

WERKFORCE

INGENUITY IN TALENT DEVELOPMENT

The Official Newsletter of the Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions

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MAJLIS ANUGERAH

Meraikan Penerimaan

THE MOST 5 STARS
TVET PROGRAMMES RATED BY JPK

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Mobile Application 8.0 Positions Sarawak as a Platform for local and International Digital Talent Development

PAGE 11

Community-Led Paddy Harvest in Tawang Baa Highlights Rural Empowerment and Food Security Efforts



Sarawak Skills



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We are pleased to release the January - March 2026 issue of Workforce, the official newsletter of the Sarawak Skills Development Centre. It features updates on events and happenings in Sarawak Skills.

Executive Director's *Perspective*

*A*s we proudly present **Workforce Newsletter Volume 102**, I am pleased to share another edition that showcases Sarawak Skills' continued pursuit of excellence, innovation, and meaningful impact. The achievements highlighted in this publication reflect the collective dedication of our employees, students, industry partners, and stakeholders, whose unwavering commitment continues to strengthen our position as a leading Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institution.

This edition marks an important milestone in our journey as we celebrate Sarawak Skills' exceptional achievement in the **National TVET Programme Rating 2025**. Receiving the highest number of 5-Star Programme Ratings from the Department of Skills Development (JPK) is a remarkable accomplishment and a proud testament to our pursuit of educational excellence. More importantly, it reflects our commitment to delivering industry-driven programmes that equip our graduates with the knowledge, practical skills, and professional competencies required to thrive in an increasingly dynamic global workforce.

HALLMAN BIN SABRI

Executive Director
Sarawak Skills Development Centre

Innovation remains at the heart of our educational mission. As technology continues to reshape industries and redefine the future of work, we are committed to cultivating graduates who are not only technically competent but also creative, adaptable, and forward-thinking. The **Mobile Application Challenge 8.0** exemplifies this commitment by providing a platform for aspiring innovators to develop digital solutions, nurture entrepreneurial thinking, and showcase their talents on both national and international stages. Such initiatives reinforce Sarawak's growing reputation as a vibrant hub for technological innovation and talent development.

At Sarawak Skills, we firmly believe that education has the power to transform lives and should be accessible to all. We are deeply grateful to **MBSB Bank** for its generous contribution of **RM85,000**, benefiting 340 B40 students across the Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions. This meaningful partnership reflects the shared commitment of both organisations to expanding educational opportunities, empowering deserving students, and investing in the nation's future workforce.

Our responsibility extends beyond academic and professional excellence. We remain equally committed to creating a positive social impact through initiatives that promote sustainability, inclusivity, and community empowerment. The **Community-Led Paddy Harvest in Tawang Baa** exemplifies this commitment by supporting rural communities, encouraging sustainable agricultural practices, and contributing to long-term food security through meaningful collaboration.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we recognise that every milestone is made possible through collaboration, resilience, and a shared vision for the future. I extend my sincere appreciation to our Board of Management, staff, students, industry partners, government agencies, alumni, and valued stakeholders for your continued trust, dedication, and support. Your contributions remain the driving force behind our success.

Together, we will continue to shape a future where Sarawak Skills serves not only as a centre of excellence in TVET but also as a catalyst for innovation, sustainable development, and human capital transformation. Guided by our shared purpose, we remain committed to developing future-ready talent that will contribute meaningfully to the progress of Sarawak, Malaysia, and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support, and I wish you an informative and enjoyable reading of this edition.





SARAWAK SKILLS ACHIEVES OUTSTANDING RESULTS IN NATIONAL TVET PROGRAMME RATING 2025

Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institution (Sarawak Skills) has marked a significant milestone in its commitment to excellence in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) following the successful outcomes of the Single Rating for TVET Programmes 2025 "Pendarafan Tunggal Program TVET Tahun 2025" conducted by the Department of Skills Development (Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran, JPK), Malaysia.

Under the national assessment, 10 Sarawak Skills programmes were awarded the prestigious five-star rating, reflecting the highest level of programme quality and compliance with national TVET standards. In addition, 20 programmes received four-star ratings, while two programmes achieved three-star ratings, further demonstrating the institution's strong overall performance across its diverse training portfolio.



The comprehensive evaluation was carried out throughout last year by appointed JPK assessment panels. The process involved rigorous reviews of programme design, curriculum relevance, training delivery, facilities, industry engagement, governance, quality assurance mechanisms, and employability percentage. Throughout the assessments, Sarawak Skills Kuching Branch demonstrated a high level of professionalism, coordination, and operational efficiency. The panels commended the institution's well-structured documentation, systematic information management, and effective workflow, which contributed positively to the assessment outcome.





Commenting on the achievement, Mr. Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, described the recognition as a reflection of the organisation's collective commitment to quality and continuous improvement.

"This achievement is the result of the unwavering dedication, discipline, and teamwork demonstrated by our staff across all Sarawak Skills branches. The five-star ratings attained by 10 of our programmes affirm that our training delivery, governance, and industry alignment meet the highest national benchmarks set by JPK," he said.

Mr. Hallman further emphasised that the results served not only as recognition, but also as motivation for Sarawak Skills to continue enhancing its TVET ecosystem.

"We view this recognition as both an honour and a responsibility. Sarawak Skills remains committed to continuously strengthening programme relevance, improving training quality, and ensuring our graduates are equipped with industry-ready skills that support workforce development and the economic aspirations of Sarawak and Malaysia as a whole," he added.

With regard to a related matter, Sarawak Skills has been accredited by the Department of Skills Development (JPK) as a Chief Administrator (Pentadbir Induk), becoming the first home-grown, government-aligned organisation in Borneo to receive this prestigious recognition. The accreditation was awarded in recognition of Sarawak Skills' strong institutional presence, with seven learning centres established across Sarawak, demonstrating its proven capability to manage, coordinate, and support multiple training institutions effectively.

In its role as Chief Administrator (Pentadbir Induk), Sarawak Skills Kuching serves as the central governing body responsible for overseeing and managing its accredited branch centres. This includes ensuring standardisation, quality assurance, and alignment of TVET programmes across all technical institutions under its purview. This milestone underscores Sarawak Skills' commitment to strong governance, quality excellence, and leadership in advancing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in the region.

This achievement further reinforces Sarawak Skills' position as a leading TVET institution dedicated to producing competent, skilled, and future-ready talent in line with national and state development priorities. Moving forward, Sarawak Skills will continue to collaborate closely with industry partners, regulatory authorities, and key stakeholders to enhance TVET standards and expand opportunities for sustainable skills development.





MOBILE APPLICATION CHALLENGE 8.0

POSITIONS SARAWAK AS A PLATFORM FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL TALENT DEVELOPMENT



Group photo:
The Honourable Wilfred Yap Yau Sin (front, yellow shirt) together with Mr. Hallman bin Sabri (front, seventh left), guests, and participants during the closing ceremony.

The successful completion of the Mobile Application Challenge 8.0 has further strengthened Sarawak's position as an inclusive and attractive platform for both local and international participation in digital innovation and talent development. The competition was organised by the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), in collaboration with Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), SRAMS Sdn. Bhd., and Sarawak Skills, reflecting strong cooperation between academia, industry, and skills development institutions.

Designed to equip students with practical skills in mobile application development, innovation, and emerging digital technologies, the programme provided participants with hands-on exposure to real-world problem-solving, structured mentorship, and professional project presentation. Selected teams progressed through a guided development process before presenting their final solutions at the Grand Final, ensuring that participants gained not only technical competencies but also industry-relevant experience.

This year's edition of the programme attracted 100 participants from 12 institutions, reflecting strong interest from across Malaysia and the region. The participating institutions included Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), University of Technology Sarawak (UTS), Multimedia University (MMU), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Curtin University Malaysia, Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT), iCATS University College, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Xiamen University Malaysia (XMUM), Padang State Polytechnic, Indonesia, as well as Sarawak Skills.

Following a rigorous evaluation process, 20 projects were shortlisted to compete at the final stage. The diversity of institutions represented at the Grand Final underscored the programme's growing appeal as a regional platform that welcomes participation from both local and international students, while encouraging cross-border collaboration and knowledge exchange.



The Honourable Wilfred Yap Yau Sin (third from left) presented a Champion Prize to the winner of the Product Category.

Speaking at the Closing Ceremony, The Honourable Wilfred Yap Yau Sin, State Assemblyman for N12 Kota Sentosa, said, "Programmes such as the Mobile Application Challenge play an important role in nurturing young talent and encouraging innovation among our students. By bringing together academia, industry, and skills development institutions, this initiative helps prepare our youth to contribute meaningfully to Sarawak's and Malaysia's digital future."

Meanwhile, Mr. Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, highlighted, "Sarawak Skills strongly believes that the future workforce must be equipped not only with technical skills, but also with digital, analytical, and problem-solving capabilities, particularly in areas related to artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. By guiding students from ideation to functional solutions, this competition provides a valuable platform for young innovators to apply AI and mobile technologies to address real-world challenges."

The Mobile App Challenge 8.0 was made possible through the generous funding support of SRAMS Sdn. Bhd. as the Main Sponsor, together with Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC). The continued collaboration between UNIMAS, industry partners, and Sarawak Skills demonstrates a shared commitment to developing digital and AI-ready talent while positioning Sarawak as a welcoming destination for innovation-led and internationally engaged programmes.

By bringing together students from a wide range of institutions and countries, the Mobile App Challenge continues to support local talent development while enhancing Sarawak's visibility as a regional hub for digital innovation, skills development, and international collaboration.

The Closing ceremony was also graced by Datuk Peter Ong Yii Boon, Managing Director of SRAMS Sdn. Bhd.; Prof. Dr. Jane Labadin, Dean of the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak; and Assoc. Professor Dr. Cheah Wai Shiang, Project Manager of the Mobile Application Challenge 8.0, reflecting strong support from government, industry, and academia.



Four (4) Mechatronics Trainers have successfully completed and passed the Collaborative Robot (COBOT) Training at DOBOT Robotics, Shenzhen, China. (12 – 16 January 2026)



Mr. Hallman Bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, served as the moderator for Forum Discussion 5: Aerospace Workforce of the Future during APACE 2026. (28 January 2026)



Sarawak Skills Staff Induction Course 2026. (4 February 2026)



Final Project Exhibition by Level 4 Information Systems students. (4 February 2026)



Sarawak Skills Business & Strategic Plans 2026 to 2030 programme chaired by Chairman, YBhg. Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain. (3 March 2026)



Surau Darul Ilmi Iftar Ceremony with PERYATIM Children. (9 March 2026)



Executive Director's Address.
(30 January 2026)



Sarawak Skills Social Recreational and Sports Club (SRSC) Fruit Festival.
(30 January 2026)



YB Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak, led a Sarawak State Government delegation on a working visit to the MADA Rice Training Centre (MRTC), Kedah.
(10 February 2026)



Sarawak Skills organised a Road Bullying Awareness Talk to enhance awareness on road safety and responsibility among the campus community.
(27 February 2026)



Blood Donation Campaign organized by Sarawak Skills Kuching Safety and Health Committee in collaboration with Sarawak General Hospital Blood Bank.
(10 March 2026)



The Industry Partners Dialogue and Preview in conjunction with STEM Catalysts 2026 programme.
(31 March 2026)



Group photo:
Mr. Hallman bin Sabri (fifth from right) received a mock-cheque from
Mdm. Hajah Hawina Abang Hipni (fifth from left).



MBSB Bank Contributes RM85,000 to Support 340 B40 Students Under Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions

Sarawak Skills received a contribution of RM85,000 from MBSB Bank Berhad to assist 340 Muslim students from underprivileged B40 families under the Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions. The contribution forms part of MBSB Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, aimed at supporting students from low-income backgrounds and easing their financial burden while pursuing their technical and vocational education.

Under the initiative, each student has received RM250 in financial assistance. The recipients comprise students from various institutions under the Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions, namely 155 students from Sarawak Skills Kuching, 44 students from Automotive and Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR), 16 students from Sarawak Skills Sri Aman, 46 students from Sarawak Skills Mukah, one student from Sarawak Skills Bintulu, 62 students from Sarawak Skills Miri, and 16 students from Sarawak Agriculture and Vocational Training Institute (SAVTI).

The handing-over mock-cheque ceremony was graced by Mr Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, and Mdm. Hajah Hawina Abang Hipni, Regional Director of MBSB Bank Sarawak Region at Sarawak Skills Kuching.

Speaking during the ceremony, Mr Hallman bin Sabri expressed his appreciation to MBSB Bank Berhad for their generous contribution and continued commitment towards supporting students' education and welfare. He highlighted that the contribution would greatly benefit students from B40 families, helping to ease their financial burden and enabling them to focus on their studies and skills development.

He added that initiatives such as this reflect the importance of collaboration between educational institutions and industry partners in supporting the development of a skilled and competent workforce. Through such meaningful contributions, students are given the encouragement and support needed to pursue their education and achieve their aspirations.

Sarawak Skills remains committed to providing quality Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and will continue working closely with industry partners and organisations to ensure students are well supported throughout their educational journey while preparing them to meet the evolving demands of the workforce.



Mr. Hallman bin Sabri presented a memento to
Mdm. Hajah Hawina Abang Hipni

COMMUNITY-LED PADDY HARVEST

IN TAWANG BAA

HIGHLIGHTS RURAL EMPOWERMENT AND FOOD SECURITY EFFORTS



Harvesting the paddy as a symbolic of the programme.

The Tawang Baa community celebrated the successful harvest of its community paddy cultivation project through a Community Paddy Harvest Programme.

The initiative, a collaboration between Sarawak Skills and Yayasan Hasanah, aims to empower rural communities through sustainable agriculture while strengthening food security in Sarawak.

The programme was attended by P198 Puncak Borneo Member of Parliament, Datuk Willie Mongin, who commended the efforts of Sarawak Skills, Yayasan Hasanah, and the local community in driving the project forward. He highlighted that the initiative not only focuses on paddy cultivation but also includes future eco-tourism development. He also noted that four youths from Tawang Baa have been selected to undergo a two-year Malaysian Skills Certificate Level 3 training programme in paddy cultivation at MADA Kedah and will return to share their knowledge with the community.

Sarawak Skills Executive Director, Mr. Hallman bin Sabri, said the programme reflects the organisation's commitment to community empowerment through skills development and sustainable economic activities. He expressed appreciation to Datuk Willie Mongin and supporting agencies, including MFICORD, MEITD, and the Sarawak Agriculture Department, for their contributions to the project's success.

The programme showcased the strong commitment of the Tawang Baa community and highlighted the potential of agriculture as a sustainable livelihood while contributing to the state's food security agenda.

Also present were Madam Knot Atok, Senior Principal Assistant Secretary of MFICORD, and Madam Juiata binti Akaw, Chief Human Resources Officer of Hornbill Skyways and member of the Sarawak Skills Management Council.



Group photo: YB Datuk Willie Mongin (front, seventh from right) together with Mr. Hallman bin Sabri (front, eighth from right) and the community at Tawang Baa, Padawan.



BEATRIX JOHN

**Creative Entrepreneur:
Beatrix Creation**

Class of 2019:
Information System Administration
(Malaysian Skills Diploma, Level 4)

Personal Motto:

***"Take Responsibility for Your
Own Growth. Yes, Meaningful
Change Starts From Within!"***



CARLOS LEONG

**Assistant Coiled Tubing
Operator, Halliburton, U.S.A.**

Class of 2025:
Welding Technology Management
(Malaysian Skills Diploma, Level 4)

Personal Motto:

***"Step Beyond Limits and Seize
Opportunity"***

SARAWAK SKILLS MUKAH

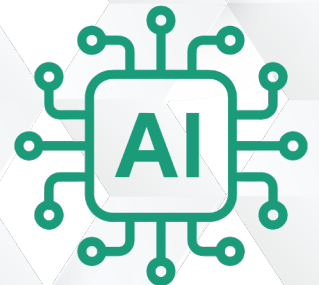
12 February 2026:

Briefing on "Anugerah Remaja Perdana Rakan Muda" and the Establishment of the Rakan Muda Club, Mukah District.

This programme was a collaboration between the Mukah Division Youth & Sports Office and Sarawak Skills Mukah.



SARAWAK SKILLS SRI AMAN

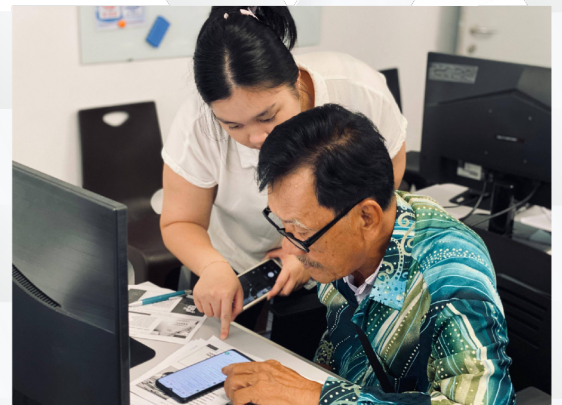


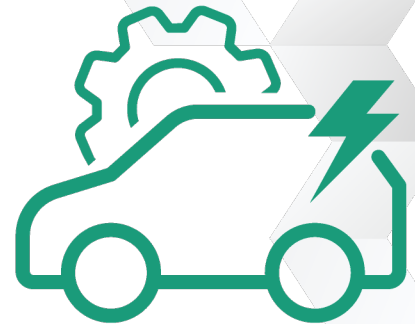
7–9 March 2026:

The Closing Ceremony for the IT Skills Enhancement Workshop Series 1/2026 was officiated by YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodie, Member of Parliament P.202 Sri Aman.

The workshop was a collaboration between the P.202 Sri Aman Service Centre and Sarawak Skills Sri Aman, involving 25 village heads and Women's Bureau representatives from the districts of Sri Aman, Lingga, Pantu, and Balai Ringin.

Throughout the workshop, participants were exposed to skills in preparing meeting minutes, official letter writing, proposal papers, and reports, as well as the use of AI tools such as Google Docs, NotebookLM, and ChatGPT. Participants also learned to use Google Workspace applications including Google Forms, Google Calendar, and Google Drive to assist in document preparation and improve the efficiency of community administrative management.





19 March 2026:

Certificate Presentation Ceremony for the YSD Skills Enrichment – Automotive (AWISAR) Programme

Sarawak Skills – AWISAR (Automotive & Welding Institute of Sarawak) successfully implemented the YSD Skills Enrichment Programme in the field of Internal Combustion Engine, Hybrid & Electric Vehicle Maintenance & Service in collaboration with Yayasan Sime Darby under the MADANI Budget 2025 initiative.

A total of 23 participants completed the programme and were awarded the JPK Certificate as well as the City & Guilds Level 1 certification in recognition of their achievements.

In preparation for employment, participants were also provided with toolkits and personal protective equipment (PPE) before proceeding to On-Job Training (OJT) with industry partners, with a target of achieving 100% job placement.





Highlights of **CORPORATE TRAINING SHORT COURSES**



**Certification Course for
Service Technician (CSTP)**
(27 February 2026)



Basic Water Pipe Fitting
(16-17 March 2026)



**Hearing Conservation
Administrator (HCA)**
(16 March 2026)



Autocad Level 1
(13-15 January 2026)



CORPORATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

SCAN HERE



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