

# LAND

SPOTLIGHT



SPOTLIGHT

SLA Ranks First in PER Survey

Back from School – Interview with Alvin Yeo

CREATING COMMUNITIES

A Bohemian Experience at Chip Bee Gardens

FUTURE READY

Championing Innovation through Geospatial

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

CREATING COMMUNITIES



### A BOHEMIAN EXPERIENCE AT CHIP BEE GARDENS

Chip Bee Gardens, a creative bohemian enclave with 389 homes and 20 commercial business has seen a wider diversity of local craft-smiths who live, work and exhibit in Chip Bee Gardens.

FUTURE READY



### CHAMPIONING INNOVATION THROUGH GEOSPATIAL

SLA championed geospatial development and innovation at the 9th Annual Geospatial Intelligence APAC Conference and the 1st Amazon Web Services (AWS) Public Sector Summit.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE



### INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

SLA played host to delegations from Cambodia, Dubai, Sabah and Zanzibar. The delegates came to learn about policies, planning, implementation and regulations on State land and properties, and the registration and reporting mechanism for State land in Singapore.

**EDITORIAL TEAM**

LAND is a quarterly online publication by Singapore Land Authority (SLA), 55 Newton Road #12-01, Singapore 307987

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Simon Ong

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Ng Siau Yong, Soh Kheng Peng and Johnson Seah

**CHIEF EDITOR**

Esther Chew

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Alvin Yeo, Sim Sze-wei, Lim Hui Yan, Cheryl Lim, Cho Chui Wai, Lee Mou Jian, Amanda Poh, Justin Chua and Sean Cheng

**TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ IN LAND**

For feedback and suggestions, write to Esther Chew

at [sla\\_land\\_newsletter@sla.gov.sg](mailto:sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg) or call 1800-3239829

# LAND



► Chief Executive Mr Tan Boon Khai receiving the award from Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Trade & Industry and Education Ms Low Yen Ling

## SPOTLIGHT

### SLA Ranks First in PER Survey

Back from School – Interview with Alvin Yeo

## CREATING COMMUNITIES

A Bohemian Experience at Chip Bee Gardens

## FUTURE READY

Championing Innovation through Geospatial

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

## SLA RANKS FIRST IN PER SURVEY

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) has achieved top spot in the Pro-Enterprise Ranking (PER) Survey 2017!

The results were announced at the Pro-Enterprise Panel (PEP) and Singapore Business Federation (SBF) Awards Ceremony on 10 November 2017. SLA ranked first out of 28 participating agencies for the Pro-Enterprise Agency Award.

The PER Survey is conducted annually to assess government agencies with regulatory functions on how business-friendly they are.

Special mention also goes to the Land Titles Registry, Land Survey and Land Transfer & Land Sale Division! SLA could not have done it without their hard work and dedication towards business excellence. This win indicates that SLA is moving in the right direction towards the development of a stronger pro-enterprise regulatory environment in Singapore.

Chief Executive Mr Tan Boon Khai said, "We are deeply humbled by the recognition from our customers and stakeholders. This is a testament of our organisational effort in pushing the use of technologies and embracing a culture of innovation and customer-centricity. We pledge to continue working closely with our customers and fellow government agencies, and be a change catalyst to create an even more pro-enterprise business environment."

### EDITORIAL TEAM

LAND is a quarterly online publication by Singapore Land Authority (SLA), 55 Newton Road #12-01, Singapore 307987

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**  
Simon Ong

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ng Siau Yong, Soh Kheng Peng and Johnson Seah

**CHIEF EDITOR**  
Esther Chew

### CONTRIBUTORS

Alvin Yeo, Sim Sze-wei, Lim Hui Yan, Cheryl Lim, Cho Chui Wai, Lee Mou Jian, Amanda Poh, Justin Chua and Sean Cheng

**TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ IN LAND**  
For feedback and suggestions, write to Esther Chew at [sla\\_land\\_newsletter@sla.gov.sg](mailto:sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg) or call 1800-3239829



**SPOTLIGHT**

SLA Ranks First in PER Survey

**Back from School – Interview with Alvin Yeo**

**CREATING COMMUNITIES**

A Bohemian Experience at Chip Bee Gardens

**FUTURE READY**

Championing Innovation through Geospatial

**INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE**

## BACK FROM SCHOOL - INTERVIEW WITH ALVIN YEO

In this issue of LAND, we get up close and personal with Alvin Yeo from Geospatial & Data Division (GSDD). Alvin has worked with the Singapore Land Authority (SLA) for four years and has just returned from his postgraduate studies in London.

**Why did you choose this career?**

I have always been amazed at Singapore's ability to manage its land development to emerge as a vibrant hub in Southeast Asia. Therefore, when the opportunity for a scholarship with SLA came, I jumped at the chance to satisfy my curiosity! So here I am today.



▶ SLA's Alvin Yeo at Geospatial & Data Division's (GSDD) office at PSA building

**What was your first job in SLA?**

When I joined SLA, I was posted to the Land Operations Division, where I oversaw the sales of State land to the private sector. Subsequently, I was transferred to my current position in the Geospatial & Data Division, where I advocate the use of geospatial information in Singapore.

**What is Geospatial?**

Geospatial, also known as Geospatial Information Science (GIS), involves the collection and organization of data with a location element. As everything must happen somewhere on earth, it is possible to add a location element to almost all data. Such element could be a XY coordinate or an address. With this location element, we are then able to perform analysis on this data to derive insights. For example, we can conduct a site accessibility analysis to determine if our eldercare facilities are truly accessible to our elderly.

**Tell us more about the Geospatial industry**

Geospatial may sound like a very technical subject, but it is fundamentally intuitive. Geospatial-based questions such as 'where do we go for lunch?' and 'how do we get there?' are asked by us almost daily. Yet, geospatial remains an underutilized resource that when used right, could potentially benefit all of us. One of the most mature and heavily used geospatial technology is the GPS. This is a huge enabler of many applications and has helped us answer many of our questions, like the two aforementioned questions of where and how. In search of the next groundbreaking discovery, we are working on a platform called GeoWorks which aims to bring together start-ups with a geospatial focus, and help them push out their unique services to the whole of Singapore.

**What are some projects you are working on currently?**

There are two main projects which we are working on. The first being Virtual Singapore, the creation of our city's virtual twin. This data-driven 3D digital replica of our city-state can provide endless opportunities, especially in the urban planning realm. Secondly, it is the establishment of a Geospatial Center of Excellence, a whole-of-government initiative, to provide professional and technical expertise and support for agencies planning to adopt geospatial capabilities to improve business processes.



▶ Co-creating innovative geospatial solutions with industry partners

**Can you share some interesting aspects about working at GSDD?**

I get to meet many people from different agencies. In GSDD, we encourage collaboration and interaction, which is also why our office has a modular layout and many open spaces. We also get to participate at various international events to showcase our work and learn from international experts.

**What inspires you personally?**

For me, inspiration comes from solving big and meaningful problems. Finding new and innovative solutions to problems thrills me. As part of my work, I have the opportunity to meet with many agencies, understand their problem statements and brainstorm ways to use GIS to solve these problems.

**How did your post-graduate scholarship help in this line?**

I did a Masters in Smart Cities and Urban Analytics at University College London. It has been a huge eye-opener as I get to meet and learn from many international students of various backgrounds. London is also a great place; it has a thriving start-up scene which taps on open data to create meaningful products and services. For example, Citymapper is an app that was launched in London to help citizens find the most optimum route to their destination.

The collaboration scene is also excellent in London. I had the privilege of working with the Westminster City Council for my thesis. I worked closely with their Business Intelligence team; we used crowd-sourced footfall data to deduce how people are using places in their borough. These experiences have allowed me to learn from experienced professionals and discover new ways of doing things.



▶ Geospatial analytics is one of the aspects Alvin loves in his job

**In your personal opinion, is Singapore a leader or follower in Geospatial?**

I personally think that Singapore is both a follower and a leader in this field. Our drive to become a Smart Nation has allowed us to implement many geospatial-based initiatives such as Virtual Singapore and geospatial-based apps such as the MSO's OneService app and SCDF's MyResponder app. At the global level, we also participate actively in the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNGIM) to promote the use of geospatial information to address key global challenges. Nevertheless, we are still a young nation and we must continue to look up to other global geospatial leaders and assimilate best practices.

<p><b>EDITORIAL TEAM</b> LAND is a quarterly online publication by Singapore Land Authority (SLA), 55 Newton Road #12-01, Singapore 307987</p>	<p><b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> Ng Siau Yong, Soh Kheng Peng and Johnson Seah</p>	<p><b>CONTRIBUTORS</b> Alvin Yeo, Sim Sze-wei, Lim Hui Yan, Cheryl Lim, Cho Chui Wai, Lee Mou Jian, Amanda Poh, Justin Chua and Sean Cheng</p>
<p><b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</b> Simon Ong</p>	<p><b>CHIEF EDITOR</b> Esther Chew</p>	<p><b>TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ IN LAND</b> For feedback and suggestions, write to Esther Chew at <a href="mailto:sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg">sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg</a> or call 1800-3239829</p>



## SPOTLIGHT

SLA Ranks First in PER Survey

Back from School – Interview with Alvin Yeo

## CREATING COMMUNITIES

**A Bohemian Experience at Chip Bee Gardens**

## FUTURE READY

Championing Innovation through Geospatial

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

## A BOHEMIAN EXPERIENCE AT CHIP BEE GARDENS

Chip Bee Gardens, a creative bohemian enclave with 389 homes and 20 commercial business has seen a wider diversity of local craft-smiths who live, work and exhibit in Chip Bee Gardens. Singapore Land Authority (SLA) assistant manager, business planning & development, Sim Sze-wei shared with us SLA's intention to enhance the estate's character by introducing a wider diversity of commercial and residential tenants. "We wanted an inclusive community for Chip Bee Gardens where local craft-smiths would live, work, and exhibit yet where the everyday Singaporean can participate through workshops or classes."

Rare in the busy modern city, Chip Bee Gardens is a unique flavour of local retail and quaint community. Take a stroll along the shophouses lined with fashion, retail and food brands built by Singaporeans. Attend a workshop at leather-craft atelier, Bynd Artisan. Make an appointment to pick up a guitar from Bernard Godfrey. Visit Our Second Nature or Ong Shunmugam for a designed in Singapore dress. Have a local-flavored soft serve at Sunday Folks.

Bynd Artisan's founder James Quan said, "In Shanghai, you have Changle Road in the former French Concession. In Tokyo, you have Cat Street. Both are quiet backstreets off the main fanfare, with limited car traffic and lined with funky, local designer shops and cafes. Chip Bee Gardens is that location in Singapore."



► SLA's Sim Sze-wei and Lim Hui Yan at Bynd Artisan, a local custom bookbinding and leather-craft atelier



► Chip Bee Gardens – an enclave of homegrown fashion, retail and food brands

### EDITORIAL TEAM

LAND is a quarterly online publication by Singapore Land Authority (SLA), 55 Newton Road #12-01, Singapore 307987

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**  
Simon Ong

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ng Siau Yong, Soh Kheng Peng and Johnson Seah

**CHIEF EDITOR**  
Esther Chew

### CONTRIBUTORS

Alvin Yeo, Sim Sze-wei, Lim Hui Yan, Cheryl Lim, Cho Chui Wai, Lee Mou Jian, Amanda Poh, Justin Chua and Sean Cheng

**TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ IN LAND**  
For feedback and suggestions, write to Esther Chew at [sla\\_land\\_newsletter@sla.gov.sg](mailto:sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg) or call 1800-3239829



► Director/Geospatial & Data Division, Mr Ng Siau Yong delivering the keynote presentation

## SPOTLIGHT

SLA Ranks First in PER Survey

Back from School – Interview with Alvin Yeo

## CREATING COMMUNITIES

A Bohemian Experience at Chip Bee Gardens

## FUTURE READY

Championing Innovation through Geospatial

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

## CHAMPIONING INNOVATION THROUGH GEOSPATIAL

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) championed geospatial development and innovation at the 9th Annual Geospatial Intelligence APAC Conference and the 1st Amazon Web Services (AWS) Public Sector Summit.

The 9th Annual Geospatial Intelligence APAC Conference was held at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre on 26 and 27 September 2017. The conference served as a platform for regional experts to discuss cutting-edge advances in intelligence gathering from geospatial information, as well as address emerging applications of Smart Nation Planning alongside those of national security.



► Senior Manager, Geospatial & Data Division Mr Lim Liyang presenting Singapore's efforts in driving geospatial development and adoption

SLA Senior Manager, Geospatial and Data Division, Mr Lim Liyang shared Singapore's approach in driving geospatial development. As such development involved change management process, it is coupled with increasingly important 'softer' levers, namely capacity building and partnerships. SLA, as an eco-system builder, plays a key leadership role in this arena and has facilitated the rollout of public platforms such as the new OneMap, alongside open data policies to serve as key enablers towards greater data sharing and create value for both citizens and businesses.

The 1st Amazon Web Services (AWS) Public Sector Summit took place at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre on 4 October 2017. Aptly themed "Paving the Way for Disruptive Innovation", the summit brought together business leaders and innovators in government, education and non-profit organisations to ideate strategies and innovations, with the goal of making the world a better place with technology.

SLA Director, Geospatial & Data Division, Mr Ng Siau Yong made the keynote presentation titled "Driving disruptive innovations through Geospatial Technology". Mr Ng shared how the disruptive nature of cloud computing, coupled with the use of geospatial technology has enabled the creation of innovative services for the general public, as well as the enhanced delivery of public services.

Both Mr Lim and Mr Ng also highlighted how SLA actively promoted the use of geospatial technology within communities such as through the OneMap IdeaWorks! innovation campaign and strengthened the geospatial ecosystem through industry collaboration and partnerships.

### EDITORIAL TEAM

LAND is a quarterly online publication by Singapore Land Authority (SLA), 55 Newton Road #12-01, Singapore 307987

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**  
Simon Ong

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ng Siau Yong, Soh Kheng Peng and Johnson Seah

**CHIEF EDITOR**  
Esther Chew

### CONTRIBUTORS

Alvin Yeo, Sim Sze-wei, Lim Hui Yan, Cheryl Lim, Cho Chui Wai, Lee Mou Jian, Amanda Poh, Justin Chua and Sean Cheng

**TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ IN LAND**  
For feedback and suggestions, write to Esther Chew at [sla\\_land\\_newsletter@sla.gov.sg](mailto:sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg) or call 1800-3239829



► Delegates from Ministry of Economy and Finance, Cambodia led by Director General Mr Net Mony

## SPOTLIGHT

SLA Ranks First in PER Survey

Back from School – Interview with Alvin Yeo

## CREATING COMMUNITIES

A Bohemian Experience at Chip Bee Gardens

## FUTURE READY

Championing Innovation through Geospatial

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) played host to delegations from Cambodia, Dubai, Sabah and Zanzibar.

A 20-member delegation from The Economic and Finance Institute – Ministry of Economy and Finance, Cambodia visited SLA on 6 December 2017. Led by Director General Mr Net Mony of the General Department of State Property and Non-Tax Revenue, the delegation came to learn about policies, planning, implementation and regulations on State land and properties, and the registration and reporting mechanism for State land in Singapore, as Cambodia was planning for its “State property and Inventory Management Mechanism”.



► The delegates from Dubai with Chief Executive Mr Tan Boon Khai and SLA senior management



The delegation from Dubai Land Department (DLD) and Emirates Real Estate Solutions (ERES) – a real estate solutions provider supported by the DLD to provide state-of-the-art solutions for Dubai and international real estate markets – visited SLA on 18 January 2018. The delegation was led by Mr Khalifa Ahmed Alzeraim Alsuwaidi, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ERES. Alongside him were Mr Sultan Ibrahim Al Akraf and Mr Sa'ed Alkhouli from DLD. The delegates were the first visitors to the Geospatial & Data Division's (GSDD) new office at PSA Building. SLA's Chief Executive Mr Tan Boon Khai hosted the visit and shared an overview of SLA's land administration process. This was followed by a briefing on SLA's electronic titles registry by Assistant Chief Executive /Legal & Regulatory, Mr Bryan Chew. The visit concluded with the sharing of the Singapore Advanced Map initiative by Senior Deputy Director, Land Survey Division, Mr Victor Khoo.



► Deputy Chief Executive Mr Simon Ong hosted Datuk Seri Panglima Teo Chee Kang, Minister of Special Tasks under Chief Minister Sabah office and the Sabah delegates

The Ministry of Local Government and Housing from Sabah visited SLA on 29 January 2018. The 20-member delegation comprised officials from the Ministry of Local Government Housing, as well as delegates from the Land and Survey Department, State Attorney Office, Natural Resources Office, Kota Kinabalu City Hall, professional bodies and NGOs. The visitors were keen to learn more about SLA's land registration system, land legislation and regulations, and the functions of the Strata Titles Board.

SLA also played host to delegates from the Zanzibar Social Security Fund (ZSSF) on 6 February 2018. The delegation was headed by Managing Director of ZSSF, Mrs. Sabra I Machano and the delegates were briefed on land acquisition, land titles management, and interim land sale and lease management.



► Deputy Chief Executive Mr Simon Ong hosted Mrs. Sabra I Machano, Managing Director of the Zanzibar Social Security Fund, and the Zanzibar delegates

### EDITORIAL TEAM

LAND is a quarterly online publication by Singapore Land Authority (SLA), 55 Newton Road #12-01, Singapore 307987

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**  
Simon Ong

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ng Siau Yong, Soh Kheng Peng and Johnson Seah

**CHIEF EDITOR**  
Esther Chew

### CONTRIBUTORS

Alvin Yeo, Sim Sze-wei, Lim Hui Yan, Cheryl Lim, Cho Chui Wai, Lee Mou Jian, Amanda Poh, Justin Chua and Sean Cheng

**TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE TO READ IN LAND**  
For feedback and suggestions, write to Esther Chew at [sla\\_land\\_newsletter@sla.gov.sg](mailto:sla_land_newsletter@sla.gov.sg) or call 1800-3239829