

SPEECH BY MR DESMOND LEE, PRESIDENT, HOMETEAMNS, AND SECOND MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AT THE SPIDERMAN: HOMECOMING MOVIE PREMIERE EVENT – TRIBUTE TO SINGAPORE EVERYDAY HEROES ON SUNDAY 2 JULY 2017, 6.40PM, AT THE SHAW LIDO

Mr Robert Crockett, Managing Director, Sony Pictures Releasing Singapore Pte Ltd,

Mr Parminder Singh, Chief Commercial and Digital Director, MediaCorp

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen

Good evening. Thank you for joining me at the movie premiere of Spider-man: Homecoming. Firstly, I am delighted that more corporations such as Sony Pictures Singapore and MediaCorp have come forward to recognise Home Team NSmen's contributions to keep Singapore safe, and secure.

## **Tribute to Singapore's Everyday Heroes**

2. Today's event marks one of the many ways that we pay tribute to our SPF and SCDF NSmen - Singapore's everyday heroes, as part of HomeTeamNS NS50 celebrations. Our NSmen are a source of pride and strength for Singapore. Over the years, the role of NS continues to evolve and expand to meet current and future challenges in the security environment.

3. Public confidence in the Home Team remains high. This is due to the synergy among regulars, NSFs and NSmen. Our NSmen are deployed for patrols, fire incidents, and national emergencies. Just like Spider-Man, our NSmen are dedicated to save lives and keep our streets safe; albeit without the superpowers.

4. Home Team NSmen had become an intrinsic part of Singapore. Each and every one of us has a part to play to celebrate our everyday heroes who are committed to safeguard our way of life. Let us pay tribute to our NSmen, past and present, for their role in ensuring that we have the peace and stability necessary for Singapore's progress and prosperity.

## **HomeTeamNS Alumni Connect Programme**

5. The term "homecoming" strikes a chord with HomeTeamNS. I am pleased to announce that HomeTeamNS will launch an Alumni Connect programme. The programme serves to build communities, deepen bonds and bring our NSmen closer to the Home Team family.

6. Alumni Connect will be Singapore's first NS social broker. It will provide secretariat services to connect NSmen with their fellow NS buddies from the same training batch or division.

7. Our HomeTeamNS clubhouses will be gathering grounds for our NSmen where they create new memories, as they reminisce on old ones where their bonds and camaraderie are built on.

8. HomeTeamNS members and NSmen who are interested in this programme can form Alumni groups and request for secretariat services through the HomeTeamNS NS50 mobile app.

9. The mobile app was built pro-bono by DSP (NS) Terence Matthew Choo, and it will also serve as a one-stop point for the entire Home Team NS community to access NS50 activities, Recognition Package and announcements.

10. In the next two years, we are targeting to form 65 NS Alumni groups. Through these groups and members, HomeTeamNS will solicit ideas and suggestions to conceptualise the aspirations for future NS clubhouses, benefits and activities. This will ensure that HomeTeamNS remains relevant, and continue to be the desired place for NSmen to get together.

11. With NS50 celebrations planned throughout the year, HomeTeamNS will introduce NS50 editions of its signature sport events including REAL Run and REAL Swim. Our members and NSmen can also look forward to innovative NS50 initiatives such as HomeTeamNS Movie Extravaganza, Free Car Rental Weekend, Ho Jiak Food Festival, and Reunion at the Old Police Academy in the coming months.

12. These events serve to honour the contributions of our NSmen and bring together NSmen, their families, and public closer to the Home Team community.

## **Stronger Partnerships with NS Associations**

13. In the last three years, HomeTeamNS received stronger support from corporations. On behalf of HomeTeamNS, I am heartened that partners such as POSB, Capitaland, Komoco, People's Association, Sony Pictures Singapore and MediaCorp are willing to work with us to honour the contributions of our NSmen through innovative programmes. I hope more like-minded corporate citizens will come on board to celebrate NS50 with us.

14. Thank you.

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