

MEDIA RELEASE

BCA Gallery: A Milestone For Singapore's Built Environment

Visitors to the BCA Gallery will experience an interactive journey of Singapore's building development through the years and gain insights into BCA's integral role in shaping a safe, sustainable, high-quality and friendly built environment now and for the future.

1. The new BCA Gallery, the first showcase of the development of Singapore's built environment, will be officially opened today. The four key pillars of an excellent built environment, namely, *safety, quality, sustainability and friendly*, are highlighted collectively in this multi-sensory treat of interactive exhibits, models and pull-out panels.

2. The built environment features largely in the daily lives of everyone - as we work, study, live and carry out most of our daily activities within buildings. The built environment also has a significant impact on sustainable development.

3. As Singapore goes through the next exciting phase of development, our built environment has to evolve in tandem to meet our changing needs. Firstly, emphasis will continually be placed on the "*sustainability*" of our built environment, understandably as we grow to be more environmentally conscious by embracing the "go-green" lifestyle. Secondly, "*barrier-free accessibility*" of our built environment will be enhanced further as we aspire to enable our elderly to "age-in-place" and to provide for a more inclusive society.

4. In the midst of these developments, BCA wants to inspire and involve our next generation in this journey of shaping our common vision for the built environment. The BCA Gallery is a platform to share this vision. The Sensory Garden, meant to be the outdoor part of the BCA Gallery, complements the Gallery with its use of *Universal Design* concept as the guiding principle in its construction. We see this extension of the BCA Gallery as an example of a "*friendly*" garden design that appeals to our senses while taking care of the special needs of the less able-bodied.

5. Dr John Keung, CEO of the Building and Construction Authority said, "BCA has continually aligned our initiatives and strategies to the mission of shaping an excellent built environment. In the process, we garnered the support of our industry partners and benefited much from close collaborations with the various stakeholders. With the launch of the new BCA Gallery, we hope to engage the younger generation so that they are more aware of the contributions of the built environment professionals and their achievements. As such, the BCA Gallery's target audience will not just be the community at large, but students too. Our objective is to imprint on them their role in the present and future development of Singapore and encourage them to join us in this journey towards shaping a safe, high-quality, sustainable and friendly built environment."

6. At the BCA Gallery, visitors can embark on an interactive learning journey of the development of Singapore's built environment through the years. From its formative years to the current developments and towards the future vision for our built environment, visitors will be able to gain insights into our past, present and future. The BCA Gallery has been sub-divided into three zones according to three distinct themes to provide a progressive overview of the development of Singapore's built environment and the role played by BCA and the industry.

7. The BCA Gallery and Sensory Garden are located at the education and research arm of BCA – the BCA Academy at Braddell Road. The total floor space of 2,394 m² for the gallery and garden includes various hands-on interactive for the visitors to understand the real-life works that go into the development of Singapore's built environment.

Visiting Details

Admission to the BCA Gallery is free. The Gallery will be opened to students under the MOE Learning Journey programme. It is also opened to guided group tours for corporate visitors, grassroots and other organisations. The Gallery is opened from Mondays to Fridays (except for Public Holidays), from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. Interested visitors can call 6325 7720 or email bca_gallery@bca.gov.sg for more information on BCA Gallery's guided tours.