

EMBARGOED till 1.30pm, 23 August 2012

Woodgrove Secondary School clinches CDL Outstanding Singapore Environmental Achievement Award

First school to win in SEAA's 15-year-history, Woodgrove pledges to groom more student Ambassadors for the environment

Singapore, 23 August 2012 – Woodgrove Secondary School was today named as the winner of the City Developments Limited (CDL) Outstanding Singapore Environmental Achievement Award by the Singapore Environment Council (SEC). The school picked up two firsts – it became the first school in the history of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Award's (SEAA) 15-year-history to win an award and it also became the first winner of the Outstanding award, a new category which was introduced for the SEAA 2012 by the SEC. The awards were presented by Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel today.

Mr Jose Raymond, Executive Director of the SEC said: "Woodgrove Secondary School was the overwhelming favourite among the judges because of its concerted and sustained efforts at promoting environmental ownership and inculcating sound values of care for the environment and responsibility. This helps their students acquire green habits at a young age, thereby moulding them into pragmatic environmental warriors for the future."

"We are thrilled to receive the two awards - success definitely did not come easy. There were various challenges that Woodgrove had to overcome in the initial years of our environmental journey – seeking out the best opportunities for students to gain exposure on environmental issues that are meaningful and sustainable, being resourceful in acquiring funding for programmes and projects as well balancing environmental programmes with the demand on curriculum time," said Madam Sung Mee Har, Principal of Woodgrove Secondary School.

Woodgrove Secondary School been recognised on quite a few occasions over the last few years by various organisations. The school has achieved the Sustained Achievement (Lotus) Awards for the SEC's Schools' Green Audit Awards since 2007 and the PUB Watermark Award in 2010. The school was also a proud recipient of the President's Award for the Environment in 2011. It received the Ministry of Education's Niche Status in Environmental Education in 2012.

Unlike most corporate organisations, Woodgrove Secondary School's mission lies in moulding the minds of the young, shaping the character, igniting passion and promoting innovation. The school also "hopes to rally more schools and inspire more educators to join in the journey of making environmental education viable and possible in schools to ensure that Singapore has passionate and dedicated citizens in the future who are aware of environmental issues and concerns within Singapore and beyond".

Moving forward, Woodgrove Secondary School will continue to extend its collaboration with partners so as to groom its students as Ambassadors for the Environment. "The school will also continuously review and improve on curricular resources to make Environmental Education more relevant for youths", added Madam Sung.

The SEAA was launched in 1997 by Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, Singapore's former Minister for the Environment. The award, presented by the Singapore Environment Council, aims to inspire Singapore-based and regional organisations to become more committed to environmental and social responsibilities.

The SEAA 2012 – which opened for applications on 7 March 2012 and closed on 9 April 2012 – included three new awards; a new regional category for countries in the ASEAN region, the re-introduction of the Public Sector category and the establishment of an Outstanding Award category.

The winners for the other five categories for the SEAA 2012 are as follows.

- **Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Manufacturing)**
 - Winner: Asia Pacific Breweries Singapore
 - Merit Winner: Komatsu Asia & Pacific
- **Nissan Leaf Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Services)**
 - Joint Winners: IBM Singapore and Sea Hounds
- **Lee Foundation Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Public Sector)**
 - Winner: Woodgrove Secondary School
- **Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Regional)**
 - Winner: YTL Corporation Bhd.
 - Merit Winner: PT Beton Elemenindo Putra
- **SEC-Senoko Energy Green Innovation Award**
 - Winner: Hydroemission Corporation Pte Ltd

*****END OF MEDIA RELEASE*****

NOTES TO THE EDITOR



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ABOUT THE SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The SEAA was launched in 1997 by Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, Singapore's former Minister for the Environment. Presented by the Singapore Environment Council, the SEAA aims to inspire Singapore-based organisations to become more committed to environmental and social responsibilities. It is the only local award that addresses overall environmental initiatives and awareness within an organisation. The criteria for the Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards focuses on assessing the leadership displayed by the company, the real environmental improvement made as well as the ability of an organisation to establish procedures, train staff and innovate in order to achieve breakthroughs in environmental performance. For more information, please click on the following link <http://www.seaa.sg/>.



Singapore
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Council

ABOUT THE SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL

Established in 1995, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) is an independently managed, non-government organisation that nurtures, facilitates and co-ordinates environmental causes in Singapore. SEC's work is founded on three pillars of action – Firstly, partnership with the people, private and public sectors of Singaporean society, to nurture a culture aligned with sustainable development concepts. Secondly, SEC rewards environmental excellence through awards schemes and product endorsement programmes, such as the Singapore Green Labelling Scheme. Thirdly, the SEC collaborates with partners to develop and implement training and learning programmes to build competencies in environmental sustainability within companies, thus keeping our business leaders ahead of the curve. Visit our website at www.sec.org.sg.

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