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**SPEECH BY SCCC PRESIDENT THOMAS CHUA**  
**AT THE MEDIA CONFERENCE FOR THE**  
**SG50 OUTSTANDING CHINESE BUSINESS PIONEERS AWARDS**  
**TROPHY DESIGN COMPETITION RESULTS**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 2015**  
**SCCCI BUILDING, UNITY ROOM, 8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**

Good afternoon! Thank you for attending today's Media Conference; I also thank everyone for your constant support to the SCCC!

The highlight of today's Media Conference is to introduce a very meaningful trophy. It symbolises a value and also a succession. Now let me introduce the SG50 Outstanding Chinese Business Pioneers Awards Trophy.

I am sure that you are aware that in celebration of Singapore's 50<sup>th</sup> year of independence, the Chamber has specially launched the Outstanding Chinese Business Pioneers Awards. These Awards not only affirm and acknowledge the contributions of successful Chinese business pioneers. They also represent the spirit of Chinese entrepreneurs, which consists of the pursuit of excellence, as well as the selfless contributions to the society at large. The award recipients are all major contributors to Singapore's economic development. Their spirit of overcoming challenges and wisdom make them role models for the younger generation.

Compared to the early years of nation-building, young people are blessed with much more comfortable lives; hence it is difficult for them to imagine the hardship our pioneers had to endure. From the moment we started to conceptualise these Awards, we discussed exactly how we could get a greater number of young people to be involved, so that they could gain

an in-depth understanding of the experiences and background of these Chinese business pioneers, and be fully aware of the Chinese entrepreneurial spirit. Finally, the Organising Committee decided to invite local schools to design the trophies for award recipients based on the meaning and theme of “Respect and the Pioneers’ Spirit of Succession”.

In May last year, the Organising Committee invited 11 universities, Institutes of Technical Education, polytechnics and Schools of the Arts to take part in the trophy design competition. Each school could send up to two teams to participate, based on the given theme of “Respect and the Pioneers’ Spirit of Succession”. Altogether 9 teams sent in their design concepts. After due deliberation and consideration by the Organising Committee, a team from Ngee Ann Polytechnic was selected as champion. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up both came from the two teams of Temasek Polytechnic. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students and teachers who have taken part in the trophy design competition. This competition has made it possible for everyone to have a more thorough understanding of the essence of the Chinese entrepreneurial spirit.

The Awards Ceremony will be using the trophy designed by the Champion Team, which is this trophy you now see. The base of the trophy is a composite of red and black, resembling the raging flames rising from burning charcoal, and emanating boundless energy to the two iron spirals rising upwards. These signify the resilience and perseverance of the Chinese business pioneers in forging bravely ahead, helping to forge firm foundations for our nation’s growth. The red spiral represents Singapore, whereas the gold spiral represents the Chinese business pioneers. The two intersecting spirals represent the symbiotic relationship between our nation and the Chinese business pioneers, symbolising the extreme hard work and selfless endeavours of the Chinese business pioneers in contributing towards our nation’s future.

The Organising Committee is very pleased with the design concept of this trophy originating from polytechnic students. Truly, it has shown us that young people have already grasped the overall meaning of the Chinese entrepreneurial spirit. By this same token, we hope that going forward they would be inspired by this same spirit in their own lives, enabling this



laudable spirit to be passed down from generation to generation, and contribute even more towards Singapore's sustainable development.