represent our cultural heritage, is a valuable shared experience to us.

9 We believe that a successful nomination would encourage Singaporeans to appreciate and value this important living heritage of our nation, as well as encourage the younger generation to continue the transmission of hawker culture. It would also emphasize the need for the government and other relevant parties to examine ways of dealing with pressing issues faced by hawkers today, in particular rising costs and the challenge of encouraging young people to take up the trade. It is for these reasons that we express our consent and support for the nomination of hawker culture in Singapore to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Jack Tsen-Ta Lee
President
Singapore Heritage Society



18 February 2019

Received

23 FEB 2019

NHB-CEO

The CEO
National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

OUR SUPPORT FOR HAWKER CULTURE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF THE ICH

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Singapore Indians Association, I would like to applaud the efforts of the National Heritage Board to add our Hawker Culture to the UNESCO Representative list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

Our Hawker Culture represented today by more than 100 Hawkers Centers that have become an integral part of our landscape in each and every precinct, urban and sub-urban, business centers and heartland communities evolved over several generations, is a feature of Singapore that should be recognized as our national heritage and protected for this generation and also future generations.

The amazing variety and mix of local, east, west and fusion food; the mingling of our multi-ethnic population from all walks of life here; the cacophony of chatter and the aroma that makes your mouth water – these are what every Singaporean yearns to return to when he is out of the country for long periods. These are also what we proudly showcase to visitors as something special to savor when they are in Singapore.

We want to share our Hawker Culture experience with more people from the rest of the world and we want to keep this culture for generations to come. We hope very much that your efforts to attain the ICH listing will bring positive results and extend our best wishes for success in your endeavors.

Yours Sincerely

V V Giri Mudeliar
President

05 December 2018

To,

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Attn: Ms Felicia Toh (Assistant Manager, Heritage Research and Assessment)

RE: Endorsement of the Nomination of Hawker Culture (Indian Hawker Food) in Singapore into the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Dear Ms Felicia,

The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) writes to inform you of our support and endorsement of the Nomination of Hawker Culture in Singapore to be included in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Established in 1924, SICCI has served as the nation's premier business association for Indian businesses, serving as a connector, enabler and advocator for the advancement of Indian business in Singapore. With over 750 members in our fold, SICCI functions as a gateway of opportunity for businesses both local and international, supporting a wide spectrum of trade and industry with services such as business advisory, business match, trade documentation, capability development, and networking sessions. SICCI also serves as the foremost representative of Indian and Indian-origin business interests in Singapore and abroad, speaking on behalf of its members at relevant forums and ensuring that their views are duly expressed.

It is in this capacity that the Chamber, representing our many members in Singapore's Food and Beverage Industry, gives its endorsement of the abovementioned Nomination.

Amongst the organisations that the Chamber represents is the Indian Restaurant Association (IRAS), which in turn represents the interests of over 1,000 Indian restaurants, eateries and caterers across the nation. The Chamber has worked closely with IRAS over the years on several high-profile projects, including, the setting up of a centralised kitchen for Indian eateries in Little India in 2016. The kitchen proved to be a great success, helping to significantly improve productivity and reduce costs for the businesses involved.

Through the numerous collaborations that the Chamber has had with IRAS and other such members, we have come to develop a deeper appreciation and understanding of the cultural and historical heritage behind Singapore's hawker food. It should not surprise you to know that hawker food and hawker culture hold a special place in the hearts of Singaporeans. Singapore is a country known far and wide to be a veritable food paradise, with its melting pot cuisine derived from the local Chinese, Malay, Indian and Eurasian styles of cooking. In very much the same way that these four, distinct communities have seamlessly blended, grown and integrated over the years, their cuisines, too, have fused together to form a style of food that is rich, and thoroughly sumptuous.

Hawker food and culture may very well be the most apt representation of this fusion. Food is common currency across communities, easily bridging gaps and divides of language and culture. Hawker food takes dishes belonging to one community and adapts it to the taste of others. It is a no-frills experience, accessible to anyone and everyone. A visit to the hawker centre presents you with an overwhelming array of food options, where one can always be sure to find something, affordable and suited to their tastes. In so many ways, represent the community spirit and inclusiveness that Singapore has endeavoured to cultivate in its citizens.

It is the Chamber's sincere hope that Singapore's hawker culture successfully receives this nomination and is accordingly memorialised as part of the nation's heritage. We hope that, through this nomination, Singapore's hawker culture will receive further appreciation, both locally and internationally. We also hope that the nomination would serve to inspire the younger generation of Singaporeans to continue exploring and investing in hawker culture, to keep the fires of heritage burning strong.



K Barathan

Chief Executive Officer

Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Dated: December 10, 2018

Ref: Nomination of Hawker Culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Dear Ministry

Our organisation, Indian Women's Association, has members both Singaporean and Foreign with a common Indian heritage. We have several partnerships with local Community Centres and for the past 20 years, we have been an integral part of Singaporean life.

While there are other multi-cultural countries in the world, Singapore is probably the smallest country with distinctly diverse cultural identities coexisting peacefully.

Hawker culture is a representation of this distinctly diverse yet harmonious culture in Singapore and each stall in a hawker centre showcases the vendor's immigrant cultural roots which have mingled with local culture to produce Singapore's multicultural identity.

We strongly support the safeguarding of Singapore's shining example of social cohesion and hope that the nomination of Hawker Culture is successful.

Regards

Chandan Lehal

President

Indian Women's Association

P.O Box no. 472, Orchard Post Office, S912316

www.iwasingapore.org

21 March 2019

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Dear Sir/Madam,

**SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS' LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE
NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE TO THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY**

Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA) supports without reservation Singapore's bid jointly led by National Heritage Board (NHB), National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Federation of Merchants' Associations, Singapore (FMAS), to nominate Singapore Hawker Culture to be in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Singapore's Hawker Culture is an integral socio-cultural experience and has deep roots in our country's broader social history. It is unique and has a historical journey that mirrors our rise from colony to city state. Its diversity, pervasiveness and necessity make it an intrinsic feature of our everyday culture and social landscape.

Being the sole representative body for the architecture profession in our built environment sector, SIA feels that UNESCO's acknowledgement of how the intangible shapes our tangible city is timely. Our appreciation of this cultural component comes from the knowledge and practice of architecture, as well as the makings of a dynamic and endearing city. Beyond the celebration and preservation of our food heritage, the hawker centre is a social condenser that fosters the multi-racial and multi-cultural integration in Singapore. It strengthens and make distinct our unique Singapore identity.

With UNESCO's recognition of Singapore's hawker culture, it reinforces it as an institution worth preserving. The celebration of this heritage will serve as a crucial bulwark to make our society more cohesive and resilient to the rapidly changing and ever more complex world.

SIA hopes UNESCO will decide in favour of Singapore's nomination, and we look forward to UNESCO's endorsement of this significant Singaporean tradition. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,


Seah Chee Huang
President 59th Council 2019/2020
Singapore Institute of Architects



**Excellence in
Architecture
and the Built
Environment**

**SINGAPORE
INSTITUTE OF
ARCHITECTS**

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web: www.sia.org.sg

GST REG. NO.: M9-0001281-J
G.N. No. 565 in Gazette No. 27

Mission

To inspire graciousness
through spontaneous acts
of kindness, making life
more pleasant for everyone

Patron

Mr Lee Hsien Loong
Prime Minister
Republic of Singapore

Adviser

Ms Grace Fu
Minister
Culture, Community and Youth

Chairman

Mr Koh Poh Tiong

27 November 2018

Dear Sir/Mdm

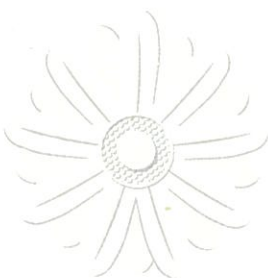
**Subject: Letter of support for Singapore Hawker Culture to UNESCO's
Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**

The Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM) is a non-government organisation and a registered charity. Our mission is to foster a kinder and more gracious society. We do this by encouraging the internalisation of courtesy, kindness and consideration. We create public awareness of acts of kindness; and influence and raise the standards of behaviour and responsibility.

We believe acts of graciousness and kindness should be carried out not only at home, but also in the public space where we work, play and eat.

In Singapore, eating out is a lifestyle for 60%* of Singaporeans. With over 100 hawker centres strategically located across our small island, it is the most economical and convenient option for many. SKM actively supports the National Environment Agency's (NEA) efforts in the following areas:

- As General Secretary, I am a member of the Public Hygiene Council which is an initiative of the NEA to ensure the high standard of public hygiene is maintained.
- I am also a member of the Hawker Committee 3.0 and a member of the Hawker Incubation Stall Programme.
- We support their Tray Return Initiative at these hawker centres, which encourages clearing up after one's meal and leaving the table clean for the next person.
- We support NEA's Vibrant Hawker Centres Programme that encourages the public and ground-up initiatives to "adopt" a hawker centre and organise community-centric programmes/activities to increase public ownership of vibrancy in these centres.
- As a national movement, we will be "adopting" a few hawker centres in 2019 to embark on our community outreach efforts to promote better neighbourliness; getting residents who in the same area to engage through play.



SKM believes that the hawker culture is very important to Singapore. It is an integral part of being Singaporean. Its evolution from the 1970s to what it is today has provided Singaporeans with a variety of affordable, multi-ethnic culinary options. It caters very appropriately to the multi-racial population we have in Singapore.

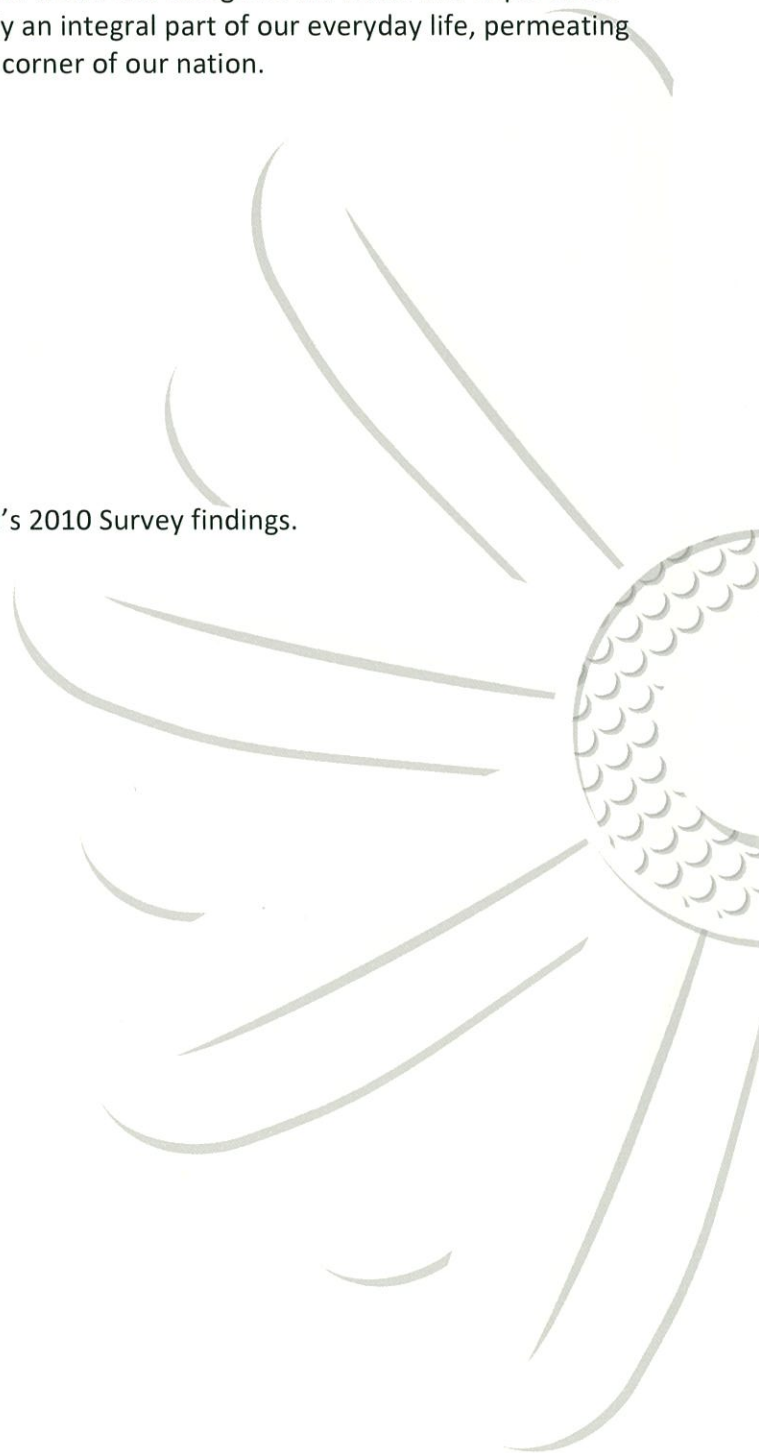
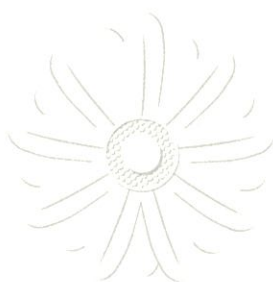
We unreservedly support nominating Singapore hawker culture to UNESCO's representative list of Intangible Culture Heritage of Humanity. We envision that people in Singapore and around the world will recognise the value and importance of hawker culture; which is already an integral part of our everyday life, permeating and flourishing in every nook and corner of our nation.

Thanking you.



Dr William Wan
General Secretary
Singapore Kindness Movement

*Source: Health Promotion Board's 2010 Survey findings.



Singapore Kindness Movement – Student Reflections on Hawker Culture

As part of the Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM)'s involvement in the nomination preparations for hawker culture, a contest to seek students' reflections on hawker culture was launched through the SKM's newsletters, *Kindsville Times Junior*, *Kindsville Adventures* and *Kindsville: A-OK!*.





These newsletters are distributed to all primary schools in Singapore, and the activities were designed according to the age of the students. These were developed in partnership with the Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) Branch of the Ministry of Education. *Kindsville Times Junior*, *Kindsville Adventures* and *Kindsville: A-OK!* are designed for Primary 1-2, Primary 3-4 and Primary 5-6 levels respectively. Through fun activities, comics and stories, students learn about the importance of specific character values and positive attitudes towards school-life challenges.


The contest was conducted from January to 15 February 2019, inviting students from primary schools across Singapore to contribute reflections on acts of kindness demonstrated at hawker centres.

These are the number of students who participated across the three different age groups:

- Primary 1-2 (ages 7-8): 83
- Primary 3-4 (ages 9-10): 87
- Primary 5-6 (ages 11-12): 273

Appended below are samples of student submissions from the three different age groups.

Level	Contribution
Primary 1-2	<div>  <p>Contest</p> <p>Write for Kindness Junior</p> <p>Do you know that we can all play our part to encourage kindness and graciousness at hawker centres?</p> <p>Draw an act of kindness that you have done, received or witnessed at a hawker centre and write one or two sentences about it.</p>   <p><i>Dear Sir, an old lady was pleased as I gave my seat to her in a crowded hawker centre.</i></p> <div> <p>LET'S SUPPORT</p>  <p>SINGAPORE HAWKER CULTURE</p> </div> <div> <p>Judging criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Relevance to the theme ★ Drawing and creativity ★ Language use </div> <div> <p>Prizes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ 1st, 2nd, 3rd ★ 3 consolation </div> <p>Attractive prizes include SKM merchandise and souvenirs from National Heritage Board. Winning entries will also be featured in the following issue of Kindsville Times.</p> <p>21</p> </div>



**Contest**

Lee Ice Xin
3 Violet

Write for Kindness Junior

Do you know that we can all play our part to encourage kindness and graciousness at hawker centres?


Write a story between 100-120 words on an act of kindness that you have done, received or witnessed at a hawker centre. Write your story below or on your own writing material.



My name is Lee Ice Xin.
My Class is 3Violet.
I am from woodland Ring Primary School. I would like to share with you a story. Every weekend, My family and I went to Hawker center. I love the food and drinks in Hawker center. Every time we reach there, it is very crowded. We will let the senior people to queue or sit first. After my mother ordered the food we want, I help my mother to take the tray to the table. After finishing our food, we return the tray, clean up the table and push in the chair.

I did it!

The End!

**Let's Support SINGAPORE HAWKER CULTURE**

Judging criteria:

- ★ Relevance to the theme
- ★ Language use

Prizes:

- ★ 1st, 2nd, 3rd
- ★ 3 consolation

Attractive prizes include SKM merchandise and souvenirs from National Heritage Board. Winning entries will also be featured in the following issue of Kindsville Times.

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Write for Kindness Junior

Do you know that we can all play our part to encourage kindness and graciousness at hawker centres?

Write a story between 150-180 words on an act of kindness that you have done, received or witnessed at a hawker centre. Write your story below or on your own writing material.



Here is my story:

Once, I was in a hawker centre near my house eating dinner. My mom and I were walking around, finding food that we wanted to eat. There were a lot of options and I wanted to eat everything. While looking for a stall to eat in, I passed by a woman several times. She seemed to be looking for a seat. The woman had a child with her too. I nudged my mom and told her that I wanted to help. She told me to do what I felt right. So I went towards the woman and her child. I told them that I could share my table with them since my family and I didn't really take up the whole table. At first, they refused since they didn't want to trouble us. But I insisted and so they agreed.

That day, my parents were really proud of me and I felt good too!



Judging criteria:

- ★ Relevance to the theme
- ★ Language use

Attractive prizes include SKM merchandise and souvenirs from National Heritage Board. Winning entries will also be featured in the following issue of A-OK!

Prizes:

- ★ 1st, 2nd, 3rd
- ★ 3 consolation



11 January 2019

Letter of Support: Nomination of Hawker Culture of Singapore to UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Dear Sirs,

Our non-profit association Slow Food (Singapore) is the only convivium in Singapore recognised by Slow Food International, which is based in Italy. While our parent association was established in 1989, the Singapore chapter has only just passed its fifth year, having been in existence since 2013. The Slow Food global movement now boasts 1,500 convivia in 160 countries.

In the last 30 years, Slow Food as a whole has expanded their food conservation efforts to embrace a more comprehensive approach that includes the people, culture, politics and the planet of food. Apart from the biennial Terra Madre Salone del Gusto which takes place in Bra, Italy, Slow Food International is also involved in food activism on the EU stage particularly.

The Singapore chapter was created with the mission to promote and conserve the country's food heritage through research and advocacy, partnerships, public outreach and events. The main recognition programme launched was Heritage Heroes, which awarded confectioneries and bakeries in the first year that are still hand-making traditional cakes, pastries and snacks (or kueh in the local vernacular). Two years later, Slow Food (Singapore) recognised heritage restaurants who have been in business for at least 30 years and are still serving traditional local cuisine.

In 2015, Slow Food (Singapore) was invited by the Singapore Tourism Board to be a valued partner in the annual Singapore Food Festival, thus kickstarting what has become a yearly Kueh Appreciation Day affair. The aim of the event was purely one of raising awareness and education, promoting local kueh through the sale of traditionally made snacks by mostly family-owned and -run vendors, with hands-on kueh-making demonstration classes by experts.

Slow Food (Singapore) is supporting Singapore's nomination of hawker culture as the country's Intangible Cultural Heritage not only because some of our Heritage Heroes are in hawker centres still while others did start in hawker centres before moving on to bigger, air-conditioned premises, but also because hawker culture is part of Singapore's food heritage.

Hawker culture and Singapore have progressed together. As urban planning kicked into high gear and housing developments were built in the 1960s and 70s, hawker centres were part

of every housing estate. Our association's executive committee is made of Generation X-ers who remember being able to have affordable food even as students on the way to school every morning at these hawker centres which have gradually improved – we certainly remembered when a hygiene rating system kickstarted, generating much debate among the populace!

Hawker culture is more than just about hawker centres. Hawker culture embraces the social and economic well-being of Singapore. It is where entire families can go and have a meal together with everyone eating food from different stalls, be it Chinese, Malay, Indian or Hainanese-Western food! It's a great place to meet up with neighbours, friends, colleagues. It's even a place where you could make friends with your favourite hawkers and just order your usual with a nod of the head.

Hawker culture is a fantastic social leveller in Singapore. From CEOs to blue-collar workers, everyone rubs shoulders and shares tables at hawker centres. Over the years, even certain social behaviours have developed and become part of Singapore's hawker culture. Hawker culture has become so entwined with the story of Singapore that it is part of every Singaporean's lived experience.

To Slow Food (Singapore), hawker culture encompasses the heritage of local food. Most of the food have evolved to become Singaporean, whatever their origin. Some dishes may have been created as a result of the multicultural and remaining colonial influences in the past and have survived to its current form today. Hawker culture is a living tale of history – whether of the food, people or place – which takes place every time one steps into a hawker centre.

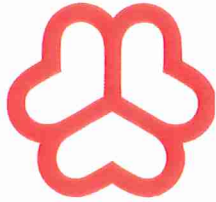
As dining fads come and go, and we are exposed to ever more dazzling alternatives, it's important to safeguard Singapore's hawker culture for the future generations because it connects us to the past and enriches our present, it allows for people of all races to come together as it is affordable and accessible.

We hope the nomination of hawker culture in Singapore as an Intangible Cultural Heritage will be successful as it is a well-loved and valuable part of the country's identity and this recognition will go a long way toward the appreciation and survival of this heritage.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'A' being particularly large and stylized.

Anne Loh
President
Slow Food (Singapore)



TAMPINES CHANGKAT

Citizens' Consultative Committee

c/o Tampines Changkat Constituency Office 13 Tampines Street 11 Singapore 529453

23 January 2019

To-Whom-It-May-Concern

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE

On behalf of residents and Grassroots Organisations of Tampines Changkat constituency, we would like to strongly recommend and support to be nominated to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

2 Since its opening in 1983 and for the last 36 years, the Tampines Round Market and Food Centre has been an integral part of resident's lifestyle and till today, it is one of the key landmark in Tampines. It is also heartening to note that many of our residents who have shifted out of Tampines, continues to visit the Tampines Round Market and Food Centre on a weekly basis to indulge in their favourite hawker food such as the carrot cake, fish head steamboat, kway chap and many more. It is an important social and community hub for Tampines residents and where people of different races, cultures and religious beliefs can gather and enjoy food together.

3 Apart from serving nice food, the Tampines Round Market and Food Centre also cares for the less well-off in our community. The Tampines Street 11 Hawkers' and Merchants' Association has been supporting the Grassroots Organisations in its Community Food Vouchers programme and Project 215 for the under-privileged and seniors in the community. In addition, it has also supported the Sunday Market programme where low income families can set up stalls to earn additional income. Other than caring for the low income, it has also collaborated with other government agency such as Ministry of Health to provide health screening at the market to provide greater accessibility for residents.

4 For the role that hawker culture has in strengthening social cohesion and reflecting our multicultural identity, we hope Singapore's Hawker Culture will have a place in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Thank you.

Mr Joseph Ong
Chairman

Tampines Changkat Citizen's Consultative Committee

The **Birthday** Collective

1 December 2018

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Attn: Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager
Heritage Research and Assessment

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION OF HAWKER CULTURE TO THE UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

The Birthday Collective is pleased to register our strong and enthusiastic support for the nomination of hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

The Collective was established in 2016, as a platform to gather narratives and stories about the challenges and opportunities facing Singapore after its first 50 years as a nation. It is a community effort, non-partisan and inclusive in its approach. The Collective's annual publication, "The Birthday Book", is a collection of essays published around the time of Singapore's National Day, focused on a theme pertinent to Singapore's long term future. In 2018, "The Birthday Book – Junior" was initiated to feature the perspectives of younger Singaporeans aged 14 and under; this will also be an annual publication. In addition, the Collective organises an annual video competition, for those more inclined to capture their stories via audio-visual media.

A key ongoing project for the Collective involves documenting two aspects of Singapore's culture, which we consider a key part of the Singapore story which may not be preserved without intentional and deliberate steps. First, we are crowdsourcing community nominations of hawkers whose recipes and practices can be chronicled via smart glasses technology – bringing together heritage

and cutting-edge science to document our history in innovative ways. Second, we are developing an online dictionary of “hawker terms”, which will capture the multilingual and multicultural lexicon underpinning our hawker culture. These twin projects were initiated independently of the nomination of hawker culture to the UNESCO Representative List, and we have been very pleased to work with the National Heritage Board and its co-nominators to find mutual synergies in our projects. We hope that our community-driven efforts can complement those of the government to renew and rejuvenate Singapore’s hawker culture.

We look forward to a positive outcome from the nomination process. In addition to community efforts like ours, a successful UNESCO nomination will be invaluable in recognising the role and value of hawker culture in Singapore and globally, and critical in ensuring that successive generations of Singaporeans and tourists will be able to enjoy this unique phenomenon.

Yours sincerely,



Cherie Lim-Tseng
Director, The Birthday Collective



Dear Ministry,

We are a group of Grassroots Leaders from Ulu Pandan, a division under the People's Association's Grassroots Organisations. We are in support of nominating Singapore's Hawker Culture on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The People's Association was established on 1 July 1960 as a statutory board to promote racial harmony and social cohesion in Singapore. Our mission is to build and bridge communities in achieving one people, one Singapore from all walks of life by connecting people to people, and people to government.

Singapore is deemed as a food paradise by both the locals and foreigners alike. Our Hawker Culture is therefore without doubt a piece of heritage that is representative of Singapore's identity. This is something that we would like to safeguard for our future generations. This unique Hawker Culture of ours has brought about vibrancy, unity, and harmony to our society where no one is excluded. Hawker Centres are our "Community Dining Halls" where Singaporeans from all walks of life can gather to dine and bond over their shared love of food. Hawker Centres, being an inclusive environment where people are closely situated beside one another, has also fostered a sense of belonging, brotherhood, and neighbourliness among hawker stall owners.

As such, we are very proud to be a reflection of the unique hawker culture in Singapore here in Ulu Pandan. The Ghim Moh Market and Food Centre, together with the Empress Road Market and Food Centre have been stalwarts of the Ulu Pandan Hawker Scene since their construction in 1977 and 1976 respectively. Both markets and food centres are known for their community spirit, very affordable but delicious food, and friendly hawkers. Indeed, the stalls in the Ghim Moh Market and Food Centre have been in the news lately, with "Lao San Chee Kweh" one of the featured stalls that Ms Aung San Suu Kyi visited when she was in Singapore, and the Chuan Kee Boneless Braised Duck stall being awarded the Michelin Bib Gourmand in 2018.

When we heard that Singapore is set to nominate our Hawker Culture on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, we could not be prouder as we know that our hawker culture deserves the same recognition as Korea's Kimchi and Belgium's Beer Culture. A successful bid to be included in the UNESCO list can help inject a new lease of interest and pride in our hawker culture and promote Singapore as not just a financial stronghold in Asia, but also a gastronomical haven for everyone in the world.

We hope that this unique culture of ours will live on forever. We believe that this is the time for all of us to come together, as one Singapore, to showcase our pride in our hawker culture to the world.

Andrew Lee, Namly NC
Chairman

ERIC ANG, Chairman
GREENLEAF NC

CL MPEC Muhammad

Lester Yong
Chairman, Fawcett
Garden RC

Haim Tio Kiong
Chairman, Pine Grove NC

Soh Whye Wen
Chairman, UP CCC

Alec Chua
Chairman, CC YEC

B. Chong
Chairman, Ulu Pandan Community Club

Teck Yui
Chairman, CC C Committee

Joseph Chan
RC ZOWP
Chairman

Kiang Chuan Tay
Chairman, UP CCC TEEC

R. Kalaiselvan
Chairman, CC MPEC





28 November 2018

Attn: Ms Felicia Toh
Assistant Manager
Heritage Research and Assessment

National Heritage Board
61 Stamford Road
#03-08 Stamford Court
Singapore 178892

Letter of Support for the Nomination of Hawker Culture to UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

As the national institution that champions youth volunteerism to promote active citizenry, Youth Corps Singapore provides both breadth and depth of volunteering opportunities to cater to the diverse interests and commitment levels of the youths, focusing on the areas of social inclusion and sustainability. Beyond the service opportunities, the youths can participate in The Red Box programmes which allows them to connect with others to form a community, learn more about different causes and initiate ground up projects to address them. We are writing to express our support for Singapore's nomination of Hawker Culture to the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

As a community organisation, hawker centres are central to some of our efforts to engage different sectors of society. Many of our programmes incorporate the hawker centre experience, which is an integral part of our Singaporean identity, to better engage and connect the clients in our community service events. A prime example of this would be one of our youth-initiated project *Jiak Simi*, Hokkien for "what are we eating". Recognising that choosing what and where to eat is a luxury for some members of society, one of our Youth Corps Leaders spearheaded this initiative where volunteers in this project bring seniors from a nursing home out to eat their favourite dishes and local delicacies that they miss the most (Figure 1). Hawker centres are an ideal location for such community service events as people from all races and ages enjoy the affordable hawker fare and bond over their shared love for food. There is also strong resonance between the older generation to hawker culture and they often look forward to such outings.



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In another community service event, We Are Stronger Together, youth volunteers brought seniors for a walk around Kreta Ayer to visit various heritage sites, reminisce the past and learn how to age actively with exercise and healthy eating. Thereafter, youths brought seniors to Chinatown Complex Food Centre and Maxwell Food Centre to share with them healthy eating tips and enjoy local hawker food together.

Other programmes, such as YOLDEN (Physiotherapy), a regular Youth Corps volunteering event in which youth conduct physiotherapy related activities for seniors living in the Moral Home for the Aged Sick every Saturday, often end with a trip to the nearby hawker centre (Figures 2 & 3) where youth and seniors alike enjoy a delicious lunch together and the chance to develop closer intergenerational bonds.

Far from simply being another place to eat, hawker centres provide Singaporeans with a shared experience, one that is both multi-cultural and uniquely Singaporean. A visit to the hawker centres has become an integral part of Singaporean lives, from late-night suppers with friends, family meals on weekends, and times where they proudly bring relatives and friends from abroad to sample some of our delectable local dishes at wallet friendly prices. Youth Corps Singapore believes that our hawker culture has become a unique and familiar part of Singaporeans identity. We strongly support the nomination of Singapore's Hawker Culture to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Ong Kah Kuang
Executive Director
Youth Corps Singapore



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Appendix



Figure 1: A still from a video about *Jiak Simi*



Figure 2: Happy seniors and volunteers after a YOLDEN Physiotherapy session



Figure 3: A youth and senior interacting during the post-session meal