

## 2019 National Day Dinner

Date: 8 August 2019

Time: 7 PM

Venue: Orchard Hotel 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Ballroom

Speech by SCCCI President Roland Ng

Dr Ng Eng Hen, Honourable Minister for Defence  
Your Excellencies,  
Senior Ministers of State,  
Ministers of State,  
Members of Parliament,  
Senior officials of government departments,  
Friends from Singapore and abroad  
SCCCI Council Members and Members,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening! First, on behalf of SCCCI, I welcome Minister Ng Eng Hen and everyone here in joining us to celebrate Singapore's 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary of nation-building.

For more than half a century, SCCCI has, in step with the government's policies, actively led businesses in propelling Singapore's economic and social development. This year marks Singapore's Bicentennial. Singapore could develop into a prosperous and stable country because of the unassuming hard work of our pioneers. I hereby represent SCCCI in expressing my appreciation for their selfless

contributions. Let us pay our tribute to them by giving them a warm applause.

Singapore is an extraordinary country. We have successfully overcome the constraints of a tiny nation to win international respect for our economic development. Singapore has the foundation of a solidly built nation. Therefore, we are filled with greater confidence when faced with challenges.

Our government has decided on the core team of the fourth-generation leaders. They are standing on the shoulders of giants in leading us to face the future. Although Singapore's economic outlook has become less certain due to the impact of external factors such as the US-China trade war, there must be a way forward just as in any difficult situation. We could sail safely past the 1997 Asian financial crisis and the 2008 international financial crisis because we have a healthy tripartite relationship. This is the cornerstone for Singapore's development which has become our vital competitive edge, creating a sound business and investment environment for Singapore.

In keeping with the changes in our times, our businesses are actively making transformations and have become more equipped to compete internationally. Singapore will groom more business leaders with an international outlook. They will possess even more creative ideas and more advanced thinking. They will continue to achieve breakthroughs in the various industries as well as lead Singapore in driving regional and global development trends. SCCCI will provide them with the necessary support.

What drives SCCCI to unceasingly make contributions to the Chinese business community, the Chinese community at large and the country? We attribute this to the “Spirit of Chinese Enterprise”. “Integrity, Loyalty, Giving Back to Society and Innovation” are not only the traditional values of SCCCI; they also link Chamber with the country’s development.

Whether it is about maintaining family harmony, managing a company or making contributions to the country, the Spirit of Chinese Enterprise could serve us very well as a guiding principle. Only when one does his part well and manages his enterprise well could he forge ahead to make the Singapore brand a formidable one abroad. Therefore, we must pass on the Spirit of Chinese Enterprise and let it shine far and wide.

I am happy to see more and more young entrepreneurs participating in SCCCI’s activities. The SME and Infocomm Commerce Conferences that SCCCI will be hosting in two weeks’ time have invited a new generation of entrepreneurs to share their insights and experience on different topics. The various overseas business missions that SCCCI is organising and the World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention which SCCCI will be attending with a delegation in October have also attracted the participation of many young entrepreneurs who hope to expand their international network through the Chamber.

In closing, let us together wish Singapore prosperity, stability and an ever-bountiful future.

Thank you.