MINISTRY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY
AND YOUTH'S RESPONSE TO
"OUR SYMBOLS, OUR SPIRIT,
OUR SINGAPORE" BY THE
CITIZENS' WORKGROUP ON
NATIONAL SYMBOLS





CONTENTS

YOUTH & SECOND MINISTER FOR CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND	3
REVIEWING THE NATIONAL SYMBOLS' REGULATORY FRAMEWORK	4
CITIZENS' WORKGROUP FOR NATIONAL SYMBOLS	6
RESPONSE TO CITIZENS' WORKGROUP'S REPORT	8
Creating Meaningful Dialogues on the Symbols	9
Active Engagement with the Symbols	П
Making the Symbols part of our Everyday Experiences	13
Respecting and Protecting the Symbols	15
Encourage greater use of Symbols	17
NEXT STEPS	18
CONCLUSION	19

ANNEX: COMPOSITION OF WORKGROUP





I Foreword

Every country has National Symbols that its people hold dear. These Symbols are central to how they express their identity, as their very appearance can stir up strong feelings of national pride and solidarity. Our National Symbols represent the values we believe in and reflect our aspirations for Singapore. In January 2021, MCCY convened the Citizens' Workgroup for National Symbols to answer two central questions – "What do our National Symbols mean to Singaporeans?" and "How can we better use our Symbols to strengthen their meaning for Singaporeans while guarding against misuse?"



In July 2021, the Workgroup released its report entitled "Our Symbols, Our Spirit, Our Singapore" after several months of deliberation. The report expresses the Workgroup's shared aspirations on how they wish to cultivate greater connection with our Symbols and encourage respectful use. It also reflects the commitment of the Workgroup members, who participated in Workgroup discussions, engaged other groups of Singaporeans and conducted their own research to develop their recommendations in spite of the disruptions brought about by COVID-19. I thank the Workgroup for their efforts to bring a fresh perspective to how we appreciate our Symbols.

The Workgroup has rightly recognised the importance of public education and engagement for our Symbols. As they pointed out in their report, there is room for more intentional efforts to feature the Symbols and their meanings in key national milestones as well as everyday life. The Workgroup also recommended that these efforts be accompanied by clearer regulations and better public education on respectful use. As MCCY refreshes our governance of the Symbols, these recommendations provide valuable insights into how Singaporeans can connect with and safeguard our Symbols.

This document sets out MCCY's formal response to the Workgroup's recommendations on the review of the rules governing the use of our Symbols, as well as a renewed approach towards public education on, and engagement with, the Symbols.

I hope the National Symbols will continue to resonate with present and future generations of Singaporeans and all who call Singapore home.

MR EDWIN TONG
MINISTER FOR CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH
& SECOND MINISTER FOR LAW





2 Reviewing the National Symbols' Regulatory Framework



Our first National Symbols – the National Flag, National Anthem and State Crest – were introduced on 3 December 1959, at the same ceremony that inaugurated our first head of state, Yusof bin Ishak. It marked the first time Singapore had official National Symbols to call our own, embodying our aspirations towards self-determination and sovereignty. The Symbols also served to unite our people, who hailed from different backgrounds, races and religions.

Shortly after the introduction of the Symbols, the Legislative Assembly passed legislation governing the use of the Symbols. The legislation was intended to protect the dignity of the Symbols and ensure that they are always treated with respect. Over the years, the Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem (SAFNA) Act and Rules have undergone several reviews to give Singaporeans greater scope to express their national pride and identity through the



Symbols, while guarding against misuse. The current version of the SAFNA Act and Rules is available at www.go.gov.sg/safnaact.

Today, our Symbols continue to play an important role in rallying Singaporeans from all walks of life, connecting us to Singapore and to each other. The current review of the regulatory







framework considers how Singaporeans today feel the Symbols should be treated. It is an opportunity to look back on what the Symbols have meant to past generations and what they represent for Singaporeans today and tomorrow.

A crucial part of this review process has been MCCY's partnership with citizens through the Citizens' Workgroup on National Symbols, which deliberated on how our approach to the Symbols should be refreshed. The Workgroup's recommendations will inform the legislative review and improvements to non-legislative measures on respectful use of the Symbols (e.g. usage guidelines and public education).





3 Citizens' Workgroup for National Symbols



In December 2020, MCCY made an open call for Singaporeans to join the Citizens' Workgroup for National Symbols. The aim of the Workgroup was to review the legislation and guidelines governing the use of the National Flag, National Anthem and other symbols that represent Singapore, as shown below:







The Workgroup, comprising 47 Singaporeans from diverse backgrounds¹, convened its first session on 30 January 2021. In the following months, the Workgroup members met over six sessions to discuss, deliberate and build consensus on the use of the Symbols. It was a fully digital journey for the Workgroup members with sessions held virtually via Zoom. They spent many more hours of their own time between sessions to have in-depth group discussions and conduct further research into their topic.

The Workgroup members were provided with background information on the Symbols and the legislative process. Facilitators supported them in generating and refining ideas, as well as finding common ground when there were differing views. The Workgroup members organised themselves into six groups to delve into the significance of the Symbols and develop recommendations on their use. They also explored the idea of having new symbols.

As part of their deliberations, the Workgroup members also designed a public survey in March 2021 to gather views from the wider public. Nearly 1,500 members of the public responded to the survey. Additionally, members conducted their own field research, including focus group discussions and interviews with their personal networks, to better understand how Singaporeans use and feel about the Symbols.

Building on this research and extensive deliberation among members, the Workgroup submitted its recommendations to MCCY in a report covering I) the history of the National Symbols; 2) what the National Symbols mean to the present generation of Singaporeans; and 3) recommendations for the future of the National Symbols.

Their full report, titled "Our Symbols, Our Spirit, Our Singapore", can be read at www.go.gov.sg/cwns (QR code appended below).



¹ See <u>Annex</u> for greater details on Workgroup composition.







4 Response to Citizens' Workgroup's Report

The Workgroup found that Singaporeans generally have a strong sense of pride when they view or interact with our National Symbols, and Singaporeans feel strongly that the Symbols should be treated with respect and dignity.

However, their findings also revealed that regulations could be clearer so that people would feel comfortable using the Symbols without having to worry about unintentionally breaking a rule. The Workgroup emphasised that, beyond passive learning about the Symbols, active citizen usage of the Symbols was important to build shared experiences and deepen appreciation of the values they represent. They noted that such experiences could be made more accessible to diverse communities, such as those with special needs. Most of all, there should be greater room for people to build their own personal connections with the Symbols, so that Singaporeans feel that the Symbols belong to all of them, and not just to the state.

The Workgroup's report outlined two broad sets of recommendations on promoting use of the National Symbols. The first set of recommendations focused on strengthening citizens' affinity with the Symbols and enhancing the Symbols' significance, particularly for the younger generation. The recommendations were grouped into categories of "Spark lively dialogues", "Reimagine shared experience" and "Enhance prominence in the everyday". These three categories called for more opportunities for:

- 1) Meaningful dialogues about the significance of the Symbols,
- 2) Active citizen engagement with Symbols, and
- 3) Prominence of Symbols in everyday experiences, to serve as a reminder of the national values they represent and our commitment to them.

The second set of recommendations focused on encouraging greater use while respecting and protecting the Symbols. They called for allowing "creative and responsible use" to encourage greater ownership and affinity with the Symbols.

The following pages set out MCCY's response to the Workgroup's report, particularly on how we will act on the proposals in partnership with Singaporeans for current and future initiatives. In responding to the recommendations by the Workgroup (on the right of each page), MCCY has also taken into account public feedback we received through engagements with various communities² who brought their own distinct perspectives on the meaning and use of the Symbols.

² MCCY conducted targeted engagements with Overseas Singaporeans, Full-time National Servicemen, and individuals from the arts and design communities in June 2021. These discussions dealt with similar questions posed to the Workgroup, adapted to each group's experience with the Symbols. MCCY also worked with MOE to poll secondary school students regarding their perceptions on use of the Symbols in February 2021.







Creating Meaningful Dialogues on the **Symbols**

Under "Spark lively dialogues", the Workgroup members championed more spaces and opportunities for Singaporeans to deliberate and reflect on the Symbols. MCCY agrees that regular conversations about the Symbols, whether with students, working adults or others, are important and help deepen their meanings for Singaporeans. We acknowledge that there is a need to involve different segments of the community in these dialogues, and to celebrate Singapore icons beyond the formal symbols. Here are the ways we intend to achieve these:

- A. Promote greater appreciation of Symbols among the younger generation. The history and meaning of National Symbols are covered comprehensively in the curricula of MOE primary and secondary schools. In Character and Citizenship Education (CCE), History, and Social Studies (SS), students learn about the Symbols and explore how common practices such as singing the National Anthem and reciting the National Pledge can help to develop one's sense of belonging and national identity. Through inquiry and classroom discussions, students are also guided to explore how the ideals and values espoused in the Symbols have been applied at the personal, community and national levels. The revised CCE, History and SS curricula will continue to focus on developing students' appreciation of the Symbols. MOE also works with partners like the National Heritage Board and the National Day Parade Executive Committee to plan opportunities for students to engage with the Symbols through activities like design competitions. For example, the NDP 2020 SG Together totebags featured artwork designed by Primary 5 students using the National Flag and other symbols. MCCY will continue working with MOE and other partners on such opportunities, to create more opportunities for meaningful experiences with the Symbols for all students.
- B. Create opportunities for regular conversations about Symbols and national values. As part of this review, MCCY held in-depth conversations with a number of communities beyond the Workgroup to hear their reflections on what the Symbols mean to them. This included Full-time National Servicemen (NSFs), Overseas

SPARK LIVELY DIALOGUES



The Workgroup recommended to:

- Engage students in opportunities to reflect, appreciate and express their opinions about the symbols through school experiences
- Facilitate recurring exchanges about the Symbols with various community groups as part of public outreach efforts
- Promote workplace conversations at organised functions to associate areas of work with the national values embodied through the Symbols
- Involve specialised (e.g. National Team), marginalised, special needs, migrant communities and new citizens in conversations about their application and relevance of the symbols to their daily lives







- Singaporeans, and local artists and designers. Participants were passionate about the Symbols and the conversations generated interesting insights on how Singaporeans from different backgrounds relate to them. We see value in continuing to hold such dialogues. We will work with partners to curate more of such opportunities, potentially starting with ongoing engagements under People's Association, National Heritage Board and National Arts Council, and over time reaching out to more communities such as those suggested by the Workgroup.
- C. Recognise other symbols created by government institutions and Singaporeans. The Workgroup noted that there are many other symbols and icons that people associate with Singapore (e.g. Esplanade Theatres on the Bay and the Merlion) and have a connection with. We will work with our partners and the institutions closely linked with such icons and landmarks, to explore how we can involve the public in recognising and celebrating these other symbols.
- Invite public opinion about alternative symbols, icons, landmarks and intangible aspects of Singapore culture to be formally recognised in Singapore through traditional and new media affordances
- Design competition experiences for students and community sectors to present their artistic impressions of our Symbols







Active Engagement with the Symbols

The Workgroup highlighted the importance of using the National Symbols in shared experiences and rituals to bring Singaporeans of different backgrounds together and deepen appreciation of the values that the Symbols represent. Schools are an important platform for such experiences. MCCY agrees that these experiences can be shaped more intentionally to reinforce our shared values, in the following ways:

- A. Encourage frequent interaction with heritage, art and linguistic forms of our Symbols in schools. MOE has collaborated with MCCY on actively engaging students on the Symbols, the values they espouse, and respectful use of them, through resources such as newsletters. MCCY will explore collaborations with MOE on art education to reinforce students' appreciation and respectful treatment of the Symbols in artistic works. MCCY will continue to work with MOE to reinforce the significance and respectful treatment of the Symbols in the classroom.
- B. Develop immersive experiences with Symbols. The government has created different opportunities to build affinity with the Symbols beyond traditional means. For instance, the National Heritage Board launched a virtual escape room activity on rediscovering our Symbols in 2020. The virtual format provided the opportunity for people to engage with the Symbols notwithstanding COVID-19 restrictions (www.a-list.sg/virtual-escape-room-search-for-our-national-symbols/). MCCY will continue to explore opportunities to develop more of such immersive experiences.
- C. Involving citizens in creating shared experiences. MCCY has partnered ground-up groups to rally Singaporeans around the Symbols at significant milestones in shared national experiences, including the 60th anniversary of the State Crest, Flag and Anthem in December 2019; and the efforts to build community resilience amidst Covid-19 in 2020. We value these partnerships and hope that more Singaporeans can participate in such efforts. We will continue to support ground-up groups in their efforts to celebrate our identity and values,

REIMAGINE SHARED EXPERIENCE



- Reinforce active engagement with the heritage, art and linguistic forms of our Symbols in the school curricula
- Leverage on key student development experiences to inculcate shared values and respectful behavior in students' use of the Symbols
- Conduct flag-raising assemblies in at least one other official language
- Learn to sing the Anthem and take the Pledge in the communication mode of a special needs community
- Co-create immersive
 experiences (e.g. heritage and
 food trails) through
 collaborations with
 community partners (e.g.
 volunteer groups, start-ups)







- through means such as Our Singapore Fund (www.sg/oursingaporefund)
- D. Promote inclusive practices in use of the Symbols. The National Symbols represent the values that bind us together regardless of race, language or religion. Reciting the National Pledge in the four official languages is one way to reflect this. MCCY will also look into ways to promote inclusive usage of the Symbols, for instance, developing a standardised sign language for the Pledge and Anthem. MCCY will refresh our resources and practices where relevant, in support of this goal.
- E. Affirm citizens who demonstrate national values. While there are existing national-level awards to recognise those who have demonstrated outstanding service to the nation, MCCY will examine how we can more intentionally celebrate people in our communities who exemplify the values that the Symbols represent.
- Rethink citizen engagement for the special needs community, e.g. hand signing for the Pledge and the Anthem at the National Day Parade for the hearingimpaired community
- Affirm citizens who exemplify the values of the Symbols, allowing the public to nominate these individuals







Making the Symbols part of our Everyday Experiences

The Workgroup highlighted that the Symbols serve as "visible reminder(s) of our commitment towards a shared future". Thus, they have recommended incorporating the Symbols more in everyday life to strengthen citizens' sense of national identity. MCCY agrees with the Workgroup that increasing the visibility and prominence of the Symbols in our everyday life will help build a sense of ownership towards the Symbols and serve as a tangible reminder of our shared values and national identity.

- A. Increase visibility of Symbols in everyday uses. Workgroup members felt that our Symbols tend to be featured only during the National Day period and should be more visible in everyday life. Some Symbols like the National Flower and Lion Head Symbol have often been used in commemorative items like coins and stamps, as well as souvenirs, attire and other products year-round. Other icons like the Merlion and SG logo mentioned by the Workgroup are also familiar representations of Singapore. While these less formal symbols are well-suited for such everyday use, increasing the use of more formal Symbols beyond National Day would encourage greater connection with these Symbols. MCCY will review the rules around the artistic and commercial uses of the more formal Symbols to enable more everyday uses.
- B. Incorporate Symbols at more events and activities. MCCY supports the recommendation to feature the Symbols across various events and community roadshows. Currently, the Symbols play an important role in Citizenship Ceremonies conducted at the grassroots level, where new citizens are introduced to the Symbols as well as other key aspects of Singaporean identity and culture. The Symbols have been incorporated into community events like the People Association's One Community Fiestas. Symbols like the National Flower have also been featured in landscape displays at national and international events, such as National Day celebrations, World Expo, and International Horticultural Exposition. We will continue to work with agencies such as the People's Association and National Parks Board to

ENHANCE PROMINENCE IN THE EVERYDAY



- Increase visibility of our symbols in our surroundings, e.g. in artistic displays and songs, growing our National Flower in community spaces, and dignified and more prominent display of the National Coat of Arms at public institutions
- Incorporate the use of the Symbols at more events and activities at tertiary education level, community and workplaces as part of continuing National Education
- Explain the history and values of our Symbols on everyday products such as postage stamps, envelopes, and locally manufactured products







leverage relevant opportunities to celebrate the Symbols.

C. Collaborations with the community. Over the years, and most recently as the nation came together to tackle COVID-19, we have been heartened by how individuals and organisations have used the Symbols with passion as a way to rally and celebrate Singapore and Singaporeans, some of whom are featured below. We welcome all who are passionate about bringing Singaporeans together in celebration of the Symbols and our shared identity to reach out to MCCY.

Examples



The company MJD Pro lit up hospitals and landmarks during the COVID-19 crisis with the LightforSG initiative. The company wanted to rally Singapore to cheer for our healthcare workers, using Symbols as reminders that we are all in this together. Pictured above are the National Museum of Singapore and Singapore General Hospital. (Photo credit: MJD Pro)



MCCY collaborated with local designers and businesses for the 1959 campaign, which sought to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Symbols in December 2019. Elements of the Symbols were featured on everyday items like badges, homeware, and attire.



To celebrate Labour Day amidst a nationwide lockdown in May 2020, ground-up group We Are Majulah called on Singaporeans to proudly display their Flags from their homes in support of all workers, particularly essential workers. Singaporeans joined the "Labour of Love" movement by posting a picture of their flags on social media.

- Collaborate with the community to express their artistic interpretations of the National Symbols through food culture, fashion, street art and new media
- Have trained ambassadors at road shows, campaigns, national and international events (e.g. "SG Symbols Week") to increase public awareness of the Symbols in the official languages







Respecting and Protecting the Symbols

The Workgroup has identified several ways in which public education efforts can be expanded to enhance awareness and encourage respectful use of the Symbols. MCCY will look into the following ways to ensure the Symbols are respected and protected:

- A. Enhance accessibility of guidelines. Publishing a complete guide on appropriate uses of the Symbols, including digital use, will be valuable in informing and educating everyone on how the Symbols should be used respectfully. This can be supplemented with timely reminders at point-of-use (e.g. on packaging of Flags, on digital platforms) to prevent unintentional misuse. The Workgroup also recommended that current feedback channels for reporting misuse of the Symbols be made more accessible and comprehensive.

 MCCY will take up these proposals and look into implementing them in the near future.
- B. Provide one-for-one Flag exchange. Following the distribution of Flags to all households in 2020, the Workgroup recommended organising a one-for-one exchange of worn-out Flags. MCCY felt this was a timely suggestion and worked with People's Association to implement the one-for-one exchange of Flags across all Community Centres/Clubs during the 2021 National Day period. The exercise was well received by residents and close to 15,000 Flags were exchanged.
- C. Formally recognising local icons and landmarks. There are currently 73 significant historical landmarks recognised as National Monuments which are accorded the highest level of protection in Singapore. Alongside these, there are many more places marked as historic sites associated with important events, communities or personalities in Singapore's history. National Monuments are currently commemorated through various programmes including Milestones Through the signature Monuments programme, which celebrates significant milestones in the Singapore story linked to National Monuments³. There is scope to similarly celebrate other Singapore icons such as

REDEFINE CREATIVE AND RESPONSIBLE USE (PART 1)



- Establish a one-to-one exchange programme for damaged or worn-out National Flag
- Consolidate information on the history, guidelines of use and relevant application forms for all symbols and icons of Singapore in a single platform
- Employ the National Coat of Arms for government use only
- Develop a comprehensive ebrand guide of the Symbols including the consolidated guidelines of their uses
- Guide people on the proper use of the Symbols by providing print and digital material in four national languages where applicable
- Guide correct usage of our Symbols through pictorial representations and intentionally designed packaging

³ The most recent iteration was the commemoration of Singapore's 200 years of founding as a British trading post. This was celebrated through special programmes, installations, and the gazetting of the Singapore River Bridges on 15 Oct 2019.







the Merlion and Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay at key anniversaries and national occasions. Other such landmarks that will be commemorated are the Founders' Memorial, estimated to open in 2027, and the NS Square. The Founders' Memorial will be an integrated gallerygarden experience that honours Singapore's founding generation of leaders and celebrates the ideals and values upon which Singapore was built. NS Square, which symbolises Singapore's commitment to National Service and tribute to our national servicemen, will also be a vibrant events and entertainment space for large-scale national and community events where the public can enjoy arts, culture, and sports activities at the waterfront all year round. MCCY will work closely with fellow agencies and site owners where such landmarks are situated to commemorate these icons at significant events like anniversaries.

- Provide a one-stop government digital application to report any illegal usage of the Symbol
- Formalise the recognition of other local icons and landmarks of Singapore e.g. SG logo, Merlion, The Esplanade, etc. as a tribute to their place in Singapore's history and role in promoting international recognition







Encourage greater use of Symbols

Along with recommendations on promoting respect for the Symbols, the Workgroup also proposed that the rules governing the Symbols could be updated to allow for greater use in the future. This will involve reviewing the legislation (e.g. to allow the display of the Flag outside the National Day period) and guidelines (e.g. to allow for artistic expressions of pride and love for the country).

- A. Extend display period of the Flag. Over the past five years, we have seen a few significant occasions where Singaporeans expressed a desire to display the Flag outside of the National Day period (July to September), most recently during the Circuit Breaker months in 2020. The display of the Flag in such instances is appropriate as a sign of solidarity. MCCY will look into amending the SAFNA legislation to allow more occasions for household displays of the Flag outside the National Day period, while mitigating risks for potential neglect and disrespectful use.
- B. Expand scope to incorporate the Symbols in artistic works. MCCY is heartened that our local artists and designers are keen to incorporate Symbols in their work. We agree with the Workgroup that expanding the scope for artistic use of the Symbols would encourage greater ownership through personal expressions of national pride and identity. MCCY will address this on two fronts:

 1) revise existing rules and guidelines; and 2) clarify and simplify the public guidelines to give users more confidence in using the Symbols creatively while respecting parameters of acceptable use.

The specific amendments to the rules will be developed in the coming months and will be shared with the public in 2022 before they are finalised.

REDEFINE CREATIVE AND RESPONSIBLE USE (PART 2)



- Allow the display of the Flag for only the specified period according to the SAFNA Act, but permit special display periods as a symbol of national solidarity in difficult times
- Ease current guidelines on the artistic use of the Symbols where possible to inspire greater individual and creative expressions of our love for the nation while ensuring fidelity to the original symbol e.g. allowing various renditions of the Anthem and Pledge, artistic modification to the Lion Head







5 Next Steps

The Workgroup's report and recommendations are a crucial input in MCCY's review of the regulatory framework governing the use of the National Symbols.

We have consolidated the Workgroup's recommendations with the feedback received from other engagements to inform our amendments to the Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem (SAFNA) Act and Rules. The amendments will be shared with the public before they are finalised in 2022. You can find out more about how legislative amendments are made at www.go.gov.sg/legisreview (QR code on the right). You can also



reach out to MCCY at RED@mccy.gov.sg if you have further queries on this review.

In addition to the legislative review, MCCY will look into how we can enhance public education efforts and improve access to information about the Symbols. This may entail clarifying regulatory processes (e.g. by publishing a comprehensive guide on the use of the Symbols) and augmenting the current feedback channels for the Symbols.

Alongside our review of rules and public education, MCCY will also refresh our plans to promote the Symbols, taking in the ideas brought forward by the Workgroup. Some of these ideas, like the one-for-one exchange of Flags, have been implemented; others, such as collaborations with the community and celebrating the Symbols at key anniversaries, can be rolled out over the longer term.

Beyond the current review, we fully agree with the closing segment of the Workgroup's report that efforts in education and regulation must uphold the Symbols not just for the situations we face today, but for the needs of tomorrow. The views and feedback of Singaporeans will continue to be important as we plan for the next decade and beyond.







6 Conclusion



MCCY thanks every member of the Workgroup for giving their time and energy to this review. Amid their personal and work commitments, the members devoted many hours to understand complex issues surrounding use of the Symbols and to gather and represent the views of fellow Singaporeans in their report.

MCCY envisions a future where the Symbols continue to hold a special place in Singaporeans' hearts and inspire pride whether at home or abroad. We also hope that people and organisations will continually find new ways to use the Symbols to remind us that we belong here together.

The review of legislative rules will play an important role as we work towards this future; but we cannot achieve them by government regulation alone. Promoting the Symbols and educating Singaporeans about their significance is the work of every generation. The meaning of the Symbols is passed on through the stories parents and grandparents share with their children, through common experiences like flag-raisings at school assemblies, and through those special moments when Singaporeans rally together in national pride or grief under the same Flag, singing the same Anthem and reciting the same pledge as one people.

Creating and sustaining these shared experiences that shape what the Symbols mean to us, is everyone's role. We will continue to count on all Singaporeans as we take the next steps in our journey to renew our connections to our National Symbols.







ANNEX

Composition of Workgroup

Number of Workgroup members	47		
Males / Females	Male: 70%	Female: 30%	
Occupational Diversity	Participants came from a wide variety of occupational sectors including arts and design, business, education, grassroots, sports, uniformed groups, homemakers, and others		
Racial Diversity	Chinese: 63% Malay: 15% Indian: 13% Others: 9%		
Age group representation	15-24 years old: 15% 25-34 years old: 34% 35-44 years old: 27% 45-54 years old: 11% 55-64 years old: 11% 65 years old and over: 2%		



