

#### STRICTLY EMBARGOED TILL 21 NOVEMBER 2006, 6.00AM

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

20 November 2006

## First Local Based Company Conferred The Prestigious "Corporate Citizen" at the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre Awards 2006

City Developments Limited (CDL) has been conferred the coveted Corporate Citizen award by the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC), in recognition for its firm commitment to active corporate citizenship over the years. CDL is the first local based company to win this prestigious award which has previously been accorded to mainly Multi-National Corporations.

The Corporate Citizen Award is a testimony to CDL's strong corporate culture of giving which was influenced by the late founder of its parent Hong Leong Group, Mr Kwek Hong Png. CDL is active in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and has contributed generously and widely towards many causes from charity, youth development, environmental conservation to the arts and culture.

CDL has also cultivated an engaged workforce through the company's employee volunteer programme called City Sunshine Club (CSC), which facilitates and encourages staff and their families to participate in voluntary work. CSC is the brainchild of CDL's Managing Director, Mr Kwek Leng Joo, who wanted to nurture a spirit of volunteerism among staff. "We believe that giving extends beyond monetary donations. Where possible, we offer time and talent of our people to create more effective and sustainable programmes to help the causes we identify. Through their involvement, our staff will also have greater appreciation of those less fortunate," he said.

CSC's major programmes aim at improving the lives of the lonely elderly through befriending visits and outings, nurturing children at risk of delinquency and supporting the company's community outreach programmes. Across the organization, regardless of rank or departments, CDL's staff joins together, to actively volunteer in these activities. In 2005 alone, as much as 67% of its 300 staff-strength, chalked up nearly 3,500 volunteer hours in the company's community programmes, which are often held after office hours or over the weekends.

CDL has also pioneered several other initiatives in support of environmental conservation and the arts, which have been running for some years now. These include Project Eco-Office, Let's Live Green!, CDL Singapore Sculpture Awards and the CDL Young Architectural Photographer Award.

The Corporate Citizen award recognises an organisation that has demonstrated active corporate citizenship through its corporate giving programme encompassing employee volunteering, fundraising and donations (money or in-kind). (Please refer to attached fact sheet for more details)

Mr Kwek said, "We are indeed very honoured and encouraged by this recognition. Giving back to the community has always been a key guiding principle at CDL and the award affirms that we are moving in the right direction. The CSR movement is gaining momentum in Singapore, but there is still room for more local corporations to embark on their own CSR journey, engage its staff and stakeholders, to contribute back to our community. We have found this to be a meaningful journey and one that we will certainly continue for many years to come."

CDL has been a constituent of the FTSE4Good Social Responsibility Index – an international benchmark to measure corporate social responsibility standards – since 2002. It is a member of the Singapore Compact and one of the founding Singapore signatories of the United Nations Global Compact to lend support to the advancement of responsible corporate citizenship in Singapore.

## For more information, please contact:

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# FACT SHEET CDL's Corporate Community Programmes

Although the organisation has been involved in many CSR programmes small and large scale, some examples include:

#### STAFF VOLUNTEERISM

#### The City Sunshine Club



"To light up the lives of the less fortunate by offering our friendship and to contribute towards making our society a better place." The City Sunshine Club (CSC) is a staff volunteer club which started in 1999. Through the CSC, the company is able to facilitate and encourage staff to personally lend a helping hand to the needy.

## Befriending the elderly

Since 1999, CDL staff volunteers spend time with the needy elderly who live in one-bedroom HDB flats every month. Besides offering them the basic necessities, they befriend them and extend their friendship and care. The volunteers also organize festive outings and fun activities, and even visit them when they are in the hospital so as to bring cheer to these lonely elderly.

#### Mentoring children at risk

Some of CDL staff volunteers are trained to handle and mentor children at risk since 2004. These children are mainly from disadvantaged or dysfunctional families. The volunteers are equipped to conduct lessons for children on character building and values. They also provide English enrichment classes and tuition lessons to help the children prepare for their exams.

## **FUNDRAISING & DONATIONS (MONEY OR IN-KIND)**

Besides contributing monetarily, CDL staff and management also lend their time, creative talent and effort to contribute meaningfully.

#### **Photography For Charity**

Mr Kwek Leng Joo contributed copies of his limited-edition photo art book *Heart Voyage*, to raise funds for President's Challenge 2005. Over 100 books were sold, which raised \$100,000 for Infant Jesus Homes & Children's Centre, Pathlight School and The Helping Hand. This is not the first time Mr Kwek has lent his photography skills for a good cause: one of Mr Kwek's photo works taken in Shangri La, Yunnan Province, raised an unprecedented sum of \$300,000 for Ren Ci Hospital in 2004.

#### Assisi Home & Hospice Fundraising Carnivals at Central Mall

Since 1999, the CDL Group of companies have rallied together to make the large-scale fundraising carnival in aid of Assisi Home and Hospice a huge success. Central Mall was host and joint organizer of the 180-stall carnival. CDL employees, through CSC, volunteered their time to man various food and games stalls. All proceeds went towards defraying the cost of in-patient home and day care for cancer patients of Assisi Home and Hospice and its Children's Centre.

#### **Youth Development and Eldercare Programme**

CDL was the main sponsor of "*Touched by Angel*", a month-long charity drive for Youth Challenge Singapore in 2004. The proceeds from the charity drive were used to finance Youth Challenge's weekly Eldercare programme for Year 2005. The beneficiaries are some 300 needy elderly people living in one-bedroom flats in Redhill Close. CDL employees, together the youth volunteers from Youth Challenge canvassed for donations among the business and public community. The company also gave some 80 employees time off from work to help the young volunteers raise funds from the public at Raffles Place. CDL employees raised a total of \$65,000 for the Eldercare programme.

#### **Tsunami Relief Efforts 2005**

In aid of the victims of the Tsunami Disaster that struck on 26 December 2004, CDL and its staff embarked on various initiatives to assist in the relief efforts. These included:

## • Dollar for Dollar Donation Campaign

CDL matched every dollar donated by its employees. A total of \$100,000 was raised for the Singapore Red Cross Society's Tidal Waves Asia Fund.

## Mercy Relief Collection Centre in the Central Business District (CBD)

A central and convenient premise was provided at CDL's The Corporate Office along Robinson Road as a collection point for the public to drop off donations and supplies. In addition, four other CDL buildings, Republic Plaza, Fuji Xerox Towers, New Tech Park and City House were also designated as collection centres. Over 100 employees lent their time and effort to man the collection points which received more than 800 boxes of supplies.

## • Fundraising Reception for "Hotshots Asian Icons" Exhibition

CDL co-sponsored a fund-raising opening reception of "Hotshots Asian Icons", an exhibition by celebrity photographer Russel Wong at the Singapore Tyler Print Institute. The proceeds raised from ticket sales went to the Singapore Red Cross Society's Tidal Waves Asia Fund.

## **China Exploration & Research Society (CERS)**

Since 1997, CDL has been a corporate patron of CERS, whose mission is to conduct research as well as nature and culture conservation projects in remote regions of China. CDL contributes an annual financial aid, plus an in-kind contribution in the form of hotel room accommodation valued at \$30,000. To help promote and further CERS' work among the business community, CDL organized and hosted CERS' first fundraising dinner in Singapore in November 2004, which raised over \$250,000.

#### **Earth Day Charity Drive 2005**

As part of CDL's green philosophy, CDL Staff embarked on a 2-day charity drive for The Salvation Army on Earth Day by collecting furniture, appliances and recyclable materials from CDL's condominium residents. The subsequent sale of these items raised a total of \$9,000 for The Salvation Army.

CDL has also pioneered several community outreach programmes in the area of environmental conservation and promoting the arts. They include:

## **ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION**



**Project Eco Office**, launched in 2002, is an initiative by CDL in partnership with Singapore Environment Council (SEC) to change the way we work, think, and manage precious natural resources within our offices.

Website: www.ecooffice.com.sq.



Let's Live Green was launched in 2004 to educate and inform CDL homebuyers on how to practice green habits within their homes. Homebuyers are given an Eco-Kit containing a Green Living Guide that features eco-friendly tips and healthy recipes, as well as an A3-size poster of the environmentally-friendly features within and around their homes, to reinforce the message of going green at home.

### Public Education on Environmental Conservation

As an advocate for environmental protection, CDL pledged a three-year contribution totaling \$100,000 to the Green Partnership Programme set up by the Singapore Environment Council (SEC). The amount went towards SEC projects that educate, raise awareness and inspire fellow Singaporeans to care for the environment.

The "Project Eco-Office" and "Let's Live Green" programmes have targeted at 2,000 households and over 15,000 office workers at CDL's residential and commercial properties.

THE ARTS	
CDL Singapore Sculpture Awards and Exhibitions (held in 2003 and 2005)	This award was created to nurture artistic talent, help enrich Singapore's sculptural landscape and promote public awareness and appreciation for the arts in Singapore. To help heighten public interest in sculpture, CDL also organized an exhibition of some winning and selected entries at the Singapore Art Museum. CDL sponsored the cost of the competition, Prizes as well as the exhibition. CDL also commissioned the first winning piece into a full scale sculpture for public display along the Singapore River.
CDL Young Architectural Photographer Award (CDL YAPA) (held in 2006)	This award is sponsored by CDL. As a developer, CDL hopes to discover young talents who appreciate architecture, and who possess the ability to capture on camera the timeless beauty and unique form of buildings and edifices. Through the CDL YAPA, we hope that young photographers will be inspired to further develop their skills and talent in the area of architectural photography.