

#### N E W S F L A S H UNION OF TELECOMS EMPLOYEES OF SINGAPORE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2015

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Jage

Take a refresher and enjoy the following comic strips!



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#### FEEDBACK AND CONTRIBUTIONS

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# May Day Fiesta @ USS

n 1 May to 3 May 2015, about 35,000 union members had the opportunity to visit the Universal Studios Singapore for a great price at only \$10 per ticket. This is the very first collaboration between Labour Movement and Resorts World Sentosa to open the theme park exclusively for union members only. Applications for the tickets poured in from UTES members and a ballot had to be done, as there were limited tickets available to each union.

On the opening night, former NTUC Secretary-General Mr Lim Swee Say, Secretary-General Mr Chan Chun Sing and Deputy Secretary-General Mr Heng Chee How were among the labour leaders present at USS to celebrate with union members. Members enjoyed the thrilling rides, WaterWorld show, fireworks display and met up close with the USS characters.



Mr Lim Swee Say & Mr Chan Chun Sing showed support and penned their messages at the U Care Fund booth. (Photo Credits: NTUC)

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Latest ride in USS, the Puss in Boots Giant



Just outside the Madagascar's Crate Adventure Ride, characters from Madagascar greeted visitors for a photo



A scenic photo taken at the Far Far Away Palace of Shrek & Fiona, where visitors enjoyed the Shrek 4D Adventure film.

# **NTUC SG50 Promotions**

n conjunction with SG50, selected NTUC Membership Privileges including Dining deals, Attractions & Entertainment passes, Retail services and Hotel & Travel deals have been extended to 30 June 2015!

For more details, visit: http://www.powerofu.sg/powerofu/ntucmembership/index.html



# May Day Awards 2015

ay is a month full of activities and events for Singapore Labour Movement. The celebrations started on Labour Day on 1 May 2015 and followed by a three-day May Day Fiesta.

The May Day celebrations kicked off with the annual May Day Dinner, which was held at Orchid Country Club on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The event was graced by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance.

On every May Day Dinner, May Day Awards are bestowed on persons and companies that have made significant contributions to the Labour Movement. This year, a total of 96 award recipients received the prestigious May Day Awards and among them, Mr Thuvinder Singh, General Secretary of Union of Telecoms Employees of Singapore (UTES) and Ms Aileen Tan, Group Chief Human Resources Officer, Singtel.



Mr Thuvinder Singh receiving the Comrade of Labour Award from former NTUC Secretary General Mr Lim Swee Say.

We congratulate Mr Thuvinder for receiving the Comrade of Labour Award. He has put in a lot of effort and is very passionate on helping members but at the same time create a good rapport relations with the management. In an interview with Mr Thuvinder, he shares his journey from being a Branch Official in 2005, to being the Chairman of the Branch & elected into the Executive Council and at the same time held the position of Chairman of Young UTES.

In 2010, he was elected as UTES 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant General Secretary and moved his way up to being the General Secretary and re-elected again as General Secretary in 2014.

Looking back to 2005 when he first started out, Mr Thuvinder wanted to be the voice of the members, to help and be the bridge between members and the union. Known for his friendly personality and a positive outlook, he is definitely someone who you can comfortably talk to.

"Every day is a new learning experience," Mr Thuvinder quoted, that even with 10 years of vast experience in the Labour Movement, every case is unique and everything comes with practice. He shared one of his earlier achievements is when he successfully helped a member to secure his job again and he comes back gratefully with a big Thank You.

He holds strongly on his principle of 3 Ps; Passion, Proactive and Patience. Passion to serve members, being proactive to help members in need and patience in listening to members' issues. He also points out that knowledge is essential for someone to be a good union leader. Hence, he never stops learning and is still attending Industrial Relations courses to upgrade himself to better serve the members.



Ms Aileen Tan receiving the Medal of Commendation Awards from former NTUC Secretary General Mr Lim Swee Say. (Photo Credits: NTUC)

We would also like to congratulate Ms Aileen Tan, on being conferred the Medal of Commendation Awards. Since she assume office in 2008, Ms Tan has been supporting the Labour Movement initiatives and working closely with the union. As the Group Chief Human Resources Officer of Singtel, Ms Tan oversees the development of human resources across the Singtel Group, and also leads the Group's corporate sustainability function.

Ms Tan has been strongly supporting initiatives by the Labour Movement and encourages staff skills upgrading to ensure they are keeping up with the industry changes. For the mature workers, she supported UTES' proposal for the re-employed staff to retain their medical benefits and coverage so that there is no difference for pre- and post-re-employment. We are also happy to know that she has joined us a member, thus enhancing the good labour-management relations.



UTES Councilors, Management along with Mr Heng Chee How and Mr Chan Chun Sing were present to congratulate Mr Thuvinder Singh and Ms Aileen Tan on their awards. (Photo Credits: NTUC)



Smiling for a photo with Mr John De Pavya. (Photo Credits: NTUC)

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## May Day Model Partnership Awards 2015

he May Day celebrations continued with the May Day Model Partnership Awards whereby a total of 106 awardees as well as their partners took centre stage. The awardees received the Awards from NTUC President Diana Chia and Guest-of-Honour NTUC Secretary-General Chan Chun Sing. It was held at the Devan Nair Institute for Employment and Employability.

The May Day Model Partnership Awards aim to honour and recognise workers, employers, unions and Government agencies, who together, have turned strategy into action. Through partnership, our workers are able to upgrade and upskill; and companies are able to value and invest in their workers to create a future-ready workforce – one which is adaptable and inclusive.

The awards covers 3 categories, Worker Category, HR / Supervisor Category and Management Category. In the Management Category, 44 model companies were recognized for their outstanding efforts to enable our workers to upgrade and upskill, uplift productivity and enhance competitiveness.



Ms Yong Lee Lee (centre) with 1<sup>st</sup> AGS Mr Idris, GS Mr Thuvinder, General Treasurer Mr Benjamin and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mr Rahmad.

This year, both Singapore Post Pte Ltd and Union of Telecoms Employees of Singapore were conferred a trophy for the NTUC May Day Model Partnership Awards 2015 under the Management/Partner Category.

An additional award was also conferred to Ms Yong Lee Lee, Vice President, Industrial Relations & Compliance, Group People Operations & Development, Singapore Post Pte Ltd under the HR/Supervisory Category. She was awarded with a trophy and attended a 4D3N Incentive and Learning Trip to Hong Kong from 6 to 9 June 2015.

# **Enhanced Benefit for NTUC Gift**

WWW ith effect from 1 May 2015 (i.e. start of a new policy year), the NTUC GIFT (Group Insurance For Trade union members) has been enhanced to provide a higher payout benefits of up to \$40,000. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. More details on NTUC GIFT can be found in the NEW NTUC GIFT Brochure here.

| Benefits  | < 10 years<br>continuous<br>membership | ≥ 10 years<br>continuous<br>membership  |
|---|--|---|
| Death/Total & Permanent<br>Disability (TPD) due to<br>natural causes or accident<br><u>during</u> working hours | \$ <del>4,500</del><br><b>\$6,000</b>  | \$5,500<br><b>\$7,500</b>               |
| Death/TPD due to accident<br>outside working hours  | \$20,000                               | \$30,000<br><b>\$40,000</b>             |
| Death/TPD of member's<br>spouse* due to all causes<br>*age of spouse subject to same<br>eligibility as member   | \$250<br><b>\$500</b>                  | <sup>\$500</sup><br><b>\$1,000</b>      |
| Permanent & Partial<br>Disability (PPD) due to<br>accident <u>outside</u> working<br>hours                      | \$ <del>7,750</del><br><b>\$10,000</b> | \$ <del>12,250</del><br><b>\$20,000</b> |

Please note: the higher payouts is applicable for death / permanent disability that occurred from 1 May 2015 onwards.

## Mr Oscar Oliverio on Union Leadership



Mr Oscar Oliverio (Photo Credits: NTUC) n the spirit of honouring the pioneer generation, the Labour Movement Annual this year featured some of our longest serving union leaders.
 One of them is Mr Oscar Oliverio.

To the veterans in the Labour Movement, Mr Oscar Oliverio is a familiar face. He was former President of UTES from 1982 to 1995 and NTUC President from 1986 to 1997. Mr Oliverio was featured in the Labour Movement Annual 2015 on his union leadership.

During his days, he actively tried to influence for other unions to join the NTUC in 1961. He also rallied the ground for policy changes in the wage system.

I would like to thank NTUC for the recognition and I owe it to the union leaders during my time for their dedication and support to the union movement. I wish the present leadership well as they continue to be relevant to the needs of the workers in whatever they do. NTUC is on the right track with its new leadership renewal plans and I wish they continue to grow and reach greater heights in their **JJ** trade union achievements.

## Share a Heart

airPrice Foundation invites members to pen your heartfelt messages as a way to encourage the U Care Beneficiaries. For every penned message, FairPrice Foundation will donate \$50 to NTUC-U Care Fund! FairPrice Foundation aim to raise \$2.6 million through this campaign. Members can head to FairPrice Xtra stores at Nex, AMK Hub, Changi Business Park, Jurong Point and Kallang Wave Mall from now till 30 June.



(Photo Credits: NTUC)

# U Care Back to School & U-Stretch Vouchers for 2015



NTUC Care and Share's joint application exercise for <u>U-Stretch Vouchers and Back to</u> <u>School Vouchers for 2015</u> is now open for application. The U Stretch and U Care Back to School (BTS) Vouchers are assistance programmes of the NTUC-U Care Fund, a registered charity and Institution of a Public Character (IPC).

The **U Stretch Voucher Programme** aims to assist low-income union members to defray the cost of daily necessities.

The **U Care Back to School Voucher Programme** aims to assist low-income union members to defray the cost of their children's school expenses for the new school year.

Value of Vouchers awarded to successful applications

|   | U-stretch Vouchers  | Back to School Vouchers  |
|---|---|--|
| Members <u>WITHOUT</u><br>Dependents staying in<br>the same household in<br>Singapore | <b>\$50</b> worth of U Stretch Vouchers per successful application        | Not applicable   |
| Members <u>WITH</u><br>Dependents staying in<br>the same household in<br>Singapore    | <b>\$100</b> worth of U Stretch<br>Vouchers per successful<br>application | <b>\$125</b> worth of Back to<br>School Vouchers for each<br>eligible school-going child.<br>(limit to one booklet per<br>eligible child per family) |

### Criteria for application:

- 1. Member must have at least 6 months of continuous paid-up union membership as of July 2015 and must not be in arrears.
- 2. Application is open from 15 June 2015 to 15 July 2015
- 3. Income criteria as stated in table below.

|   | U-Stretch Vouchers   | Back to School Vouchers  |
|---|--|--|
| Members <u>WITHOUT</u><br>Dependents staying in<br>the same household in<br>Singapore | Monthly * <u>Gross Personal</u><br>Income⁺ of \$1,450 and<br>below.  | Not applicable   |
| Members <u>WITH</u><br>Dependents staying in<br>the same household in<br>Singapore    | Total Monthly * <u>Gross</u><br><u>Household</u> Income of<br>\$3000 and below<br>inclusive of overtime and<br>allowances;<br><b>OR</b> Per Capita Income of<br>\$750 and below if gross<br>household income | Total Monthly * <u>Gross Household</u><br>Income of \$3000 and below<br>inclusive of overtime and<br>allowances;<br><b>OR</b> Per Capita Income of \$750 and<br>below if gross household income<br>exceeds \$3000. |



|                      | exceeds \$3000.  |   |
|----------------------|--|---|
|                      | If Member is Employed:   |   |
| Supporting documents | <ul> <li>If Member is Employed:</li> <li>Photocopy of recent payslip (dated year 2015)<br/>Inclusive of overtime and allowances. <i>If pay includes irregular</i><br/><i>overtime/allowances, please provide last 3 months' payslips to</i><br/><i>derive average monthly pay.</i></li> <li>OR</li> <li>CPF Statement (showing contribution history for the past 3<br/>months)</li> <li>If Member is Self-Employed, Part-Timer :</li> <li>CPF Statement (showing contribution history for the past 3<br/>months). If no CPF account, a written letter from CPF board<br/>is required</li> <li>OR</li> <li>Notice of Assessment from IRAS (Year of Assessment<br/>2014).</li> <li>If Member is Unemployed:</li> <li>CPF Statement (showing contribution history for the past 3<br/>months). If no CPF account, a written letter from CPF board<br/>is required</li> </ul> |   |
|                      | <ul> <li>AND</li> <li>Photocopy of Spouse's payslip or CPF Statement (showing contribution history for the past 3 months) <u>if Member is Married</u></li> </ul>   |   |
|                      | Not applicable   | <ul> <li><u>If applying for BTS Vouchers</u>:</li> <li>Photocopy of Child/Children's<br/>Birth Certificate(s)</li> <li>For foreign birth certificate(s),<br/>please submit Certificate of<br/>Singapore Citizenship / Re-entry</li> </ul> |

|  | Permit <u>AND</u> Student Pass.      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
|  | Note:                                |
|  | If the child's birth certificate has |
|  | been previously submitted for Back   |
|  | to School Voucher Programme in       |
|  | 2012 or later, you need not submit   |
|  | the birth certificates again.        |
|  |                                      |

## **Note**: \*Gross income is defined as <u>all income</u> derived from employment/business. Inclusive of overtime and allowances.

- 4. Applicant may be asked to submit other documents in addition to the above, if necessary, for audit purpose.
- 5. One set of income documents is sufficient for joint applications of U-stretch and BTS.
- For Back to school Vouchers : Member's child/children must be studying in Singapore in Year <u>2016</u>, either in Kindergarten 1 or 2; Government/Government-Aided/Independent Schools (Primary or Secondary) under MOE; Junior Colleges; Institute of Technical Education; Millennia Institute; Polytechnics or MOEregistered Special Education Schools.
- 7. For Back to school Vouchers : Graduating students (e.g. final year junior college students) who will not be attending schools in Year 2016 will not be eligible for the Back to School Vouchers.
- Successful applicants will be notified of voucher collection from mid November 2015 onwards.

### **Submission**

Members can either submit a hardcopy form to the union or apply online;

**1. Online application:** Union members are encouraged to submit their online application via the U Care System <a href="https://www.ntuc.org.sg/ucare/apply">www.ntuc.org.sg/ucare/apply</a> .

### 2. Hardcopy form application (Please refer to <u>www.utes.org.sg</u> for forms)

All applications must reach UTES HQ before the closing date; 15 July 2015.

a) Applications can be mailed to the below address:

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# ATTN: MEMBERSHIP DEPT UCare Program 2014 (USV/BTS) UNION OF TELECOMS EMPLOYEE OF SINGAPORE 15 HILL STREET, TELEPHONE HOUSE COMPLEX II 3RD STOREY, S(179352)

b) Signed copies of the applications can be faxed to <u>63396040\*</u>. Alternatively a signed and scanned copy of the application can be forwarded to us at <u>membership@utes.org.sg</u>.

Kindly take note that in accordance with the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA), coming into effect from 2 July 2014, the applicant is required to give consent for the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Data under the "Declaration by Applicant" section of the form.

#### Optional:

For members who have not applied for Family Recreation & Fun Carnival 2015 previously and wish to do so, please contact the membership department for the application form.

For further enquiries on the voucher programs, please contact the Membership Department at 63371122 or email to <a href="mailto:membership@utes.org.sg">membership@utes.org.sg</a>

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| Type of Membership Benefit    | <u>1st Quarter 2015 (\$)</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Benevolent Grant              | 2,100.00                     |
| Get Well Hamper               | 2,160.00                     |
| Hospitalisation Reimbursement | 8,190.00                     |
| Medical Assistance Scheme     | 8,000.00                     |
| NTUC Gift                     | 18,500.00                    |
| SLF Hardship Grant            | 6,000.00                     |
| Total                         | 44,950.00                    |

# **UTES Benefits Summary**

# **Upcoming Events Calendar 2015**

Lookout for our email broadcasts & UTES website for more details of these exciting events lined up just for you!



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## **UTES PERKS & PROMOTIONS**

#### NOTICE:

TES Chalet at Downtown East will be temporarily unavailable for bookings from 1 April 2015 till further notice due to upgrading works.

Do lookout for our updates in email broadcasts and our website on the new exciting Chalet Rates with a brand new look!

## YOUNG UTES EVENT



Come join Young UTES for a splashing good fun and learn a new skill of surfing!

At a great rate of just \$10 per member, it is definitely an activity not to be missed!

Event will be held at Wave House Sentosa, Siloso Beach.

To signup, go to our website at www.utes.org.sg for the registration form.

We look forward to see you there!

UTES Portal - Surf's Up With Young UTES!

# NTUC U FAMILY EVENTS

# Ninja Turtles Dojo Experience @ Downtown East

This June holidays, head on down to Downtown East for an exciting experience with Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles!

Loads of activities are lined up to keep your children entertained. Click to find out more!



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# **Future Leaders Summit 2015**



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## ttend the Future Leaders Summit 2015 to

acquire indispensable tips, tricks and tools from our distinguished line-up of industry frontrunners, achievers and technological influencers to become a Leader in your own right, through **Future** Ready skillsets. Three tracks will be featured as guidance pillars for Future Skilling:

- Industry Leaders to provide blueprints of excellence and bridges to success
- Technology to trendspot and innovate business value
- Inspiration to invoke discovery for self-mastery

Your attendance at the Summit will provide you with:

- Access to a passionate community of knowledgeable professionals

- Endless opportunities to network, share your growth and career development stories, mingle and even encounter your next employment prospect

- An exclusive chance to attend a power networking lunch with renowned industry leaders (selected participants)

- Personal and authentic stories of resilience, and practical advice from mentor-worthy individuals providing blueprints of excellence, to stimulate your stride to personal career and growth

Our notable list of speakers includes, but is not limited, to the following:

 Adam Khoo, Executive Chairman and Chief Master Trainer of Adam Khoo Learning Technologies Group Private Limited



- Arthur Lang, Group Chief Financial Officer of CapitaLand Limited
- **Chan Chun Sing**, Secretary-General of National Trades Union Congress a Minister for Social and Family Development (Host)
- Chua Sock Koong, Group CEO of Singapore Telecommunications Limited
- Darius Cheung, CEO of 99.co
- Liak Teng Lit, Group CEO of Alexandra Health System
- Mildred Tan, Managing Director of Ernst & Young Advisory Private Limited
- Olivier Legrand, Head of Marketing Solutions, Asia Pacific & Japan at LinkedIn Piyush Gupta, Group CEO of DBS
- Robert Gilby, Managing Director of The Walt Disney Company Southeast Asia
- Roger Chang, CEO of Pirate3D
- Saiyidah Aisyah, First Rowing Individual Gold Medallist at Southeast Asian Games
- Samuel Seow, Celebrity Lawyer
- Stephen Hamill, Managing Director of Adobe Southeast Asia
- **Tan Lai Yong**, Director for Outreach and Community Engagement at the College of Alice & Peter Tan, National University of Singapore

#### Click here to register now!