INSIGHT

SIA NEWSLETTER (E-BULLETIN) : THE WFH EDITION • PHASE ONE : SAFE OPENING (DAY 14)

LAUDING EFFORTS TO SUPPORT MIGRANT WORKERS

A PEEK INTO SIA MEMBER FIRM, LAUD ARCHITECTS PTE LTD, COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORTS DURING THE CIRCUIT BREAKER.

The past few months saw the Covid-19 outbreak terrorize our nation and pushing officials to put our country and economy on a Circuit Breaker (a public health measure to reduce mass population activity and movement), in a bid to reduce the infection rate. The migrant workers' community were not spared and many were placed in quarantine or gazetted isolation facilities as infection clusters began forming in multiple purpose-built workers dormitories all across the island.

Media spotlight shone on this community, resulted in numerous community bodies, NGOs, businesses, architects etc. coming forward to show great appreciation for the massive contribution that these workers have made in the building of our nation. **LAUD Architects** was one of them. They saw the need to bring joy to the migrant worker community, especially those that worked in their projects, and put together an initiative titled "Bringing Joy to Migrant Workers".

The initiative saw **LAUD Architects** committing a sum of $20,000, which was used to purchase specific needs items (e.g. personal sanitation which included disinfectant sprays, body soap and laundry detergents). The money was also used to purchase other daily items that were aimed at bringing joy to these workers; these include food, fruits and recreation equipment like badminton racquets and board games. A further sum of $10,000 was also made as a monetary donation to the Migrant Workers Centre (MWC).

A call of donations to their network of clients, consultants and collaborators was also made and to date, have garnered a total sum of $40,000, far exceeding their target of $10,000. The money will be donated to MWC for their good work in the migrant workers' community.

Interested parties may still donate to this cause via giving.sg.

You may also follow **LAUD Architects** and the progress of their initiative through their social media platforms:

Instagram: LAUD Architects
Hashtags: #laudarchitects #TogetherWeBuildSG #bringjoytomigrantworkers
Website: https://www.laudarchitects.com/give-joy

EDITOR'S THOUGHTS

Dear Members,

Since the last edition of the e-bulletin, a lot of changes have happened globally and locally; from the massive riots in the US, championing the "Black Lives Matter" movement, to the reignition of anti-government protests in Hong Kong and closer to home, a spotlight on migrant workers and their living habitat – all of these whilst the world is still battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than ever, the pandemic has revealed some of the issues plaguing the vulnerable in our community and it only seems fitting that we participate in the conversation too. In this edition, we see how one of our member firms are contributing back to the migrant workers that they work closely with and also see the positive policy changes that will impact the living environment for this community. The SIA COVID-19 Resource section has also been updated to reflect the latest changes in the budget and advisories that accompanied our transition into Phase One (Safe Opening). Check out the link to the consolidated infographic that lists out all the information relevant to our industry.

As always, we hope you will enjoy this edition from the comforts of your home desktop or from your mobile devices. And for those who have resumed working in their office, please be reminded we can never be too vigilant or too careful. Stay safe, stay healthy and always mask-up!

#SIAUnited

(P.S. Fingers crossed that Phase Two arrives earlier than expected)

Ar. Melvin Keng
Chief Editor

(For comments or submission of stories, please send an email to communications@sia.org.sg)

4 Jun 2020 marked the end for the **#SIA United: Care & Share Webinar Series, Standing firm together against Covid-19**, organised by SIA Education Thrust. 11 webinar sessions occurring twice a week accompanied our members during the Circuit Breaker (CB) and covered subjects that were topical and relevant to the current pandemic crisis and post-COVID 19. We saw keen participation in all the sessions, with one exceeding 660 attendees. We hope that participants have learnt and benefitted from them.

We take this opportunity to express a BIG and SPECIAL thank you to the following who have contributed to the success of this webinar series:

1. SIA President, Exco and Council members for their support of this webinar series within a very short notice and their contributions to most of the sessions.

2. SIA Education Thrust members for their ideas, contributions and hard work
3. All the speakers for their time and generous sharing of their knowledge, thoughts and experiences (See below for the list of speakers)
4. The SIA Secretariat team for their logistical and organizational support throughout the series
5. All SIA members, ARCASIA members and distinguished guests, for their keen participation

We hope to see continued support for SIA from everybody for our future education programmes.

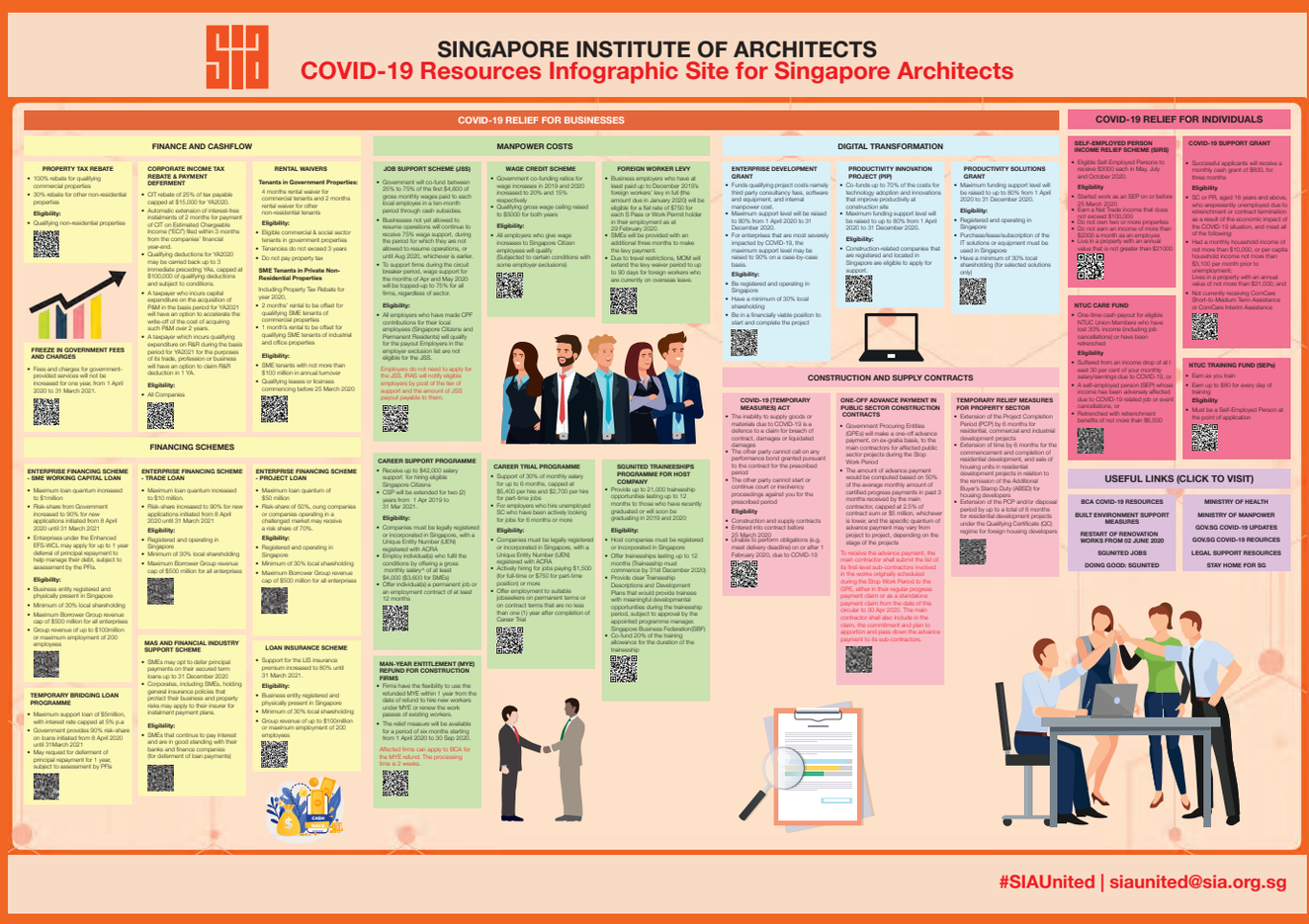
While most businesses and activities were halted and people kept indoors during the CB, knowledge and learning did not stop. SIA will continue to organise relevant and edifying education programmes for continuous professional development and upskilling. With easing of CB measures in early Jun 2020, architects and architecture practices will return to face headwinds with challenges, a "new normal" and "business as unusual". Notwithstanding, we will emerge united and stronger.

SIA stands firmly together with its members in the battle against COVID-19.

Ar. Lim Choon Keang
Ar. Koh Siew Lay
Council Members

Full Schedule

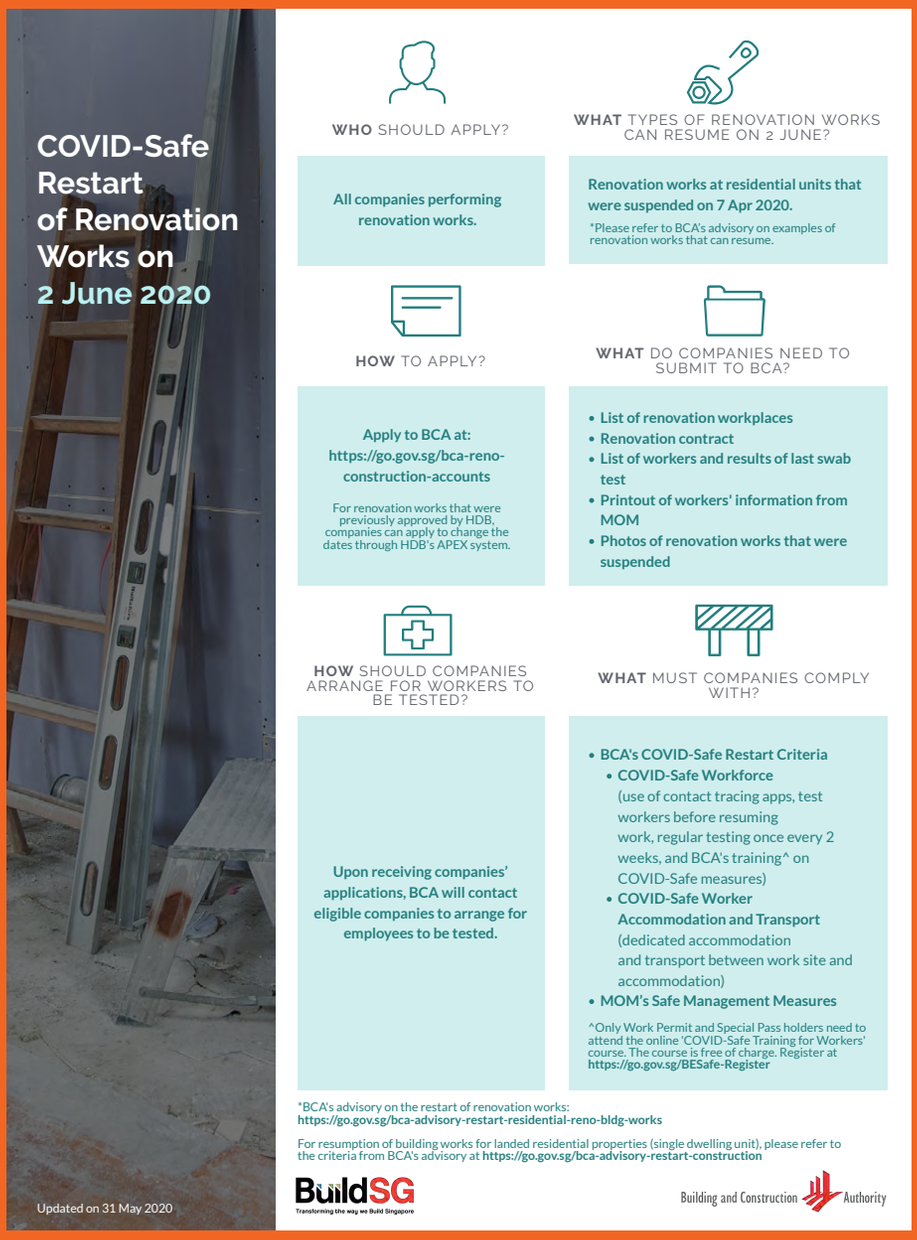
Date	Day	Topic	Speakers
30 Apr 2020	Thu	Introduction to Care & Share	Ar. Seah Chee Huang & Thrust Heads
05 May 2020	Tue	Engaging Technical Agencies during Circuit Breaker	Ar. Richard Lai, Ar. Koh Siew Lay & Ar. Thomas Ho
08 May 2020	Fri	How to Work From Home	Ar. Catherine Loke & Ar. Melvin Tan
12 May 2020	Tue	Building Contracts & A.D.R.	Ar. Chan Kok Way & Ar. Darren Benger
14 May 2020	Thu	Workplace Safety & Health	Ar. Darren Benger
19 May 2020	Tue	Technology Adoption during COVID-19	Ar. William Lau & Ar. Ho Sock Yee
21 May 2020	Thu	Sustainability Beyond COVID-19	Ar. Tan Szue Hann & Ar. Benjamin Towell
26 May 2020	Tue	Wellness and us in times of COVID-19	Ar. Cheong Yew Kee
28 May 2020	Thu	Beyond COVID-19: Future of Workplace and Home Future of Healthcare Future of Practice	 Ar. Tiah Nan Chyuan Ar. Theodore Chan Ar. Lim Choon Keang
02 Jun 2020	Tue	Future of Design Sensibilities	Ar. Wu Yen Yen & Ar. Christina Thean
04 Jun 2020	Thu	Future City, Architecture and Way of Life	Ar. Ong Tze Boon, Prof. Erwin Viray & Prof. Ho Puay Peng



A one-page directory to all COVID-19 related resources and links. Members may access the PDF document for an easier navigation of resources available for the general public as well as specific to the built environment sector.

PDF Document:
https://sia.org.sg/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/SIA_COVIDResource_29May2020.pdf

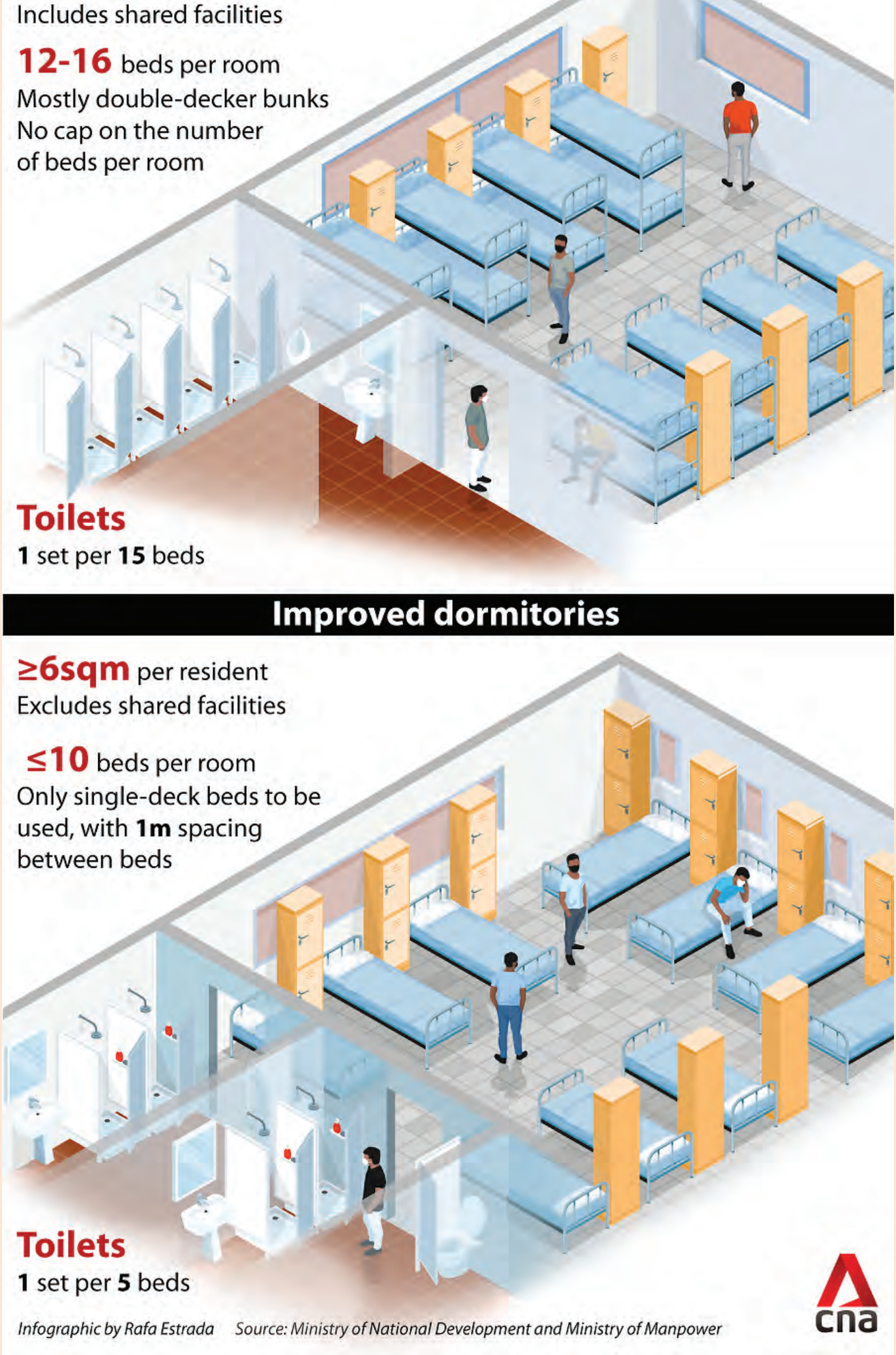
The infographics can also be accessed from the home page of our SIA website.



During Phase 1 of re-opening, various renovation works have been allowed to resume. This one-page infographic from BCA is a useful guide to a COVID-Safe Restart of Renovation works.

NEW STANDARDS FOR NEW MIGRANT WORKER DORMITORIES

The COVID-19 crisis has truly tested and challenged current health and safety standards of our built environment in Singapore, particularly in the case of the migrant worker dormitories. In response, the government has taken the initiative to come up with an improved set of standards and specifications to be piloted in upcoming Quick Build Dormitories (QBDs) with considerations of social interaction and disease response needs.

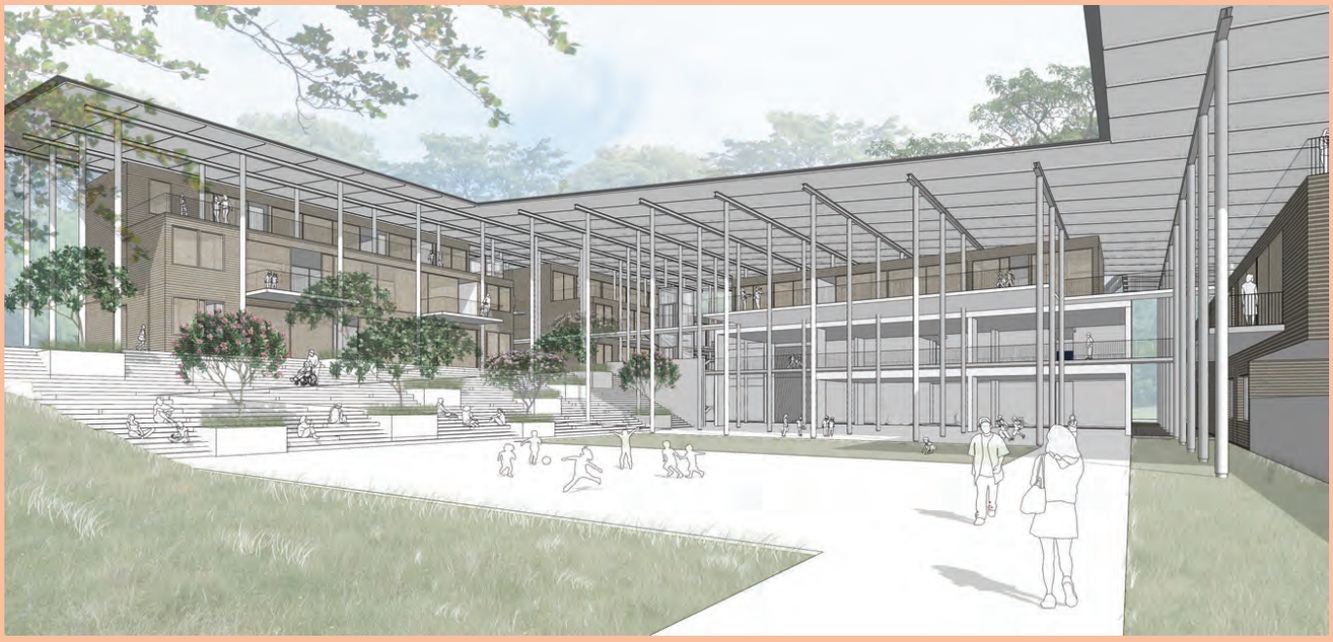


For more information, visit: https://www.gov.sg/article/improved-standards-of-new-dormitories-for-migrant-workers

~~CIRCUIT~~ BREAKING NEWS

ERNESTO BEDMAR ARCHITECTS PICKS UP TOP PRIZE!

Results for the architectural design competition for the proposed re-development of Melrose Village, Children's' Aid Society, Singapore are out.



September 2019, SIA organized an architectural design competition for the proposed re-development of Melrose Village Children's Aid Society (CAS), Singapore. A total of 05 architecture practices were shortlisted as finalists in the CAS Design competition; they are EML Architects, Ernesto Bedmar Architects, Formwerkz Architects LLP, Multiply Architects LLP and RSDS Architects. The grand prize went to **Ernesto Bedmar Architects**. Read on to see what the jury has to say about the winning scheme.

JURY CITATION

Ernesto Bedmar Architect's entry is the Jury's unanimous choice for 1st prize.

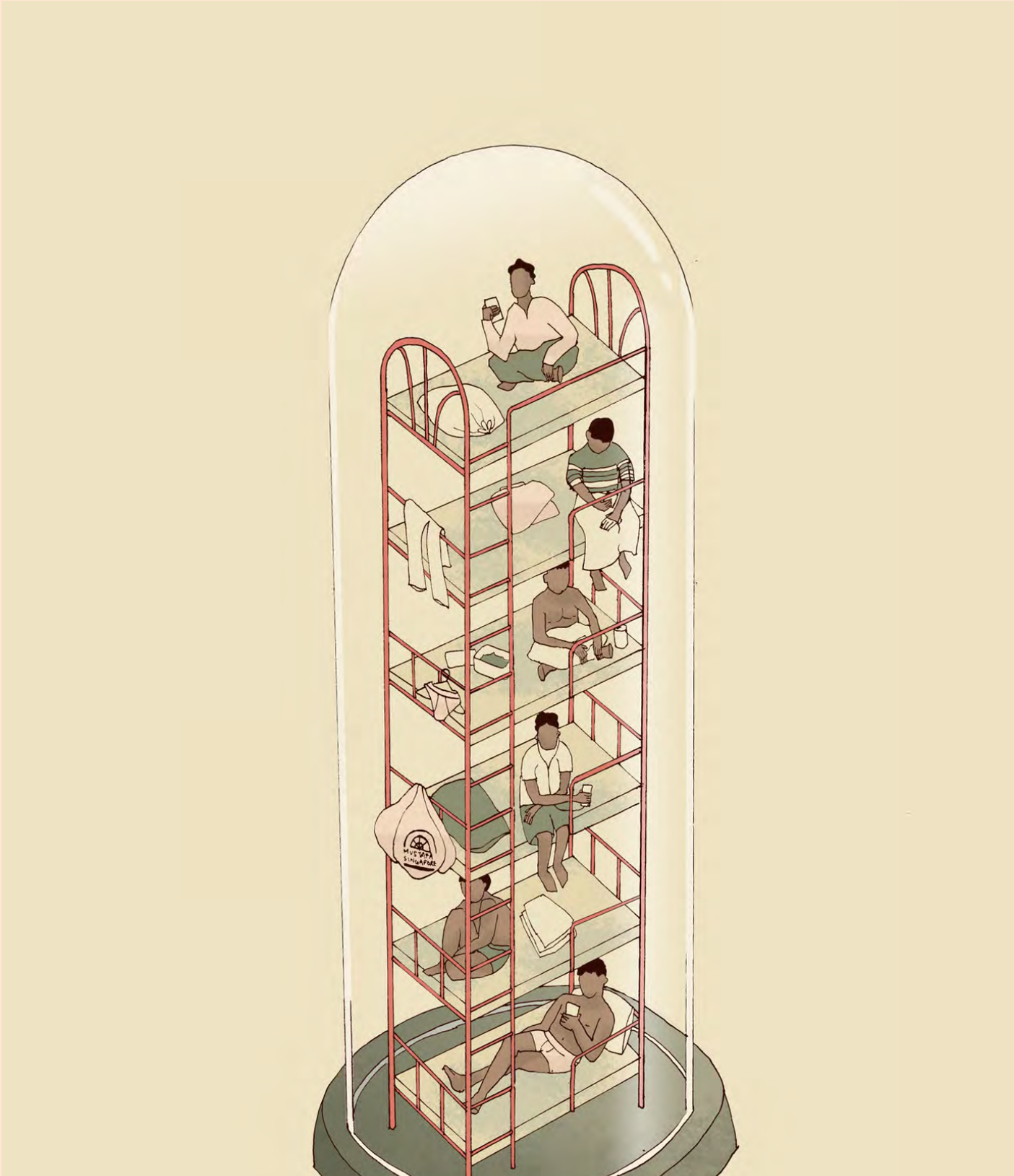
Ernesto Bedmar Architect's proposal for Melrose Village creatively reinterprets and pushes the boundary for the typology of "village", as envisioned by the Children's Aid Society's; a refreshing approach that moves ahead of curve. Their design sensitively conceived the spaces as a unified whole around the sloping topography of the site, complemented by generous green open spaces for exploration and recreation.

Its architecture has both a singular recognizable form as well as a delightful interplay of volumes and scales suited to the variety of functions. Reference to the tropical vernacular is expressed beautifully with well-ventilated and naturally lit 'rooms' throughout the "village". The tiered platforms addressed well the sloping site, while its architecture is characterised by rich and playful overlaps of interior, exterior and in-between spaces, catering to the needs for

intimate refuge and open community. The choice of materials is surprisingly tactile, innovative yet pragmatic, and the building form offers many opportunities for sustainable building technologies to be implemented.

A bold and thoughtful design, with a strong identity and reflective of the progressive vision for Melrose Village, Ernesto Bedmar Architect's design truly deserves the winning prize.

GUEST CONTRIBUTION



“ The Bell Jar ”, by Ar. Kenneth Koh

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contract and Practice Administration under COVID-19

19 JUN 2020
3.30PM - 5PM

SIA Minor Works Contract 2012: *Administering the MWC 2012 in the light of COVID-19 (Temporary Measures Act)*

26 JUN 2020
3.30PM - 5PM

SIA Minor Works Contract 2012: *Administering the MWC 2012 in the light of the recent changes to Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act*

03 JUL 2020
3.30PM - 5PM

SMAP & AA Committee Combined Webinar: *How to pursue unpaid fees using the SOP Act*

SIA Members
3-Sessions Bundle: $70
Single Session: $35

Non-Members
3-Sessions Bundle: $140
Single Session: $70

Feedbacks & Enquiries: siaunited@sia.org.sg