

*highlights*



**Millennium Hotels Celebrates  
The Courageous Acts Of Everyday Heroes**

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**Go Downtown,  
Millennium  
Downtown New  
York's Waiting  
For You**



Millennium Hotels and Resorts Executive Director Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (2nd from right) received the certificate of appreciation from Singapore President Madam Halimah Yacob. Also pictured on stage are The Straits Times Editor-in-chief Mr Warren Fernandez (far left) and UBS Asia-Pacific President Mr Edmund Koh (far right).

## Celebrating The Courageous Acts Of Everyday Heroes

Millennium Hotels and Resorts lends support to The Straits Times Singaporean of the Year 2021

Honouring the positive impact that Singaporeans have made on the community, the Straits Times (ST) Singaporean of the Year 2021 award went to Mr Sakthibalan Balathandautham for his selfless act of donating part of his liver to a one-year-old child he had never met. The child was suffering from biliary atresia, a rare disease that eventually leads to liver failure, and her parents put up an online plea. Mr Sakthibalan answered the call and following a successful surgery, his generous gesture has given a new lease of life to the child. He is also now an advocate for organ donation.



The Straits Times Singaporean of the Year 2021 winner Mr Mr Sakthibalan Balathandautham (left) and President Madam Halimah Yacob. Mr Sakthibalan was first nominated for the award for donating part of his liver to a baby he had never met so she could get a new lease of life, and is now an advocate for organ donation.

ST Singaporean of the Year is organised by The Straits Times, an English-language daily broadsheet by Singapore Press Holdings. It was launched in 2015. The public can nominate individuals or groups they believe have made a positive and sustainable impact in society. Finalists are determined by public voting and the winner decided by a judging panel that includes ST editors.

This is the fourth consecutive year Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) has lent its support to the ST Singaporean of the Year as hotel partner, honouring and celebrating these examples of humanity and community.

MHR Executive Director Mr Kwek Eik Sheng said, "Millennium Hotels and Resorts, as a homegrown brand, is proud to celebrate another year of extraordinary Singaporeans turning adversity into triumph. We hope the stories of these changemakers will inspire us to reach out and make a difference in our communities."



As hotel partner, MHR presents the winner with a five-night stay at its global properties it owns and manages, such as M Social Paris Opera and The Biltmore Los Angeles. The other nine individual and group finalists each receive a three-night stay.



M Social Paris Opera (left) and The Biltmore Los Angeles (right).

ST Editor-in-Chief Mr Warren Fernandez said that it was very difficult for the judges to make a choice among the finalists this year. “What we took away at the end of it was these individuals going beyond themselves and contributing and showing by their example leadership, inspiration, caring and daring. That’s the kind of Singapore we want to build for our country and be proud of. That is what this award is about. It is to celebrate that Singapore spirit,” he said.



Mr Kwek (back row, far right) in a group photo with President Madam Halimah Yacob, ST Singaporean of the Year winner and finalists, and award partners.

The awards were presented by President Halimah Yacob, who is patron of the award and was guest-of-honour at the ceremony this year.

Past year winners of the ST Singaporean of the Year include Ms Angie Chew, who founded the Brahm Centre to provide free health education and other services such as befriending and counselling for seniors, and COVID-19 frontliners who selflessly stepped forward in the fight against the pandemic.



*Views of the Grey River, or Māwheranui, from the hotel. Following the rebranding and upgrading project, the hotel reopened as the 53-key Copthorne Greymouth.*

## Immerse In Nature And Explore The South Island From The New Copthorne Greymouth In New Zealand

Copthorne Greymouth in New Zealand's South Island has rebranded and reopened its doors to guests on 1 March. The hotel was formerly Kingsgate Greymouth. It is also the fifth Kingsgate-branded hotel to be upgraded and rebranded to a four-star Copthorne in New Zealand.

### Staying committed to the New Zealand West Coast

Millennium & Copthorne Hotels New Zealand (MCK) Managing Director Mr BK Chiu said that the rebranding confirmed MCK's commitment to invest in the West Coast.

The rebrand and revamp will allow the hotel to adapt to changing conditions on the West Coast while retaining the flexibility to expand when international tourism recovers in New Zealand. Since 2 March, the New Zealand border has started its gradual reopening to travellers.



*Copthorne Greymouth Housekeeping staff Ms Jennifer Read preparing one of the two rooms converted from each suite.*

He said, "Over the years, more and more visitors have come to know and appreciate the attractions of the West Coast of the South Island and Greymouth in particular and this upgrade and rebrand to one of our key regional hotels will ensure that it remains the preferred choice for accommodation there."

Located in a rugged and dramatically beautiful part of New Zealand, the hotel overlooks the Māwheranui, or Grey River, and is close to the Greymouth Station where the internationally renowned Tranz Alpine train journey from Christchurch ends. Popular among international tourists, attractions in and around Greymouth include the Punakaiki limestone rock formations, the West Coast Wilderness Cycle Trail and the Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers.



## A new look for Copthorne Greymouth



*The new 55-seater restaurant and bar, Jimmy Cook's Kiwi Kitchen, at Copthorne Greymouth.*

Affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, the former 98-key Kingsgate hotel shut its doors in 2020 when MCK implemented the scaling down of operations.

With the revamp, the upgraded hotel will have a total of 53 guestrooms over six floors. A new 55-seat restaurant and bar, Jimmy Cook's Kiwi Kitchen, has been created in the newer tower block, along with a redesigned reception area. Compared to the original layout of guestrooms spread over several blocks and the reception and dining in a separate building, this consolidation also enables more efficient staff operations.

MCK Vice President, Operations, Mr Ken Orr said that it was pleasing to see the hotel reopen after being closed for the past 12 months.

“West Coasters are well known for being extremely resilient folk and we’re confident that with the reopening of the hotel with a thoroughly refreshed product in the tallest building in Greymouth, we will be welcoming back our loyal corporate customers and leisure guests as they reconnect with the untamed natural wilderness that is the West Coast with its sense of history,” he said.



Lobby

## Millennium Hotels Expands Studio M Footprint In Al Barsha, Dubai

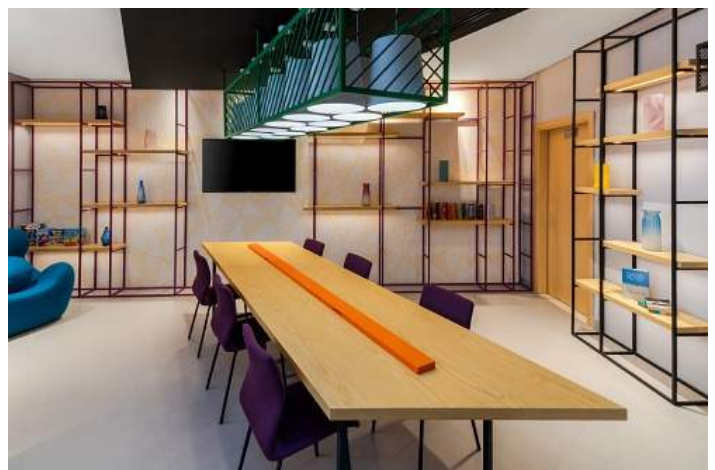
Millennium Hotels and Resorts Middle East and Africa (MHR MEA) has further expanded its footprint in Dubai's Al Barsha area. MHR MEA entered into a hotel management agreement with Jersey Properties LLC to operate Studio M Al Barsha, which opened its doors on 25 February.

A standout lifestyle concept, Studio M embraces technology and allows people to socialise and interact, offering a unique place to rest and play. Studio M Al Barsha is the second hotel in Dubai under this brand, after Studio M Arabian Plaza Hotel & Hotel Apartments.

MHR MEA Chief Operating Officer Mr Hamid Sidine said, "We are delighted to introduce Studio M Al Barsha that comes as part of our continuous efforts to provide innovative lifestyle concepts that address the guests' changing expectations and contemporary functionality."



Urban Twin Room



Coworking space



*live*

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The property offers 155 thoughtfully designed rooms, with vibrant colours, complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi and premium amenities. Dining offerings include Hello Grab N Go, an innovative way for guests to dine in or takeout with a variety of freshly prepared and pre-packaged foods, and Level ONE that offers tasty breakfast choice and a café. Other facilities include co-working spaces available at the restaurant and lobby, M FIT gym with Technogym equipment, a temperature-controlled rooftop pool and a unique spa concept.

The hotel is located a stone's throw from the Mall of Emirates, Dubai's shopping, dining and entertainment hub, as well as other leisure destinations including nearby waterfront and beaches. The hotel is also easily accessible to business districts such as the Internet and Media Cities and Knowledge Village.





*The Catering & Events team from Orchard Hotel after a successful State Dinner event.*

## **Orchard Hotel Appointed Caterer For Vietnam President's Visit To Istana**

Orchard Hotel had the honour of catering a State Dinner at the Istana in honour of Vietnam President Nguyen Xuan Phuc's visit to Singapore in end-February. The Istana is the official residence and office of the President of Singapore.

The hotel's Catering & Events team, led by Director of Banquet Mr Aaron Khew, Assistant Director of Catering & Events Ms Haze Yong and Executive Chef Thenesh Murugaya served an exquisite four-course Halal fusion menu.

The dinner event was a major success, and also marked the first State Banquet that was held at the Istana since the Covid-19 pandemic started two years ago.





*Hotel Brooklyn is a 4-star, upscale lifestyle hotel located in Manchester, United Kingdom. It is centrally located within the heart of Manchester and within walking distance to the central business district as well as popular tourist attractions.*

## **CDLHT Acquires 4-Star Lifestyle Hotel In Manchester, UK**

CDL Hospitality Trusts (CDLHT) has indirectly acquired a 4-star lifestyle hotel in Manchester UK, for a property consideration of £22.8 million (approx. S\$41.5 million).

As part of the transaction, CDLHT acquired Roundapple Hotel Partners III Limited (now renamed as CDL HREIT Investments (II) Property Limited), which holds a leasehold interest in Hotel Brooklyn with a remaining lease term of approximately 196 years. The 189-key hotel which commenced operations in February 2020, opened and closed for business intermittently between February 2020 and April 2021 due to the COVID-19 situation. The hotel has two food and beverage outlets, over 220 square metres of meeting space, as well as a casino with a restaurant and a bar.

Hotel Brooklyn is located a stone's throw away from the trendy Canal Street, which is home to a variety of cafes, bars, clubs and restaurants. The hotel is also within walking distance to popular attractions, Manchester's Central Business District, and the Manchester Piccadilly Station, which provides direct access to the airport and other major UK cities.

The property is leased to HLD (Manchester) Limited under a full repairing and insuring lease for a 60-year lease term commencing on 7 May 2021 and expiring on 6 May 2081, with a break option exercisable by the Occupational Tenant on 15 January 2045, and then on every fifth anniversary from that date.

This acquisition is expected to be accretive to Stapled Security Holders. Based on the property consideration and net property income of £1.7 million, the net property income yield is 7.4%, and on a pro forma basis for the financial year ended 31 December 2021, the accretion in distribution per Stapled Security (DPS) is 1.1%.

This move is also in line with CDLHT's strategy of acquiring assets with more stable income to increase resilience and fixed rental base. The acquisition increases the fixed rental base of CDLHT's hotel portfolio by S\$3.1 million or 7.8% post-acquisition.

Please visit this link for the full announcement:

[http://investor.cdlht.com/newsroom/20220222\\_021017\\_J85\\_VPUC2F5SQN1HQHRK.1.pdf](http://investor.cdlht.com/newsroom/20220222_021017_J85_VPUC2F5SQN1HQHRK.1.pdf)



CDL will be redeveloping its Central Mall and Central Square properties into a large-scale mixed-use development, yielding a 67% gross floor area uplift and transforming the precinct into a new and vibrant lifestyle hub.

## Hong Leong Companies Post FY 2021 Results

### City Developments Limited

For FY 2021, City Developments Limited (CDL) returned to profitability with net attributable profit after tax and non-controlling interest (PATMI) of S\$129.7 million for its second half (H2 2021) and S\$97.7 million for the full year. The property development segment contributed 48% to total revenue, propelled by strong performing Singapore projects such as Whistler Grand, Amber Park, The Tapestry and Irwell Hill Residences, as well as overseas projects. In Singapore, CDL sold 2,185 units including ECs, with a total sales value of S\$4.3 billion in FY 2021 – the highest annual property sales achieved in the Group's history.

For hotel operations segment, revenue contribution across all regions jumped in 2H 2021, signalling an imminent rebound for the hospitality sector.

The Board is recommending a final ordinary dividend of 8.0 cents per share, as well as a special final dividend of 1.0 cent per share. Additionally, the Board is also proposing to reward shareholders with a special distribution in specie (Proposed Distribution) of 144,300,000 stapled CDL Hospitality Trusts (CDLHT) Units on a pro rata basis, estimated to be valued at 19.1 cents per share. Together with the special interim dividend of 3.0 cents per share declared in mid-2021, the total distribution to shareholders is expected to be 31.1 cents per share for FY 2021 (FY 2020: 12.0 cents).

CDL Executive Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng said, "Whilst the COVID-19 pandemic persists and presents uncertainties, the overall global outlook remains positive this year with the resumption of travel, opening of borders and an overall resolution to push ahead to open economies. The Group's hotel operations segment is poised for a long-awaited imminent rebound, boosted by pent-up demand for tourism and corporate travel. The Group will move forward swiftly to execute and deliver on our strategy. We will continue to review and optimise our hospitality portfolio through operational improvements, refurbishments, redevelopments and divestments to extract value. At the same time, to generate sustainable returns for shareholders, we will be agile and opportunistic to redeploy our capital to acquire assets in resilient sectors. The Proposed Distribution demonstrates our commitment and appreciation to our shareholders."

Please visit this link for CDL's full FY 2021 results: <https://ir.cdl.com.sg/static-files/15d4943f-64d3-4893-9848-00ac8c6d7c31>



### CDL Hospitality Trusts

Despite the ongoing pandemic, the hospitality industry saw a recovery in lodging demand in the second half of the year. CDL Hospitality Trusts (CDLHT) experienced positive momentum in room demand and rate growth in some portfolio markets.

The Group posted a 24.1% year-on-year (yoy) increase in net property income (NPI) to S\$49.1 million for H2 2021. This was largely attributed to its properties in the UK, Maldives, Germany, New Zealand and Japan. However, the increase was offset by lower NPI from its remaining properties, which declined by S\$5.3 million yoy, out of which S\$2.2 million was due to the divestment of Novotel Singapore Clarke Quay and Novotel Brisbane in 2020.

Total distribution per Stapled Security (after retention) (DPS) was down 11% yoy to 3.06 cents for H2 2021.

For FY 2021, CDLHT recorded higher NPI contributions for all of the markets, except for its Singapore and Australia properties, which declined by S\$10.2 million yoy. Overall, NPI for the full year increased by S\$16.8 million, or 24.2% yoy, to S\$86.1 million. DPS fell 13.7% yoy to 4.27 cents.

Please visit this link for CDLHT's full FY 2021 results:

[http://investor.cdlht.com/newsroom/20220128\\_073459\\_J85\\_DT5O83VCU03YA3FH.2.pdf](http://investor.cdlht.com/newsroom/20220128_073459_J85_DT5O83VCU03YA3FH.2.pdf)



*Refurbishment for all 360 rooms at Studio M in Singapore will take place across phases, with 146 rooms completed in January 2022. Pictured above is the Premier Loft Room.*

### Hong Leong Finance



*Hong Leong Finance posted a net profit of S\$84.8 million for FY 2021, a 32.7% increase from a year ago. Pictured above is the SME Centre @ Hong Leong Finance at Balestier.*

Hong Leong Finance (HLF) posted a strong recovery in net profit of S\$40.1 million for the six months ended December 2021, up 46.5% from the same period last year. Full year earnings was S\$84.8 million, increasing 32.7% from S\$63.9 million a year ago. The improved performance was driven by stepped-up efforts in managing the cost of fund and lower loan loss allowances.

On a per-share basis, earnings came in at S\$0.1793 versus S\$0.1224 in H2 FY2020.

For H2 2021, net interest income rose 37.2% to S\$88.7 million, as the strategic management of deposits allowed the group to reap a substantial saving in funding cost, which outpaced the prolonged low loan and asset yields. Full year's net interest income surged 21.2% to S\$178

million, on the back of improved net interest margin. As at end December 2021, HLF's net loan assets totalled S\$10.7 billion, down 2.3% from the corresponding period. Deposits and balances of customers were pared down to S\$10.8 billion as at end-December, in line with lower net loan growth and the optimisation of funding costs.





work

A final dividend of S\$0.0825 per share is recommended, up from S\$0.055 in FY2020. This is subject to shareholder approval at the company's annual general meeting on 29 April 2022, and is payable on 27 May.

HLF said with economic normalisation at work and bracing for a rising interest rate environment, it will continue to maintain strong capital position and prudent funding management to support lending activities. "The reopening of the domestic and global economies will provide renewed impetus to growth over the next 12 months. We remain positive on the long-term outlook but are watchful of the near-term headwinds from the unpredictable arc of the pandemic prognosis," added the company.

Please visit this link for HLF's full FY 2021 results:

[https://www.hlf.com.sg/downloads/financial\\_result/2021/fh2021fy.pdf](https://www.hlf.com.sg/downloads/financial_result/2021/fh2021fy.pdf)

### **Hong Leong Asia**

Hong Leong Asia (HLA) posted net profit increase of 28.6% to S\$60.1 million for the full year ended 31 December 2021. Revenue rose 9.7% to S\$4.9 billion on the back of higher revenue recorded by its diesel engines unit (Yuchai) and building materials unit (BMU).

Yuchai's revenue rose 7.9% to S\$4.4 billion following a 6.2% increase in volume sales to 456,791 units. Much of the growth was weighted towards the first half of the financial year as the period was just ahead of China's transition to National VI-compliant engines in July last year. BMU's revenue increased 29.8% to S\$471.1 million, supported by rising demand for concrete and related products in Singapore as construction activities recovered from FY 2020's low base. Supply of precast products for Singapore recovered as Malaysia came out of lockdowns. Operations at Tasek in Malaysia remained challenging and it reported a loss for FY 2021.



HLA's building materials unit saw a 29.8% increase in revenue to S\$471.1 million for FY 2021.

Earnings per share stood at 8.04 Singapore cents, against FY 2020's 6.25 cents.

"We are optimistic our end markets will further recover in 2022. While costs pressures are expected to remain as issues with global supply chains linger and remain vulnerable to higher energy costs, our push towards innovation and productivity improvements with automation and digitalisation will help to mitigate some of the pressures," said HLA in its outlook.

The Board has proposed a final dividend of 2.00 Singapore cents per share, subject to shareholders' approval at the company's AGM on 27 April 2022.

Please visit this link for HLA's full FY 2021 results:

[https://www.hlasia.com.sg/\\_files/ugd/e643d8\\_72a9e4f687ff4a0ea9b963c29ba94cb4.pdf](https://www.hlasia.com.sg/_files/ugd/e643d8_72a9e4f687ff4a0ea9b963c29ba94cb4.pdf)

## **First Sponsor Group Limited**



*First Sponsor's Guangzhou Primus Bay project (above) is one of its five development projects in China which are expected to launch for new pre-sales in 2022.*

Dreeftoren Amsterdam in the Netherlands is expected to commence in Q1 2022, and the construction and pre-sale launch of residences of the City Tattersalls Club project in Sydney, Australia, is set to begin in Q3 2022.

First Sponsor has announced a second interim dividend of 2.35 Singapore cents. The total dividend declared for FY 2021 will be 3.45 Singapore cents, an 11.3% increase from that of FY 2020 and a record dividend payout since its inception.

Please visit this link for First Sponsor's full FY 2021 results:

[https://firstsponsorgroup.listedcompany.com/newsroom/20220211\\_191633\\_ADN\\_F3LO3I5CQVJ71IS9.1.pdf](https://firstsponsorgroup.listedcompany.com/newsroom/20220211_191633_ADN_F3LO3I5CQVJ71IS9.1.pdf)

First Sponsor Group achieved a record annual pre-tax profit of S\$202.6 million in FY 2021, the highest since its inception. Net profit for the year was S\$121.5 million, up 17.7% from FY 2020. The good performance was underpinned largely by the profit contribution from The Pinnacle project in Dongguan, China, and a record annual average property financing loan book of RMB 2.7 billion for the year.

First Sponsor completed the divestment of a 40.5% effective equity interest in the Wentang Recycling Factory in Dongguan, one of the properties in the 90%-owned East Sun Portfolio, while another divestment of a property within the same East Sun Portfolio is expected to be completed in Q2 2022. It is also expecting to launch new pre-sales for five projects in China in 2022, while a redevelopment of



Located within the Lentor Hills Estate, the new development will enjoy close proximity to a plethora of amenities and public transportation. (Photo credit: STProperty)

## Hong Leong Companies Emerge As Highest Bidders For Land Sales In Lentor Hills And Jalan Tembusu

Hong Leong companies have emerged as the highest bidders of two recent Government Land Sales (GLS) site tenders in Lentor Hills and Jalan Tembusu.

### Hong Leong-led consortium to develop 600-unit residences at Lentor Hills

The top bid for the site at Lentor Hills Road Parcel A was placed by a consortium comprising Intrepid Investments Pte Ltd (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hong Leong Holdings Limited), GuocoLand, and TID Residential Pte Ltd (joint venture between Hong Leong Holdings and Mitsui Fudosan). The tender price submitted was approximately S\$586.6 million for the 184,460 sq ft site, or S\$1,060 psf ppr.

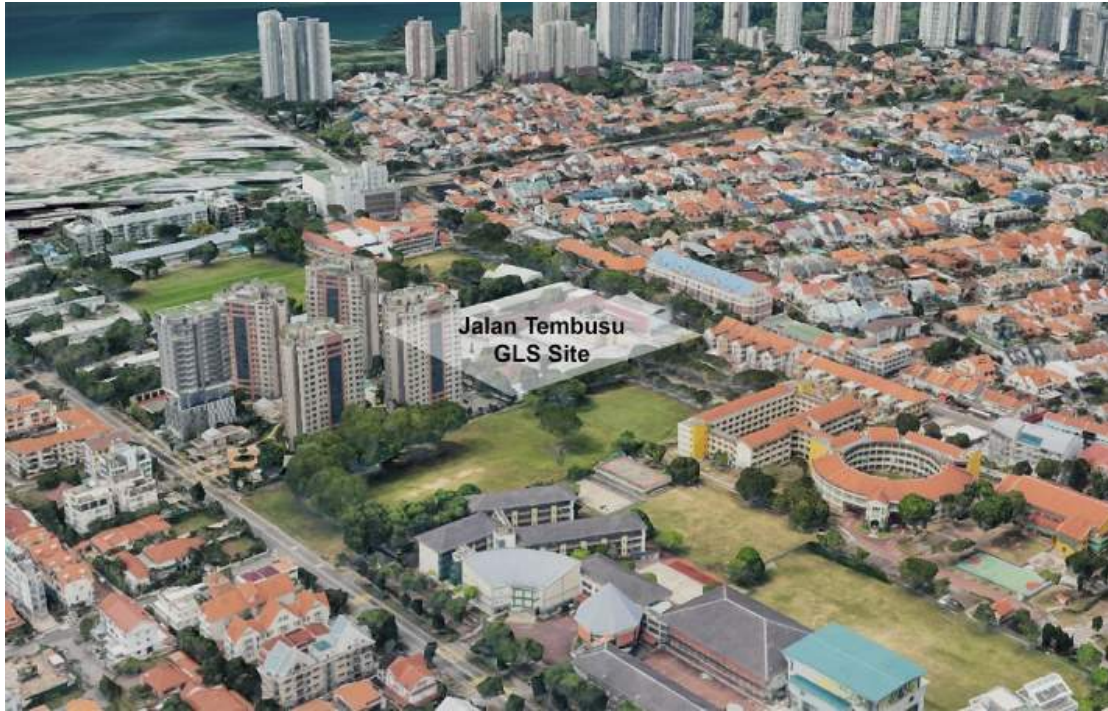
“We are pleased to achieve the highest bid for Lentor Hills Road Parcel A. We plan to build a 600-unit residential development where residents will benefit from the convenience of amenities nearby. With Lentor MRT station located just across the road, we believe this will also add to the site’s overall appeal to buyers,” said a Hong Leong Holdings (HLH) spokesperson. HLH is the parent company of Intrepid Investments.

The Lentor Hills Road Parcel A plot is located within the Lentor Hills Estate, planned to be sustainable and pedestrian-friendly neighbourhood in the future. Residents of the development will enjoy close proximity to parks and nature reserves, as well as a wide selection of commercial, F&B and retail options. A supermarket and child care facilities are also within easy reach across the road at GuocoLand’s upcoming mixed-use development at Lentor Central.

With Lentor MRT station just 5 minutes walk away, residents have connectivity across Singapore from Orchard Road, the CBD, Marina Bay, and East Coast. Nearby local and international schools include Presbyterian High School, Anderson Primary School, Ai Tong School, CHIJ St Nicholas Girls’ School, Eunoia Junior College and Nanyang Polytechnic.



## CDL plans to build 640-unit development at Jalan Tembusu



*The Jalan Tembusu site is located in District 15 and could bolster CDL's development inventory by over 600 units.*

City Developments Limited (CDL) made the highest bid of S\$768 million (or S\$1,302 per square foot per plot ratio (psf ppr)) for a prime 99-year leasehold private residential site at Jalan Tembusu. The site received a total of eight bids, with CDL emerging as the top bidder by a margin of 7.8% versus the second highest bid.

The regular-shaped and expansive 210,623 sq ft site has a plot ratio of 2.8 and excellent locational attributes. CDL plans to develop a residential project comprising four blocks of 20 to 21 storeys with a total of about 640 residential units. The proposed development will enjoy unobstructed view of the Central Business District (CBD) skyline, the Singapore Sports Hub, and some sea views towards the south.

CDL Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Sherman Kwek said, "We are very pleased to emerge as the top bidder for this prized residential site in District 15. Our residential projects have sold well over the past few years and the acquisition of the sizeable Jalan Tembusu GLS site will bolster CDL's development inventory by over 600 units. While there will be some headwinds on the back of the property cooling measures, we believe that the market remains well-supported by resilient fundamentals such as an improving job market and strong household balance sheets. Having launched and developed various projects in the vicinity including Amber Park, which is close to 90% sold, this is an excellent opportunity to expand our presence in this locale and create yet another enduring icon."

The site is located along Tanjong Katong Road and Jalan Tembusu in the sought-after District 15 and is approximately 500 metres to the upcoming Tanjong Katong MRT station on the Thomson-East Coast Line, which is scheduled for completion in 2024. It is also easily accessible and just a 15-minute drive away from the Central Business District and Changi Airport.

Nearby amenities include shopping malls Parkway Parade and I12 Katong, as well as Katong Heritage Shophouses and East Coast Park, offering comprehensive shopping, dining, entertainment and recreation options. Primary schools within the 1-kilometre radius of the site include Kong Hwa School, Haig Girls' School and Tanjong Katong Primary School.



## Robots Ahoy At South Beach!

*The EcoRider Tatanka, a personal mobility device for security officers, is one of the new technology equipment rolled out at South Beach.*

Singapore has been driving the Progressive Wage Model, focusing on uplifting low-wage workers in the Cleaning, Security and Landscape sectors, through upgrading skills and improving productivity. In support of this, South Beach has looked at a hybrid format of both headcount and technology in its Cleaning and Security contracts for its premises, and stepped up its innovation game to raise standards and introduce technology initiatives to boost productivity.

A total of six technology equipment have been introduced. The Ecobot Scrub 50 and Outdoor Scrubbing Robot handle cleaning, reducing the reliance on manual labour and ensuring consistently high standards of cleaning. Mechanised equipment Quattro-S and SpaceVac ensures a safer working environment for cleaning staff working-at-height and enhances productivity. For its security staff, South Beach has also introduced its Security Robot and EcoRider Tatanka, which help to increase the productivity for security officers, enabling greater operational efficiency and allowing them to respond faster to any situation.



While the headcount number was reduced through the deployment of these equipment, workplace safety and cleaning standards have gone up. Some of the robots additionally help to save water and contribute to South Beach's sustainability. As these robots and equipment are highly visible in the common areas of South Beach, they help to position the property as a modern integrated development that employs cutting-edge innovation and advancement in technology, thereby helping to attract more tenants from the growing technology sector for its office tenant mix.

Watch the video at this link: <https://hi-life.hongleong.com.sg/March2022/images/video.mp4>





Spring adornments at City Square Mall brought wishes of a bountiful reunion for shoppers.

## Gong Hei Fatt Choy!

How our Hong Leong properties around the world celebrated the Lunar New Year!



A majestic tiger welcomed tenants and guests to Hong Leong Building for a roaring Year of the Tiger.



Guests at The Baileys Hotel's Bugis Street Brasserie basking in the festive cheer with the lion dance performance.





Lion dance performances at Chelsea Harbour Hotel (left) and Copthorne Tara (centre) and Le Chinois Restaurant and Bar at Millennium Knightsbridge (right) rang in the new year.

Watch the videos at these links:

Chelsea Harbour Hotel: <https://hi-life.hongleong.com.sg/March2022/images/Chelsea%20Harbour.mp4>

Copthorne Tara: <https://hi-life.hongleong.com.sg/March2022/images/Tara.mp4>

Millennium Knightsbridge: <https://hi-life.hongleong.com.sg/March2022/images/Knightsbridge.mp4>



Grand Millennium Shanghai Hongqiao General Manager Mr Charles Demange (left) and Owner Representative Mr Eric Wang holding up two couplets expressing prosperity and wealth with the lions.



Millennium Gloucester added a touch of traditional décor such as lanterns and couplets to ring in the Lunar New Year.





Adorable stuffed tigers laid in wait to welcome guests at Millennium Wuxi.



Spring Festival adornments brightened up the atmosphere at Republic Plaza.



Warm wishes from the team at Millennium Zunyi for the Year of the Tiger. Watch the video at this link: <https://hi-life.hongleong.com.sg/March2022/images/Zunyi.mp4>



A large cherry blossom tree at JW Marriott Hong Kong marked the start of spring.



A lofty tower of good fortune and auspiciousness at the main lobby at Millennium Harbourview Xiamen.



M Social Singapore put up orange plants with Chinese decorative knots for the Chinese New Year. Oranges symbolise fortune while the decorative knots represent good luck.





*The colourful rainbow hues lighting up Grand Copthorne Waterfront.*

## **Experiencing The River Of Life At Grand Copthorne Waterfront**

In a heart-warming gesture to uplift the lives of Singaporeans and visitors, Grand Copthorne Waterfront launched a light art installation inspired by the Singapore River and its rich history.

In February, the hotel partnered Very Small Exhibition, an experimental art collective, to install special light art as part of the Very Momentary Exhibition Series.

Titled “River of Life”, the light installation was the first such installation to be done in collaboration with a hotel by Very Small Exhibition.

Grand Copthorne Waterfront General Manager Mr. Gagan Singh said that the hotel lit up its facade to bring a smile to anyone around the area. The exhibition ran nightly from 5 to 14 February and provided a memorable and exciting display of lights for hotel guests, residents in the Robertson Quay-Singapore River neighbourhood and members of the public.

In conjunction with the light art installation, the hotel also organised a giveaway contest on Instagram, and also set up a pop-up outdoor venue for guests to dine by the river and enjoy the installation.





**Enjoy  
Michelin-Starred  
Gourmet  
Hampers  
And More At  
JW Marriott  
Hong Kong**

**~ Gourmet Hampers by Man Ho Chinese Restaurant ~**

One Michelin-starred Man Ho Chinese Restaurant has introduced three sets of gourmet hampers, featuring nourishing Cantonese dishes made with premium ingredients. These hampers are perfect for a treat or for gifting to someone special to enjoy exquisite Cantonese delicacies.

Each hamper consists of four handpicked dishes crafted by the Man Ho culinary team, sealed in a vacuum bag to preserve the taste and texture and for convenient storage in a freezer. To reheat, simply place the vacuum bag in boiling water over the stove.

The **Classic Gourmet Hamper** includes *double-boiled fish maw soup with conch and dendrobium orchid*, *dried 30-head South African dried abalone*, *braised goose web in abalone sauce* and *vintage pu-erh tea 30 years*.

The **Premium Gourmet Hamper** features *fish maw in abalone sauce*, *Kanto sea cucumber*, *dried 30-head South African dried abalone*, *braised goose web in abalone sauce* and a bottle of Moët & Chandon Brut Imperial NV Mini (200ml).

The **Prestigious Gourmet Hamper** includes *fish maw in abalone sauce*, *Kanto sea cucumber with dried shrimp roe*, *dried 30-head Yoshihama abalone*, *premium bird's nest with crystal sugar* and a bottle of Moët & Chandon Brut Imperial NV Mini (200ml).

The luxurious **JW Marriott 33rd Anniversary Michelin-starred Gourmet Hamper** for four persons is a time-limited offer available this March only. It includes the delicacies from the Classic Gourmet Hamper for four, and a bottle of Moët & Chandon Brut Imperial NV (750ml).

One-day advance order is required. Prices start from HK\$888 nett. A delivery charge of HK\$300 per address applies, with free delivery for orders HK\$3,000. Terms and conditions apply.

For enquiries, please call 2810 8366 or email [jwmarriott.hk@marriott-hotels.com](mailto:jwmarriott.hk@marriott-hotels.com). Please visit this link for online orders: [https://bit.ly/ManHoGourmet\\_Media](https://bit.ly/ManHoGourmet_Media)



*meals & deals*

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### ~ Work From Room@JW ~

Need a change in work scenery, or need a quiet, conducive space? Book your Work From Room@JW package to enjoy a cosy workstation to stay focused.

The package is priced from HK\$880, and users can enjoy a flexible 10-hour usage of the room between 7.00am to 10.00pm. Guests can also enjoy free in-room tea and coffee, HK\$200 dining credit at Dolce 88, and 30% off in-room dining.

For more details, please email [jwmarriott.hk@marriotthotels.com](mailto:jwmarriott.hk@marriotthotels.com)



*\* Information correct at time of print.*





## **Capture Picture Perfect Moments With M Social Singapore's New Staycation**

*Smile for the camera at M Social Singapore's new staycation experience with Dollop Automat!*

Inspired by the rising popularity of self studios, M Social Singapore and Dollop Automat have collaborated to create a custom photo experience. Dollop Automat is one of the pioneers in the self studio space, and the experience offers professional studio settings to ensure top quality portraits. Guests simply need to get together, smile, and press the shutter trigger in hand to capture beautiful moments with family and friends.

The staycation package is priced from S\$190++ and includes a private 15-minute self studio session, with both black and white and full colour photos. Guests will also receive four 4R prints of their choice. An add-on option to purchase digital files of all photos taken is available at S\$40, and guests can also enjoy the dynamic SWIRL360 video experience with any purchase.

For more information or reservations, or email [reservations.mss@millenniumhotels.com](mailto:reservations.mss@millenniumhotels.com) or call +65 6206 1888, or visit this link: <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/offers/asia/m-social-singapore/dollop-m-social>

*\* Information correct at time of print.*



Uni – Hokkaido Sea Urchin

## Italian Meets Japanese And More At Grand Copthorne Waterfront

### ~ Italian Meets Japanese at Grissini ~

Diners can be transported on an unforgettable gastronomic journey at Grissini at Grand Copthorne Waterfront, with new 2022 creations by Chef Kenny Huang.



**Far left:** Alaskan King Crab with Squid Ink Pasta  
**Left:** Somen topped with Hokkaido Scallop, Uni and Caviar

The Omakase menu is set to surprise and tantalise tastebuds, and is available during lunch and dinner. Chef Kenny brings an innovative twist to his selection of dishes, which are created from the best and freshest ingredients of the day. Some creations include *Fettuccine Al Granchio Reale* with crab, *Linguine con Capesante* with scallops and *Wagyu Tenderloin* with caramelised banana shallot, pink garlic puree and veal bone marrow jus.

Other delights to indulge in include the luscious *Uni – Hokkaido Sea Urchin*, with scallop, ponzu and topped with Oscietra Caviar and Hanna Ho. Another new highlight is the *Alaskan King Crab with Squid Ink Pasta* with rich briny flavours. Also available is a classic food duo – zesty *Fresh Oysters* paired with *Bollinger Champagne*, *Capesanta Con Caviale*, comprising Hokkaido scallop with cauliflower, prosciutto chips and green pea, or the *Linguine All'astice* with Boston lobster, lobster bisque with garlic, tomatoes and parsley.





*Linguine con Capesante*



*Wagyu Tenderloin*

The Omakase menu is available during both lunch and dinner. The four-course Omakase set lunch is priced at S\$88++ and the Omasake set dinner starts from S\$158++ for five courses.

For reservations or enquiries, please email [dining.gcw@millenniumhotels.com](mailto:dining.gcw@millenniumhotels.com) or call +65 6233 1100.

### ~ Family Glamping Under the Stars ~



*Enjoy a glamping moment with family at a special themed staycation this March.*

This March, Grand Copthorne Waterfront has also planned a “Glamping Under the Stars” themed staycation, perfect for families wanting to enjoy camping yet dreading the planning and packing.

During the day, enjoy a hands-on pastry making session with the hotel's in-house Pastry Chef (limited slots available). As night falls, be awed by “stars in the room” with a switch of the star projector for a fairytale moment come alive. Families can immerse in the moment with a storybook torch of eight fairy tales and 64 picture slides. After a night of sweet dreams, dig into a full spread of continental buffet breakfast. Gifts can also be found in the Glam-Tent as a keepsake for the little ones.

Please visit this link for more information and reservations: <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/offers/asia/grand-copthorne-waterfront/glamping-under-the-stars/>

*\* Information correct at time of print.*



Sakura Set Lunch at Sagano

## A Sakura Dining Experience And More Await At New World Millennium Hong Kong

### ~ Sakura Dining at Sagano ~

In celebration of the beautiful sakura season, Sagano at New World Millennium Hotel presents a sakura-themed dining experience with a five-course seasonal set menu created by Kyoto-born Japanese Chef Masahiko Noka.

The exquisite Sakura Set Lunch features assorted appetisers with a variety of petite Japanese treats, including *grilled silver cod with miso paste*, *grilled egg rolls*, *mini glutinous rice dumplings*, *poached vegetables*, and *grilled beef with potato salad*.

In addition to *assorted sashimi* like sea bream, tuna and yellowtail, the set also comes with *assorted tempura* and *sakura sushi* on rice served with *miso soup*. Desserts include *sakura pudding* and *sakura ice cream*, made using real sakura leaves from Japan.

The Sakura Set Lunch is available until 30 April, priced at HKD580+ per person.

For enquiries or reservations, please call 2313 4222.

### ~ Work-n-Roll ~

Seize the day and work-n-roll at New World Millennium Hong Kong with a 12-hour day-use room offer for a distraction-free workday. AT just HK\$660 nett, make use of the City View Room from 7.00am to 7.00pm, with seamless WiFi connectivity, coffee and tea-making facilities. A self-pick-up takeaway lunch box from Tao Li or Café East for in-room dining is included, and guests can also enjoy a 20% food and beverage discount.

The offer is valid until 31 March from Mondays to Thursdays. Please visit this link for more information or bookings: <https://newworldmillenniumhotel.com/en/promotions/promotions-rooms-suites/work-n-roll-2022>





The new Chef Market menu features highlights such as Charcoal Grill, Grilled Lobster Thermidor and Seafood Paella.

## Dig In To New Dining Signatures At Orchard Hotel

The Orchard Cafe has refreshed its menu with Chef Market, a classic concept refined. Revolving around high quality ingredients, a gratifying selection of dishes from different cultural backgrounds, including local, European, Japanese, India, Thai and Indonesian cuisines are on the menu to please tastebuds. Signatures include the *Grilled Wagyu Beef Burger*, *Thai Style Shrimp Fried Rice* and *Signature Laksa*.

My Millennium Members also enjoy an exclusive 30% discount and free flow of M Wines.



Signature Laksa



Grilled Wagyu Beef Burger

The Orchard Cafe Chef Market buffet is available from Fridays to Sundays, priced at \$68++ per pax for lunch (12.00pm to 2.30pm) and \$88++ for per pax for dinner (6.00pm to 10.00pm).

Please visit this link for reservations: <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/destinations/asia/singapore/orchard-hotel-singapore/dining/orchard-cafe/the-orchard-cafe-reserve-a-table/>



*meals & deals*

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Hua Ting has also refreshed its menu, with classics including *Bird's Nest Dumpling with Super Fish Soup*, *Sea Whelk and Mushrooms*, *Stewed Inaniwa Noodles with Pan-fried Hokkaido Scallop and Supreme Chicken Stock*, and *Steamed Whole Crab Claw with Egg White and Ginger Puree*.

Please visit this link for reservations: <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/destinations/asia/singapore/orchard-hotel-singapore/dining/hua-ting-restaurant/hua-ting-reserve-a-table/>

*\* Information correct at time of print.*





Snippets from the virtual tour in Hong Kong: (Clockwise from top left) Dai pai dong at Central; Incense towers at Man Mo Temple; Hong Kong-style silk stocking milk tea; Enquiring about tips for good health at a herbal pharmacy.

## Hong Leong Foundation Goes To Hong Kong On A Virtual Holiday

Some 130 elderly (aged 60 to 100) from six senior homes embarked on a day trip to Hong Kong on 8 February 2022. Together with Hong Leong Foundation, they experienced the sights and sounds of the Lunar New Year festivities in the bustling city. The entire event was broadcast live via Zoom where the elderly could enjoy the overseas day trip from the comfort and security of the senior homes.

The seniors are from Adventist Home for the Elders, Singapore Baptist Convention Golden Age Home, St Andrew's Cathedral Home, St John's Home for Elderly Persons, St. Vincent Home, and Zion Home for the Aged.

The virtual holiday is part of Hong Leong Foundation's annual charity event, which includes cash contributions of \$508,650 to 3,391 beneficiaries under the Ministry of Social and Family Development's ComCare Long-Term Assistance scheme. Together with its annual charity event, Hong Leong Foundation's donations totalled S\$1.35 million for the year 2021. The Foundation is the charity arm of Hong Leong Group Singapore.

"We hope to bring back the joy and nostalgia of a 'holiday' while our seniors soak in the Lunar New Year festivities. What made this virtual trip extra special was the interactive element of the tour. Our elderly had so much fun chatting in real time with the local tour guide and residents in Hong Kong. It was an immersive and heart-warming experience for all of us," said Hong Leong Foundation Governor Mr Kingston Kwek. Mr Kwek was among the 50 staff volunteers at the event.

The volunteers comprised of senior management and employees across the Hong Leong Group of companies, including City Developments Limited, Hong Leong Holdings Limited, Millennium Hotels and Resorts, Hong Leong Finance, Hong Leong Asia, and Hong Realty.

Soaking in the sights of Hong Kong's famed Central District, the seniors visited iconic attractions such as the 160-year old Graham Street Market, which is Hong Kong's last operating street market; various dai pai dong (大牌档) or open-air food stalls; places of worship like the historic Man Mo Temple to witness festive rituals; and the century-old herbal tea shop Good Spring Company Limited where our seniors enquired about traditional herbal remedies and digestive aids after festive feasting.



*A snapshot of happy beneficiaries and volunteers after the tour*



*Hong Leong Foundation volunteers (in white) delivering lunch bento boxes to St John's Home for Elderly Persons*

Lunch was an authentic Cantonese affair specially prepared in bento boxes by Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. The lunch sets were delivered to the homes by staff volunteers, who also put up a virtual performance with a medley of festive tunes.

Established in 1980, Hong Leong Foundation is a long-term supporter towards causes such as education, the community, arts and heritage.





*A hotel staff from the Millennium Al Barsha, Millennium Atria Business Bay and Millennium Mont Rose Executive Apartments cluster receiving a medical check-up.*

## **Staff At Millennium Hotels In Al Barsha, Dubai, Start The Year On A Healthy Note**

Employees at Millennium Al Barsha, Millennium Atria Business Bay and Millennium Mont Rose Executive Apartments kicked off the year on a healthy level with a medical check-up campaign. Initiated by Cluster General Manager Mr Ziad El Hawi, staff across the three properties received a health check-up. The staff cafeteria menu was also reviewed to ensure that employees are getting healthy meals with the needed macronutrients. Among themselves, staff were also encouraged to track their own health and ensure adequate exercise and rest.

Mr El Hawi said, “Health and safety is our number one priority. To ensure that employees are at their productive best, we as management have to provide them with a workplace culture that promotes psychological health and wellbeing.”



*Cluster General Manager Mr Ziad El Hawi getting his health check.*



Finance Minister Mr Lawrence Wong (centre) joins CDL management representatives, Group Chief Operating Officer Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (2nd from right) and Group General Manager Mr Chia Ngiang Hong (far right), and other volunteers for a group shot before distributing the care packs.

## City Sunshine Club Extends A Passionate Helping Hand To The North West Community

City Sunshine Club (CSC), CDL's employee volunteer platform, started the year on a heart-warming note, taking part in the North West Community Development Council's (NWCDC) annual distribution drive. Part of the WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks initiative, festive packs were distributed to about 300 households living in public rental units in Limbang.

CDL has been a corporate partner of NWCDC's outreach for the past decade and CSC volunteers have been befriending the residents of Limbang since 2015.



Mr Kwek (foreground, left) and Mr Wong (foreground, centre) distributing the care packs to beneficiaries. They were joined by Mr Chia (in background) and other volunteers.

This year, apart from supporting the festive packs distribution, CDL also provided home improvement items to meet pressing daily needs, including rice cookers, standing fans and other furniture items to nine selected households.

CSC is part of CDL's culture of giving back to society. Many CDL employees look forward to returning to serve the needy residents in new and creative ways. In fact, the enthusiasm shown by CDL employees to volunteer for this distribution event has been overwhelming – within an hour of putting up the event on the intranet, a long waiting list had formed.

CDL Group General Manager Mr Chia Ngiang Hong said, "Through the City Sunshine Club campaigns, we hope to inspire and motivate our employees to engage in active volunteerism and join us in contributing to meaningful causes. We are humbled by the fulfilling opportunity during Service Weeks to interact with the Limbang community and bring cheer to the many low-income families during this festive season. CDL's long-standing partnership with NWCDC for festive pack distribution kickstarted in 2016, shortly after our Christmas outreach with the residents in 2015. Since then, CDL employees have reached out to the needy families with the contribution and distribution of essential items every year."



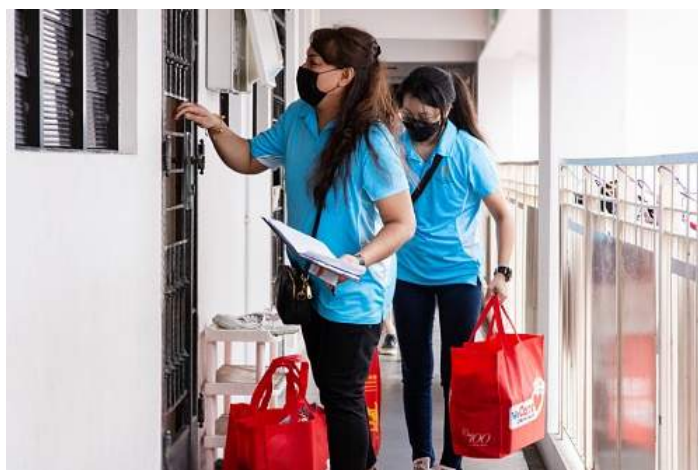


*CSC volunteers sorting out the festive packs to be given out to the households in Limbang.*

Joining the distribution exercise on 22 January was Finance Minister Mr Lawrence Wong, who is also Member of Parliament for Marsiling-Yew Tee GRC.

Mr Wong said, "WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks has become a regular feature in our Limbang community outreach. I'm heartened to see the CDC and CDL come together in contributing resources to provide more support to the vulnerable residents. Their regular contribution over the years have forged a strong bond with our residents, who look forward to their presence every year."

"We think it's something very meaningful, particularly during this pandemic when so many residents are going through difficult times. So over the past few years, we've been stepping up our efforts, whether it's through grocery distribution or providing financial assistance to needy residents, but it does make a difference when there is a human touch."



*CSC volunteers making their rounds around Limbang to distribute the care packs.*

In December 2021, CDL also championed two meaningful initiatives, a Grant-A-Wish programme to fulfil festive wishes of children living in Limbang, as well as a Gift-A-Voucher initiative to encourage donations of S\$20 supermarket vouchers for all residents of rental units in Limbang.



*A group photo of the Millennium Airport Dubai team, with General Manager Mr Simon Moore (1st row, 2nd from left) with their Green Key certification.*

## **Millennium Airport Dubai Awarded Green Key For Fourth Consecutive Year**

Millennium Airport Dubai has received the Green Key certification for the fourth consecutive year, an international eco-label for tourism and leisure establishments. The achievement is a testament of the team's hard work and dedication in ensuring consistent and high standards of environmental and sustainability practices.

General Manager Mr Simon Moore said, "We are absolutely thrilled in receiving this certificate for the fourth year in a row now and we are truly thankful to Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) for recognising our efforts. Without my team's support and commitment, this achievement wouldn't be achieved. Our hotel Environmental Management Committee is very dedicated in implementing the Green Key policies and strategies towards a greener environment and to ensure we have an eco-friendly initiative in place for team members and guests' information."

Some green policies the hotel has implemented include retrofitting high-efficiency LED lighting in guestrooms and public areas, installing solar water heating systems, having an on-site waste segregation area for better recycling efforts, and choosing cleaning and sanitation supplies that have eco-label ratings and using local and organic produce where possible. The hotel is also proactively involved in community outreach, participating in local and national awareness events such as Clean Up The World and Earth Hour.

The Green Key certification is a leading standard of excellence in environmental responsibility and sustainable operations for the tourism industry. The eco-label represents a commitment by businesses that their premises and operations adhere to the strict criteria set by the FEE, a global environmental education organisation.





*All smiles as M Hotel Human Resources Executive Ms Felicia Ang donates blood.*

## Staying Positive To Support The Singapore Red Cross And People With Disabilities

**Copthorne King's and M Hotel organise staff blood donation drive and courses on disability management**

Stepping up its support for the community, Copthorne King's and M Hotel organised an onsite blood donation drive in collaboration with the Singapore Red Cross. Some 17 staff across various departments including operations and back-of-house participated and donated blood. This was the first time the hotels have organised such an activity, with plans to hold another event so more employees are able to participate.



*Staff from Copthorne King's and M Hotel registering for their blood donation slots.*



*Cluster General Manager Mr Kung Teong Wah donating blood.*

Some 24 staff from the hotels also attended an 'Introduction to Disability Management Workshop' hosted by SG Enable. The virtual workshop aimed to provide hiring managers across departments including Front Office, Housekeeping, Engineering and Human Resources with a better understanding of inclusive hiring. Existing employers who have hired persons with disabilities (PWD) also shared more about their experience and how employers can help to assimilate PWDs into the workplace.

SG Enable is a government agency dedicated to empowering PWDs and supporting their needs.



*An office tenant receiving a rose from a South Beach representative in celebration of International Women's Day.*

## **South Beach Celebrates International Women's Day**

In honour of International Women's Day on 8 March, the first 100 ladies returning to their workplaces in South Beach were pleasantly surprised with a beautiful rose.

The delightful gesture brought cheer to the office tenants in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, breaking the ice and creating a lovely starting point for conversation in the morning.





City Developments Limited Executive Vice President and Head of Property Development Ms Lee Mei Ling.

## Breaking Boundaries And Gender Stereotypes In The Built Industry

International Women's Day is celebrated on 8 March every year, to highlight inspiring female role models from all walks of life, and to raise awareness and change attitudes on women's issues.

This year, City Developments Limited (CDL) invited their Head of Property Development, Ms Lee Mei Ling, to share her thoughts on breaking boundaries and gender stereotypes in the built industry – typically seen as a male-dominated arena.

To build inclusivity in the workplace and the wider community, CDL established an internal Diversity and Inclusion Task Force in 2017. This Task Force complements CDL's Women4Green network, a platform dedicated to encouraging and inspiring women to create a financially, environmentally and socially sustainable future, and also supports the International Women's Day 2022's campaign mission to #breakthebias.

Watch Mei Ling's video here:

[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/citydevelopments\\_citydevelopments-genderequality-diversity-activity-6906846860720398337--Je5/](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/citydevelopments_citydevelopments-genderequality-diversity-activity-6906846860720398337--Je5/)



City Developments Limited

14,308 followers

6d · Edited

Happy International Women's Day! 🌸

On this day, we celebrate and uphold women's achievements, recognise their challenges, and focus greater attention on women's rights and [#genderequality](#).

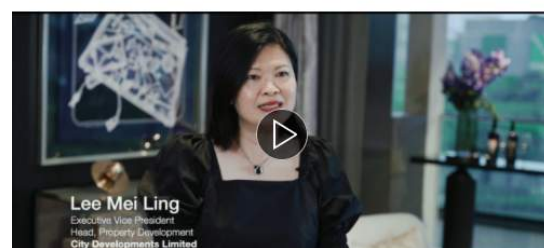
🌟 Watch what our Head of Property Development, Ms Lee Mei Ling has to say about breaking boundaries and gender stereotypes in the built industry.

At CDL, embracing [#diversity](#) and ensuring [#inclusivity](#) has enabled us to remain relevant in a competitive and evolving business landscape. 🙌

Women comprise a significant 69% of CDL's workforce, with 47% of our Heads of Departments (HODs) being females. In 2017, we adopted a formal Board Diversity Policy, which sets a clear framework for promoting diversity on its Board. Currently, two (or 22.2%) out of nine directors on CDL's Board are women.

Recognising that creating and expanding opportunities for women are fundamental to our growth, CDL established an internal Diversity and Inclusion Task Force in 2017 to promote diversity and inclusion within the workplace and the wider community. This Task Force complements CDL's [#Women4Green](#) network, a platform dedicated to encouraging and inspiring women to create a financially, environmentally and socially [#sustainable](#) future.

[CDL Sustainability](#) [#citydevelopments](#) [#cdlsustainability](#) [#iwd2022](#) [#breakthebias](#) [#workplace](#) [#diversityandinclusion](#) [#inclusiveleadership](#) [#people](#) [#culture](#) [#inclusiveworkplace](#) [#femaleempowerment](#)



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*The Luxury Suite with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges and the World Trade Center Memorial.*

**Go Downtown,  
Millennium  
Downtown  
New York's  
Waiting For You**

At the start of the year, Millennium Downtown New York rejoined the Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) portfolio. Situated right in the heart New York's Financial District, the hotel was formerly named Millennium Hilton New York Downtown and has seen some defining moments in modern history. Hi Life takes a look at the iconic landmark's past 30 years.

### **A spelling mistake?**

American real estate developer Peter Kalikow acquired the site in the 1980s and had plans for constructing either an office building or a hotel. Eventually, to cut down extra time spent on going through the complex approval process necessary for office buildings, he decided to build a 55-storey hotel.

The hotel, named The Millenium Hotel, opened its doors in September 1992.

And the spelling error was intentional. Kalikow chose to misspell the name, both on the outdoor signage and in official literature. He figured that the mistake would make the name more distinctive and have the hotel stand out from the crowd.

### **Changing hands**

Soon after the hotel opened, Kalikow went into bankruptcy and had to sell the hotel. It was sold to City Developments Limited in June 1994 for US\$75 million. An agreement was signed with Hilton to manage the property, which was renamed The Millenium Hilton, keeping the spelling error.



*The 'Millenium' name on the property exterior.*



## September 11

The 9/11 attacks occurred on the morning of 11 September 2001. Terrorists hijacked four planes, two of which were crashed into both the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center (WTC) in Lower Manhattan.

Located about 200m from the WTC, the hotel was evacuated prior to the collapse of the two towers. While thankfully no staff and guests were injured in the tragedy, the building sustained some damage and was closed for repairs.



The reopening of The Millenium Hilton in 2003. (Photo credit: Wired New York)



The American flag that flew in front of the hotel was recovered by hotel staff and rehung in the hotel's lobby after its reopening. (Photo credit: Getty Images)

The hotel closed for 18 months while it was completely refurbished. It reopened for business in May 2003.

In 2017, the hotel was renamed the Millennium Hilton New York Downtown, using the conventional spelling of 'millennium' this time.



On top of rigorous cleaning standards, Covid-19 measures the hotel rolled out included social distancing barriers at the front desk. (Photo credit: New York City Travel Tips)

## Tackling the Covid-19 pandemic

At the start of the Covid-19 outbreak in March 2020, the hotel was hit hard as New York had the highest number of confirmed cases in the US. Managed by Hilton, the hotel saw heightened cleaning and disinfection standards as part of Hilton CleanStay. Hit by domestic and international travel restrictions, coupled with political unrest, occupancy declined, and the hotel secured medical-related businesses and served essential workers to mitigate losses. The hotel also deferred its planned renovation that was announced in 2019.



*getting to know you*

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### **Rejoining the MHR portfolio**

In 2022, the hotel transitioned back into the MHR portfolio of brands, rebranding as Millennium Downtown New York. The iconic hotel retains its amenities and services, offering 569 guestrooms and suites, 3,350 square feet of flexible meetings and events spaces, dining establishments, a fitness centre and a business centre.

Located in the heart of New York City's Financial District in Lower Manhattan, the hotel is conveniently situated near eleven subway stops for easy access to the rest of the city. Select rooms also offer panoramic views of the Hudson River, the Freedom Tower, Manhattan Bridge, Brooklyn Bridge, 9/11 Memorial Museum, One World Trade Center and the Santiago Calatrava-designed Oculus.



*The Presidential Suite with stunning views overlooking Lower Manhattan.*





*congratulations*

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## **Millennium Airport Dubai Named Middle East's Leading Airport Hotel For The Tenth Time**

*Millennium Airport Dubai General Manager Mr Simon Moore (4th from left) celebrating the World Travel Awards win with the various heads of departments.*

At the recent World Travel Awards, Millennium Airport Dubai was once again named Middle East's Leading Airport Hotel 2021. This marks the tenth time in a row that the hotel was presented this accolade.

Millennium Airport Dubai General Manager Mr Simon Moore said, "It is an honour to receive such an important accolade from World Travel Awards. Winning and receiving the title of "Middle East's Leading Airport Hotel 2021" for the Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai would not have been possible without the support of our valued guests and the hard work that our team has put in. It is a tremendous achievement and another team success that makes us all very proud."

The World Travel Awards was established in 1993 and is the leading authority that recognises and rewards excellence in travel and tourism, and is also hailed as the 'Oscars of the Travel Industry'. This year's awards follow a year-long search for the world's top travel, tourism and hospitality brands, with votes cast by travel industry professionals and the public.



*congratulations*



*An artist's impression of the redeveloped 80 Anson Road site (former Fuji Xerox Towers). It is the first integrated development to achieve the Building and Construction Authority Green Mark Platinum Super Low Energy certification.*

## **CDL Reaffirms Sustainability Commitment With Best Performance On Global Indices**

Since the start of 2022, CDL has seen sterling achievements on two of the most renowned global sustainability benchmarks. It scored its best performance on the 2022 Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World and was also listed on the Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI) 2022, a testament to the organisation's unrelenting sustainability commitment and progress towards addressing gender equality.

### **CDL ranked fifth most sustainable corporation in the world and top real estate company globally**

For its tireless dedication in driving corporate sustainability, CDL was ranked fifth on the 2022 Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World. It also maintains its position as the world's most sustainable real estate management and development company for the fourth year running. Since 2010, CDL has been the first and only Singapore company to be included in the Global 100 ranking for 13 consecutive years. This is also its best performance to date, having jumped from 40th position in 2021.

CDL Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Sherman Kwek said, "It is very encouraging to see companies around the world taking decisive climate action and CDL is deeply honoured to be ranked fifth on the 2022 Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations. Our unwavering commitment continuously spurs us to set new benchmarks, such as including embodied carbon in our net zero targets. As we join the global momentum towards net zero and do our part in decarbonising the environment, we hope to see more companies join the collective effort. Only by working with our partners and stakeholders can we positively impact our value chain. Together, we can build a more resilient and sustainable future."

The Global 100 ranking is analysed by Corporate Knights and is recognised as the world's preeminent sustainability equity index and gold standard in corporate sustainability analysis. Over 6,900 companies with more than US\$1 billion in revenues were evaluated on a set of up to 24 environmental, social and governance (ESG) indicators relative to industry peers for the 2022 ranking.





*congratulations*

---

## Listed on the Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI) for the fifth consecutive year



*CDL's female directors Ms Carol Fong (left) and Ms Tang Ai Ai Mrs Wong Ai Ai.*

CDL has again been listed on the 2022 GEI, a modified market capitalisation-weighted index that aims to track the performance of public companies committed to transparency in gender-data reporting.

This year, CDL is one of five Singapore companies to be listed. This marks the fifth consecutive year the company is recognised on the index since its inauguration in 2018.

Mr Kwek said, "Embracing diversity and ensuring inclusivity enable CDL to remain relevant in a competitive and evolving business landscape. Harnessing the diverse perspectives of employees from different genders and backgrounds has kept our workforce agile and encourages more innovative thinking and better decision making. We are pleased to have been placed on the 2022 Bloomberg GEI for the fifth year running, which recognises our commitment to an equal opportunity workplace."

Women comprise a significant 69% of CDL's workforce, with 47% of its Heads of Departments being females. In 2017, CDL adopted a formal Board Diversity Policy, which sets a clear framework for promoting diversity on its Board. Currently, two (or 22.2%) out of nine directors on CDL's Board are women.

The 2022 GEI comprised 418 companies across 45 countries and regions. It measures gender equality across five pillars: female leadership and talent pipeline, equal pay and gender pay parity, inclusive culture, anti-sexual harassment policies, and pro-women brand.

Other than these two achievements, CDL's robust ESG integration and disclosures are widely recognised by 12 other prominent global ratings, rankings and indexes. This includes double 'A's in the 2021 CDP Global A List for corporate climate action and water security.



*congratulations*

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*Mr Stephen Kramat*

## **New Appointments At Millennium Hotels**

Millennium Hotels and Resorts Middle East and Africa (MEA) has welcomed back **Mr Stephen Gerad Kamat** as Vice President of Brands, Marketing and Communications, MEA.

Stephen brings over 20 years' experience working with international brands in hospitality and travel. He previously held roles leading the development of a destination brand for ADNOC, and was Area Director, Communications, Middle East, Turkey and Africa at Radisson Hotel Group, helping deliver group-wide brand communications, PR and reputation management objectives. Stephen was also previously with MHR and was instrumental in the development and launch of the Studio M, Millennium Place and Biltmore brands to the region.



*Mr Gagan Singh*

**Mr Gagan Deep Singh** has taken the helm as General Manager at Grand Copthorne Waterfront.

Gagan brings with him a wealth of hospitality experience with in-depth customer operations experience spanning over two decades with Marriott International. Prior to joining Millennium Hotels and Resorts, Gagan was most recently General Manager of Renaissance Hotel Malaysia. He joined Marriott International in 1999 and has worked in various Food & Beverage roles across Marriott properties in Mumbai. He is part of Project Zenith Team of Marriott Asia Pacific for Beijing Marriott Hotel Northeast and Renaissance Hotel Bangkok.