

## COMRADE OF LABOUR

### Derek Lua Soon Joo

Assistant General Secretary  
Union of Power and Gas Employees (UPAGE)

*Nominated by the Union of Power and Gas Employees.*

Since 2014, Derek Lua Soon Joo, PBM has played a role within the bonus, increment, and collective agreement negotiation team – advocating for reasonable wages and salary range improvements for staff. He has always done his utmost to ensure that the staff are rewarded adequately to manage the increased cost of living.

Additionally, he has been an alternate member of the Care and Share subcommittee of NTUC since 2021, and worked closely with the sub-committee lead throughout his tenure to administer and approve the applications.

In 2024, Brother Derek will be taking on the Care and Share lead at the Union of Power and Gas Employees (UPAGE). Prior to this, he was known for his assistance in organising Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities for the senior citizens activity centre and distributing care packs to low-income families.

He was previously the Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the UPAGE Education Grant Ceremony in 2018 and 2019. This yearly event involves 700 students receiving education grants from UPAGE. Furthermore, he was also a founding member of Young UPAGE and organised events such as bowling tournaments.

Regarding representation, Brother Derek has always readily rendered his services whenever members approached him for help. He has negotiated compensation packages for workers who cannot continue re-employment due to critical illness, and assisted to redesign the job scope of members placed on long-term light duties. He readily voices the concerns of members on various platforms. At the NTUC Ordinary Delegates Conference 2021, he requested that NTUC increase the age cap for the NTUC GIFT group insurance policy.

As the Company Training Committee lead for the City Energy Branch, Brother Derek was involved in charting the career progression pathway from Technician to Senior Principal Technical Officer. He is a ground ambassador for skills upgrading, constantly encouraging members to go for training to stay relevant. At the UPAGE level, he encourages and schedules leaders to attend the Ong Teng Cheong Labour Leadership Institute training and NTUC dialogues.