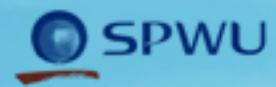


THE SINGAPORE
Portworker

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A Newsletter of the Singapore Port Workers Union



HIGHLIGHTS

**UNION ENGAGEMENTS
AT DORMITORIES**
pg 2

**MAY DAY AWARD
RECIPIENTS**
pg 5

**UNION ASSISTANCE
SCHEMES**
pg 6

Union Engagements at Dormitories

GROUND VISIT TO MEMBERS BEFORE CIRCUIT BREAKER

When COVID-19 was first detected in Singapore earlier this year, key union officials and management partners came together to visit the port terminals to distribute advisories, to raise awareness of the preventive measures against Covid-19 to its workers.



Explaining to workers how to protect ourselves and others at work

VISITING THE DORMITORIES

Our union officials visited the dormitories to encourage the foreign workers and to hear their feedback and concerns. We visited our Malaysian workers who had chosen to stay in Singapore when the MCO (Movement Control Order) was implemented on 18 March. The workers appreciated the accommodation arranged by PSA for them recognized the workers' dedication to remain working in Singapore despite the uncertainties.



Visiting our Malaysian members staying in the PSA dormitories during the MCO.

We took part in Residents' Day, a 4-day event jointly organized by PSA and SPWU, in appreciation to our foreign workers, staying in the dormitories. Our union representatives volunteer distributed ice-cream and buns to thank the workers for their hard work during this period.



VOLUNTEERING AT THE DORMITORIES

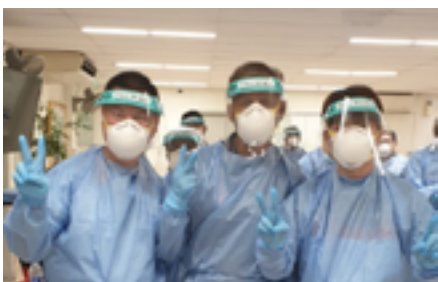
Our union leaders stepped up and volunteered to help the task force for dormitories set up to tackle the Covid outbreak*.



Daily briefing to helpers



Daily food distribution



Assisting in registration for swab test

We asked two of our Exco volunteers to share their experiences.

“ It has been a good experience to help out at the dormitory. I am glad to be able to help out our fellow brothers and colleagues during this pandemic, able to lend a listening ear for them too... it is a challenging time of course as we need to get their food ready before their shift, and not forgetting need to arrange swab test for them. — **Bernard Lean** ”

“ My duty is to ensure they follow the Safe Distancing measures, wear the face mask whenever they are out of their rooms and avoid mingling around with staff from other blocks. I have to make sure that the required staff come down to the canteen in time for their swab test and to serve their lunch and dinner packets according to blocks and room. At certain point I also try to take on the role of a brother to them to hear their worries, stress and needs. In addition, I'll extend my advice and help, like buy groceries for them from market in Little India. — **Haja Maidin** ”

SEAFARERS CAREPACK DISTRIBUTION BY NTUC MARITIME CLUSTER

Together with friends from the Mission of Seafarers Singapore (MTSS) and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), the NTUC Maritime Cluster, led a team from SPWU, SMOU and SOS to reach out to seafarers, many of whom faced with an unexpected situation like the COVID-19 pandemic, have been affected by border closures and lockdowns. This was facilitated by our management partner, PSA Singapore.

The team distributed Care Packs to about 20 ships reaching out to 400 seafarers, to encourage them as the pandemic has been a challenging time for many of them.



EBIS/PI PSA NEGOTIATION 2020

Despite the economic uncertainty, SPWU was able to conclude the annual bonus (EBIS/PI) with PSA and PSA Marine earlier this year for a fair payout for members, to reward them for their hard work and contributions in 2019.



NTUC May Day Award Recipients

The NTUC May Day award ceremony was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, SPWU would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brother Phua Tiong Koon and Brother Peter Chew for receiving Comrade of Labour Award and Medal of Commendation Award respectively.



BROTHER PETER CHEW is the Managing Director of PSA Marine Pte Ltd. He is a firm believer in the Progressive Wage Model and advocates for lifelong learning and professional development among employees. Throughout his years of service in PSAM, Brother Peter has played a pivotal role in establishing a harmonious and strong relationship with SPWU with a view to work together to increase workforce productivity.

In 2019, Brother Peter led the PSAM management team to sign the Memorandum of Agreement with SPWU for the formation of Company Training Committee, signifying PSAM's commitment to partner SPWU towards building a stronger and future-ready workforce.

Under Brother Peter's leadership, PSAM has achieved the Human Capital Pwartner accolade, a testament of progressive employment practices and initiatives rolled out in the company.

Thank you, Brother Peter!



BROTHER PHUA TIONG KOON is the 2nd Assistant General Treasurer of the Singapore Port Workers' Union (SPWU). Besides being in the Executive Committee, he holds multiple positions in the Sub-committees. These include the SPWU Industrial Relations Committee, SPWU Finance Committee and Alternate Member in the NTUC IR Service Sector. He is also the Secretary of the SPWU's Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) Committee and represents the union in the quarterly Port of Singapore Authority (PSA) HSE meetings with management partners to discuss safety-related issues and initiatives at the workplace.

Over the years, he provides valuable and timely feedback from the ground, especially when it comes to issues such as bonuses and incentives for the members. He also proactively works with key leaders to resolve issues raised by members. He constantly engages the management partners on the feedback of workers' safety on the ground and communicates company HSE policies to members.

Most recently, he volunteered to be part of the dormitories task force at his workplace to provide assistance to the foreign workers living in the respective dormitories. Geared in full PPE, he voluntarily took on the role as a safety ambassador to share useful and important messages to those staying inside the dormitories. Some of these messages include safe distancing practices and the proper usage of mask.

We are so proud of you, Brother Phua!



Union Assistance Schemes

Have you applied for our SPWU-TFC Grants? Hear from our recipients!

“

With the Skills Upgrading Grant I was provided, SPWU have lightened my financial burden and given me the ability to focus on my coursework. Given the grant, I can worry less about day to day expenses and do not have to penny pinch my way through the month, especially when it was time to pay the course fees. — **Member Tan Li Xuan, recipient of SPWU-TFC Skill Upgrading and Leadership Development Scheme**

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“Appreciate the financial assistance from SPWU-TFC special family support scheme. Due to my wife condition, she requires long term medical treatment and purchasing of home medical equipment. Her hospital and treatment bills are already my concern not including the medical equipment she requires at home. The sum comes in handy to pay part of her bills which reduce my financial burden...” — **Member Bryan Li, recipient of SPWU-TFC Special Family Support Scheme**

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“The scheme is very useful... with this amount of cash it will help to lessen the family financial...(and) help me in terms of buying essential item for my younger daughter and also to get a new suction machine for her... I would definitely recommend this scheme to members who need a financial assistance. I have also recommended few friends for this scheme last year which help him for his father medical bills.” — **Member Taufan Bin Rayis Mochamad, recipient of SPWU-TFC Special Family Support Scheme**

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WHAT ARE THE GRANTS AVAILABLE AND HOW DO I APPLY?



ACHIEVERS AWARD

To reward members' children who have excelled in their academic performance.



YOUNG SEEDLING AWARD

To reward members' children who have achieved 65% and above pass grade in their academic results.



FSW-SPWU AWARD

To accord recognition to members' children who are well-rounded students.



TFC SPWU SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SCHEME

To provide a source of financial relief for members who require the purchasing of medical aid equipment.



TFC SPWU SPECIAL FAMILY SUPPORT SCHEME

To members who suffer any loss of income due to hardship or have any special needs/disabled family members living in the same household.



TFC SPWU SKILL UPGRADE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

To provide training support for members in the port industries.



SPWU HOSPITALIZATION GRANT

To defray the cash outlay paid by members for their hospitalization bills incurred at Government Hospitals.

Our schemes are now open! For more information, visit our website www.spwu.org.sg or call **62216338**.

*FSW - Fock Siew Wah, TFC - Temasek Foundation Cares

Towards Digital Literacy

The recent pandemic had caused unprecedented changes to our personal and work lives. New technologies that accelerated had created opportunities for new ways of communicating. At PSA and SPWU, we aim to strengthen our port workers' digital quotient, alleviate their discomfort with technologies and ensure a smooth transition from using conventional platforms to online platforms.

To achieve this, PSA HR and our Union Delegates members came together to conduct training sessions for our union delegates on using communication and collaboration tools. At the sessions, the delegates learnt about core functions to communicate, which include customizing profile, scheduling and joining meetings, and communicating by raising hands or messaging. Some even learnt to share presentation materials virtually.

Although it was a first time exploring such communication tools, many of the delegates were able to independently use the basic functions at the end of the one-hour session. Having equipped with this knowledge, our leaders will be more confident to participate in online meetings and communicate more effectively with their members going forward.

For those of you out there, join us and start your Digitalization Journey today!



“ I find it very educational and enlightening as the app can be used to reach out to large number of members to share videos and documents at meetings. **Knowledge shared is power multiplied!** ”

Ryan Erwin Bin Mawi, SPWU Delegate



“ Useful, convenient and not complicated! ”

Jeff Tan, SPWU Exco



“ The Covid-19 pandemic has changed many things like travels, gathering and meetings. But with such communications and collaboration tool, we can continue to function and conduct virtual meetings with our department and union members. **I would definitely recommend everyone to come onboard!** ”

Raghavan Ravichandran, SPWU Delegate



“ This is a new platform for us to communicate with each other through virtual meetings. I can explore and understand its features. Join me and take this as an opportunity to be **alongside PSA and SPWU in the journey towards digitalization!** ”

Haja Maidin B A P Peer Mohamed, SPWU Delegate