

# Committee of Supply 2021 – Building an Inclusive Digital Society (Libraries and Archives Blueprint 2025 and the revamp of Choa Chu Kang Public Library)

Singapore, 02 Mar 2021

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Area	Description
Champion lifelong learning	<p>NLB will prepare its patrons for a fast-changing world through programmes such as on career and personal development. These include the Future of Work series and the My Digital Life series, which promote public awareness of how technology affects our life.</p> <p>NLB has also revamped its library makerspaces in 2020, with a rebrand from PIXEL Labs@NLB to MakeIT at Libraries, to reflect the need to shift Singapore's DIY and innovation culture into the next gear. There are three makerspaces which comprise activities such as hands-on workshops in 3D printing and robotics, jointly organised by NLB and the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA).</p> <p>As of December 2020, the library makerspaces have engaged over 9,300 participants and held over 11,100 tinkering sessions where participants engaged in DIY learning using 3D printers and robotics. A <a href="#">MakeIT Facebook Group</a> was also started during the circuit breaker period in April 2020, where NLB's livestreamed programmes engaged over 7,400 participants. Over 1,300 digital fabrication workshops and tinkering sessions will be curated and made available annually.</p>

Bridge the digital divide	<p>NLB will continue to partner IMDA and other government agencies to help communities, especially our seniors, to be comfortable and confident when using digital services and technology. For example, Library Learning Journeys will be conducted monthly at 25 public libraries from late February 2021, with capacity of four participants for each session. Led by digital ambassadors, these sessions teach seniors how to use the NLB mobile app and other digital services in libraries, such as connecting to Wireless@SGx, accessing eNewspapers and scanning QR codes.</p>
Document and tell Singapore stories	<p>NLB will continue to involve the community in its efforts to build the nation's contemporary collection and collect its history. An ongoing "Documenting COVID-19" collection drive organised by NLB and the National Museum of Singapore has so far received over 740 submissions of more than 3,600 photos, personal stories, videos, ephemera, webpages, blog, diaries and creative responses.</p> <p>NLB has also recorded 61 in-depth audio interviews as part of the oral history component of Documenting COVID-19. NLB aims to record at least 120 interviews from now until 2022. The public will be able to access them on the <a href="#">Archives Online website</a>.</p>
Strengthen citizen engagement	<p>NLB will continue to step up efforts to ensure that libraries are safe and inclusive spaces for the community to interact with one another. Communities are encouraged to pursue their passion in learning through setting up their own interest groups and reading clubs at the various libraries, where they can interact with like-minded people from all walks of life. NLB has brought people from diverse backgrounds together through over 100 interest groups<sup>1</sup> and reading clubs<sup>2</sup> catering to different age groups and in different languages.</p>
Promote information literacy	<p>NLB has been actively promoting information literacy through the Source. Understand. Research. Evaluate. (S.U.R.E.) campaign, which promotes the importance of information evaluation and discernment. Over 25,000 participants have benefited from S.U.R.E. programmes in the last three years, with increased interest during COVID-19.</p> <p>In the coming years, NLB will step up its efforts on S.U.R.E. and will weave the campaign into programmes across interest</p>
	<p>areas, such as combining a love of reading with being wise consumers of information at NLB's Read Fest 2021.</p>