Talent Development, Our Commitment

The Official Newsletter of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS)

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Pages 10 & 11

Meeting of the Minds Sets the Stage for a Host of Initiatives: Focus on Talent Development to Meet the Needs of SCORE





PPKS Hosts IBM Coding Workshop for Students of SMK DPHA Gapor Stampin

Pages 4 & 5

PPKS Guest Speaker Series

Page 9



Annual Assembly 2018 Sets the Stage for a Stronger PPKS

Page 15

CONTENTS

	Editorial Line-Up/Contents	2
	Executive Director's Perspective	3
•	PPKS Hosts IBM Coding Workshop for Students of SMK DPHA Gapor Stampin	4-5
	Training & Consultancy Skills Enhancement Training Activities (January - March 2018) Skills Enhancement Training Calendar 2018	6-7
	Pictorial	
-	PPKS Guest Speaker Series Gets Off to a Flying Start Event Meeting of the Minds Sets the Stage for a Host of Initiatives:	10-11
•	Focus on Talent Development to Meet the Needs of SCORE Industry Feedback	
•	Samarahan Resident's Office and Students of PPKS Private Vocational College in Joint Initiative to Provide Post-Flood Assistance	13
•	i-CATS Murid-Murid SK Merpati Jepang Jelajah IT @ i-CATS Event	14
•	Annual Assembly 2018 Sets the Stage for a Stronger PPKS PPKS Mukah	16
	Gotong-royong Perdana Amalan 5S Edisi Pertama	10



If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas, please contact us:

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We are pleased to release the January to March 2018 issue of WORKFORCE, the official newsletter of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS). It features updates on events and happenings in PPKS.

Executive Director's Perspective

he first quarter of the year was a hive of activity, with many opportunities for the PPKS Group to build on its strengths and to bring online various strategic initiatives to propel us along the noble voyage to produce a qualified and competent workforce through continuous learning and development.



In line with our theme for 2018 'A Stronger PPKS', we have embarked on another wave of transformation, and put into high gear, various freshly-minted strategic initiatives. For example, in February 2018 the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak (MESTR) co-organized the Meeting of the Minds in Bintulu. The event was an ideal platform for the government, academia and key industry representatives from the energy-intensive heavy industries located in the Samalaju Industrial Park to engage in lively discourse about various issues such as Strategic Human Capital Development, Industry 4.0 and advances in Materials Science. The Meeting of the Minds has set the stage for a host of initiatives, with a focus on talent development to meet the needs of the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE).

During the quarter, we launched the PPKS Guest Speaker Series to support our ongoing initiative to 'Bring Industry into the Classroom'. These sharing sessions by speakers from the Government and Industry, will enable our students, staff and PPKS members to be updated on a wide range of topics such as industry best-practices and government regulations.

Our proposal to 'Make Post-Secondary Education a Reality for Students from Rural Communities' was selected for the IBM Corporate Service Corps Programme. During the course of a month (23 February to 24 March 2018), four IBM staff members from India and the United States of America (USA) worked closely with PPKS staff members to develop a data driven marketing strategy to reach out to students from rural communities throughout Sarawak.

With the ever-increasing importance of Industry 4.0 and the Digital Economy, there is a need for the PPKS Group to be more resilient as we strive to excel in the face of change. An important aspect of developing resilience would be to have a 'Growth Mindset' to develop our individual and combined capabilities and strengths. There is also a need for us to remain true to our corporate values, an important pillar in our strategic blueprint. The aforementioned strategic shifts will be invaluable as we explore smart partnerships with the industry, opportunities for workforce training and development, and new staff development initiatives across the PPKS Group. Indeed, as a stakeholder in the transformation of Sarawak's economic and digital landscape, PPKS will remain steadfast in its quest to produce industry-ready graduates, and be a flag-bearer in the noble cause of Sustainable Human Capital Development.

Hallman Haji Sabri

Executive Director Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak



PPKS Hosts IBM Coding Workshop for Students of SMK DPHA Gapor Stampin

Hands-on Experience for Students in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning Technologies, Designing and Building Chatbots

n 10 March 2018, Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS) hosted the IBM Coding Workshop for sixty-six (66) students from SMK Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Gapor Stampin, Kuching.

Held at the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS), a subsidiary of PPKS, the workshop was a joint initiative between the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak (MESTR), IBM and PPKS. 15 IBM volunteers from 10 countries, with the assistance of 31 PPKS/i-CATS staff members and interns facilitated the coding workshop.







Aptly titled 'SkillsBuild: Watson Maker Workshop', the main objective of the 3-hour workshop was to introduce students to chatbots and show how human-computer conversation services work. In a nutshell, a chatbot is a computer programme designed to simulate conversation with human users, especially over the Internet.

During the workshop, the students learned about artificial intelligence, machine learning technologies and were introduced to the key concepts related to designing and building an empathetic chatbot. For the students, a major highlight of the workshop was the hands-on approach, as they worked on designing and programming chatbots to contribute towards the betterment of society.





Mr. Hallman bin Sabri, PPKS Executive Director highlighted, "On behalf of the PPKS Group of Institutions, I wish to Research Sarawak and IBM for coorganizing this workshop. We live in an

attached to various organizations in Kuching, including PPKS. Since its launch in 2008, IBM's Corporate Service Corps (CSC) programme has



SKILLS ENHANCEMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES (JANUARY - MARCH 2018)



PROGRAMME TITLE: Fast-frack Programme for Wireman Grade 2 and Chargeman Level 1

TRAINING DATE(S) : 7 August 2017 – 31 January 2018 (6 months)

CLIENT : Sarawak Energy Training Centre

VENUE : PPKS SEITI

Sarawak Electrical Industry Training Institute,

Tabuan Laru, Kuching



PROGRAMMETITLE: AutoCAD Application Level 1 (1st Batch)

TRAINING DATE(S) : 27 February – 1 March 2018 CLIENT : Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR)

VENUE : PPKS Kuching



PROGRAMME TITLE : Introduction to Industry 4.0

TRAINING DATE(S) : 6-7 March 2018 CLIENT : Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR)

VENUE : PPKS Kuching



PROGRAMME TITLE: AutoCAD Application Level 1 (2nd Batch)

TRAINING DATE(S) : 27 - 29 March 2018 CLIENT : Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR)

VENUE : PPKS Kuching



Skills Enhancement Training Calendar 2018

NO	Programme Title	Duration	Course Fe	ee (RM) / pax		APR	MAY	JUNE
NO		[Days]	PPKS Membe	er Public	Tailor- Made Programme			
	Technical Programmes	[Days]	Fee excl. 6% GST		Trogramme			
1	Basic Electrical/Electronic Measurement & Troubleshooting Techniques Level 1	2	800.00	1000.00				
2	Basic Electrical/Electronic Measurement & Troubleshooting Techniques Level 2	2	800.00	1000.00		9-10		
3	Testing, Troubleshooting & Maintenance of Single & Three Phase Electrical Installation	2	800.00	1000.00		11-12		
4	Split-Unit Air-Conditioner Installation & Commissioning	2	800.00	1000.00		16-17		
5	Split-Unit Air-Conditioner Troubleshooting, Servicing & Maintenance	2	800.00	1000.00		18-19		12-13
6	AutoCAD Application Level 1	3	900.00	1125.00			8-10	
7	AutoCAD Application Level 2	3	900.00	1125.00				26-28
8	AutoCAD Application Level 3D Modelling	3	900.00	1125.00				
9	Programmable Logic Control (PLC) Practical Training	3	900.00	1125.00				
10	Pneumatic Practical System Training	3	900.00	1125.00		24-26		
11	Hydraulic & Electrohydraulic Practical System Training	3	900.00	1125.00				
12	Electric Motor Practical Maintenance	3	960.00	1200.00				5-7
	Soft Skills Programmes							
13	Introduction to Industry 4.0 (Cloud Computing, Big Data, Cyber Security, IoT, Vertical Integration)	2	768.00	960.00	√		24-25	
14	Customer Service Excellence	2	768.00	960.00	√		14-15	
15	Presentation Skills	2	768.00	960.00	√	25-26		19-20
16	Strategic Marketing for Growth & Expansion	2	768.00	960.00	√			
17	HPT and Performance Management	2	768.00	960.00	√			
18	Rights and Obligations in Termination of Employment	2	768.00	960.00	√			
19	Human Resource Management for Small Businesses	2	768.00	960.00	√			
20	Organisation and Roles of HR as Business Partner	2	768.00	960.00	√			
21	Training Needs Analysis & Competency Skills Workshop	2	768.00	960.00	√		21-22	6-7
22	Team Building for Organisational Excellence	2	960.00	1200.00	√			21-22
23	Leadership Skills Development	2	1152.00	1440.00	√		24-25	27-28
24	OSH Management System	2	1152.00	1440.00	√			
25	OSH Construction Safety At The Workplace	2	1152.00	1440.00	√			
26	Handling Grievances and Harassment at the Workplace	2	1152.00	1440.00	√			
27	Practical Applications of the Labour Law (Sarawak)	2	1152.00	1440.00	√			





PPKS Guest Speaker Series Gets Off to a Flying Start

n 2 March 2018, the inaugural session of the PPKS Guest Speaker Series got off to a flying start with an eye-opening presentation by the Guest Speaker, Mr. Muhamed Ali bin Hajah Mydin, CEO of Penang Skills Development Centre.

Aptly titled 'Industry 4.0: What Does It Mean for Educational and Training Providers?', the Guest Speaker provided real-world insights into the evolving and vibrant landscape of Industry 4.0 and the need to embrace fast-evolving technologies and a multi-generational workforce. With the importance of Industry 4.0 and the Digital Economy, advances in teaching and learning would go a long way to develop an industry-ready workforce.

Sharing his thoughts on the event, PPKS Executive Director Mr. Hallman bin Sabri highlighted that the Guest Speaker Series would be held regularly at PPKS campuses. This would be an ideal platform for the Government, Industry and Academia to engage in lively discourse about industry-related issues. Mr. Hallman also shared that the Guest Speaker Series was part of the ongoing initiative to 'Bring Industry into the Classroom'. Indeed, students would benefit from the sharing sessions by the Guest Speakers.





Meeting of the Minds Sets the Focus on Talent Development

he Meeting of the Minds which was held on 6 February 2018 at a leading hotel in Bintulu, has set the stage for a host of initiatives, with a focus on talent development to meet the needs of the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE).

Co-organized by the Ministry Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak (MESTR) and Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS), the Meeting of the Minds was officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Michael Manyin Anak Jawong, Minister of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak. In his address, Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Michael Manyin highlighted that the Meeting of the Minds was timely and in tandem with the State Government's ongoing initiatives and strategies to boost economic development throughout the State of Sarawak. To boost Human Capital Development in Sarawak and prepare for Industry 4.0, he shared that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research had identified relevant issues, challenges, needs and opportunities to formulate a comprehensive plan to improve the education system in Sarawak. An important area was to address the mismatch of skills among university graduates.





The Minister emphasized that one of the strategies formulated by the Ministry was to increase enrolment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related fields in Schools, TVET and Higher Learning Institutions. He shared that the national target for STEM education was 60 percent. However, it was only around 19 percent in Sarawak.



Signing of MoU between Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS) and Materials Processing Institute, United Kingdom.

From Left: Encik Hallman bin Sabri, PPKS Executive Director. Dato Hajjah Maznah binti Dasmi, Secretary of PPKS Management Council, YB Dato Sri Michael Manyin Anak Jawong, Minister of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak, Mr. Alan Scholes, Chief Technology Officer, Materials Processing Institute, United Kingdom

The Ministry had also implemented various initiatives to improve English Language proficiency in schools. In this respect, he urged PPKS and other training providers to emphasize English as the delivery language. Indeed, he stressed that the various strategies would go a long way to boost the ongoing Human Capital Development initiatives and keep at bay, the Curse of the Luxury of Natural Resources; the paradox that certain countries with great natural resource wealth tend to have slower economic growth than resource-poor countries.



Stage for a Host of Initiatives:

to Meet the Needs of SCORE



The Minister also shared that the State Government had emphasized the importance of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in producing the much needed human capital to support the state's development initiatives.

In his speech, PPKS Executive Director, Mr. Hallman bin Sabri highlighted that the Meeting of the Minds was an ideal platform for the government, academia and key industry representatives from the energy-intensive heavy industries located in the Samalaju Industrial Park to engage in lively discourse about various issues such as Strategic Human Capital Development, Industry 4.0 and advances in Materials Science. To support Sarawak's development initiatives, Mr. Hallman bin Sabri shared that PPKS would set up a Metallurgy and Materials Science Training Centre which would provide relevant training in the field of Metallurgy and Materials Science for industries in SCORE and nationwide.

In this respect, he emphasized that the signing of two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) during the event, first between PPKS and the Institute of Materials Malaysia. followed by the MoU between PPKS and the Materials Processing Institute, United Kingdom would pave the way for PPKS to offer Certified Training Programmes (Materials Science and Technology Programmes) from these institutions. This would also facilitate the exploration of joint initiatives in the area of Customized Training Programmes, Consultancy, and Research and Development (R & D).



Mr. Hallman bin Sabri also took the opportunity to express his thanks to Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Michael Manyin Jawong and his team members from the Ministry, the Corridor Development Authority (RECODA), the British High Commission, Kuala Lumpur, the various representatives from the industries, and distinguished speakers (comprising representatives from the government, industry and academia) for their tremendous support in making the Meeting of the Minds a reality.

As part of the Meeting of the Minds, on 7 February 2018, a number of the delegates visited Press Metal Bintulu Sdn. Bhd., Pertama Ferroalloys Sdn. Bhd. and OCIM Sdn. Bhd.





Welcoming remarks by Mr. Hallman bin Sabri, PPKS Executive Director.







Jovelynna Chung Manager, HR & Administration



66 In the world of work, self-development is of utmost importance.
One must have the right attitude, embrace change and be willing to upgrade oneself. Learning is a lifelong process.

Press Metal Bintulu Sdn. Bhd.



Steven Chang Senior Manager, HR

With PPKS's involvement with Pertama Ferroalloys, we can find the right candidates. Looking forward to the collaboration with PPKS in technical competency skills programmes, for example in Metallurgy, Engineering, etc.







Lisa Chee General Manager, HR

66 Collaborations with Institutions like PPKS will pave the way for the smelting industry to establish itself in Sarawak.



OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd.



Nancy Anak Tagi Executive, HR

At OCIM Sdn. Bhd., we look forward to working closely with our stakeholders in Sarawak to power a brighter tomorrow.







Inya Pelangi Administrator

66 With the development of the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE), there will be many job opportunities both upstream and downstream for Sarawakians. In addition to technical skills, it is important to have good communication skills in English. 99

Sakura Ferroalloys Sdn. Bhd.





Samarahan Resident's Office and Students of PPKS **Private Vocational College in Joint Initiative to Provide**

Post-Flood Assistance

n 25 February 2018, a group of volunteers from the Samarahan Resident's Office and PPKS Private Vocational College provided post-flood assistance to the residents of Kampung Mang, Samarahan.

The joint initiative between the Resident's Office and PPKS Private Vocational College got off to a positive start, thanks to the support of Kota Samarahan Member of Parliament (P197) Yang Berhormat Puan Rubiah binti Haji Wang.

A total of fifty students and ten staff members from PPKS Private Vocational College together with Samarahan Resident Tuan Haji Brahim bin Lumpu and his team members from the Resident's Office participated in various activities such as cleaning flood-affected areas, repairing electrical wiring and painting the new hall.

In his opening speech, Tuan Haji Rambli bin Haji Hasbi, Director of PPKS Private Vocational College took the opportunity to express his thanks to Yang Berhormat Puan

Rubiah binti Haji Wang, Tuan Haji Brahim bin Lumpu and his team from the Samarahan Resident's Office, and the residents of Kampung Mang, Samarahan for their full support in making this noble initiative a reality.

He also highlighted that the students, who are in the Diploma in Electrical Power Generation programme, would be able to experience first-hand, the importance of contributing towards the betterment of society.

In her speech, Yang Berhormat Puan Rubiah binti Haji Wang commended the Samarahan Resident's Office and PPKS Private Vocational College for providing post-flood assistance to the residents of Kampung Mang, Samarahan.

She emphasized that post-flood management was crucial to avoid any untoward incidents and to facilitate the return to normality.

On another note, Yang Berhormat Puan Rubiah binti Haji Wang urged the youths in Kampung Mang, Samarahan to equip themselves with relevant technical skills to enable them to thrive in today's ever-competitive environment. In this respect, she highlighted on the opportunity for the youths to further their studies at PPKS Private Vocational College with grants provided by the Government.

Also present were Ketua Kampung Tuan Haji Othman bin Rayan, Puan Hajah Hamdiah bt Sazali (Senior Manager, Student Services, PPKS) and Puan Brenda Alexander Alaw (Deputy Director (Academic), PPKS Private Vocational College).





Program Jelajah IT di i-CATS:

Murid-Murid SK Merpati Jepang beraambar bersama Encik Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi, Ketua Eksekutif, i-CATS (enam dari kanan) dan Encik Dzamaluddin Zainudin, Ketua Pemuda PBB Cawangan Satok N8 (enam dari kiri) sebagai kenang-kenangan.



MURID-MURID SK MERPATI JEPANG JELAJAH IT @ i-CATS



ada 24 Februari 2018 seramai 80 orang murid darjah 6 Sekolah Kebangsaan Merpati Jepang telah mengikuti bengkel Jelajah IT @ i-CATS.

Program Jelajah IT @ i-CATS yang berlangsung selama sehari di Kolej Antarabangsa Teknologi Lanjutan Sarawak (i-CATS) Kampus Barat itu bertujuan mendedahkan para peserta kepada dunia teknologi komunikasi dan maklumat (ICT) di peringkat yang lebih awal lagi melalui kaedah pengajaran dan pembelajaran yang menyeronokkan.

Berucap semasa merasmikan program Jelajah IT @ i-CATS berkenaan, Encik Dzamaluddin Zainudin yang merupakan Ketua Pemuda PBB Cawangan Satok N8 melahirkan penghargaan beliau kepada Pemuda PBB Ranting No. 3 di atas kejayaan menganjurkan program tersebut bersama-sama pensyarah dan pelajar-pelajar School of Innovative Technology, i-CATS.

Beliau turut menzahirkan hasrat untuk terus menjalinkan kerjasama dengan i-CATS dalam menganjurkan pelbagai program berbentuk pendidikan dan kemahiran kepada para pelajar sekolah rendah dan menengah serta belia di dalam kawasan PBB Cawangan Satok N8.

Seterusnya beliau memaklumkan yang program seumpamanya akan diadakan lagi pada masa yang akan datang dengan penyertaan lebih ramai murid dari sekolah-sekolah rendah di kawasan Satok N8. Ini sejajar dengan hasrat dan fokus Kerajaan Negeri dalam menyedia dan memperlengkapkan warga Sarawak ke arah Ekonomi Digital.

Turut berucap di dalam majlis tersebut adalah Encik Shahrol Anuar (Pemangku Ketua Pemuda PBB Ranting Kampung No. 3) dan Encik Mohd Isham bin Fauzi (Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif i-CATS).

Hadir sama adalah barisan exco Pemuda PBB Ranting Kampung No. 3, para pensyarah dan pelajar School of Innovative Technology, i-CATS serta peserta-peserta bengkel Jelajah IT @ i-CATS.





Annual Assembly 2018 Sets the Stage for a Stronger PPKS

Best Teaching Staff Award 2017



n 23 February 2018, the Annual Assembly for staff members of the PPKS Group of Companies (Kuching Region) was held in the PPKS Auditorium in Kuching. In his keynote address, PPKS Executive Director Mr. Hallman bin Sabri shared that the various strategic initiatives implemented over the course of the past twelve months to transform PPKS into a leader in industrial education and training have taken root, and would be a strong foundation for PPKS to build on its strengths and expand the broad spectrum of its industry-relevant programmes in 2018.

In this respect, he emphasized that the theme for the Annual Assembly and for 2018, 'A Stronger PPKS' would necessitate an important strategic shift - from a focus on the present, to exploring unchartered waters and a whole new world filled with exciting opportunities for PPKS and its stakeholders.

With the ever-increasing importance of Industry 4.0 and the Digital Economy, Mr. Hallman stressed on the need for PPKS staff to be more resilient, as individuals and as team members under the flag of PPKS. An important aspect of developing resilience would be to have a Growth Mindset to develop one's capabilities and strengths.

Mr. Hallman also shared on the importance for staff members to remain true to PPKS's corporate values, an important pillar in the group's strategic blueprint.

Following Mr. Hallman's keynote address which also covered the PPKS Group Balanced Scorecard for 2018, awards were presented to staff members under the following categories: Outstanding Teaching Awards, Best Support Staff Awards and 5S Awards (Landscaping).

Best Support Staff Award 2017







GOTONG-ROYONG PERDANA AMALAN 5S EDISI PERTAMA

ada 23 Mac 2018, Program Gotong-Royong Perdana Amalan 5S Edisi Pertama telah dilancarkan oleh Pengurus PPKS Cawangan Mukah, Encik Abdul Hafidz bin Ali.

Program gotong-royong ini diadakan bagi memberi pendedahan kepada semua warga PPKS Mukah tentang kepentingan Amalan 5S serta membudayakan Amalan 5S. Program telah dimulakan dengan nyanyian lagu Negaraku, Ibu Pertiwiku serta PPKS Kecemerlangan Menuju Kejayaan.

Program diteruskan dengan senaman zumba yang diketuai oleh Kelab Kesenian dan Kebudayaan PPKS Mukah. Sejurus selepas aktiviti senaman, Pengurus PPKS Cawangan Mukah, Encik Abdul Hafidz bin Ali telah menyampaikan ucapan dan beliau mengharapkan semua usaha ke arah persijilan 5S ini berjalan dengan lancar dan semua warga PPKS Mukah memberikan kerjasama sepenuhnya. Aktiviti 5S ini turut dibantu oleh pelatih-pelatih PPKS Mukah dan dibahagikan kepada zon-zon yang tertentu, iaitu Zon Iris, Zon Mawar, Zon Akasia dan Zon Lavender. Selain daripada itu, aktiviti landskap juga telah diadakan.



