

WELCOME ADDRESS BY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (PRACTICE) YEO LI PHEOW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING, AT THE LEARNING ENTERPRISE ALLIANCE AWARDS CEREMONY 2023 ON 20 OCT 2023, AT PAN PACIFIC SINGAPORE

IAL's Special Guest Mr Lim Swee Say, Chairman, NTUC LearningHub
Professor Robbie Goh, Provost, Singapore University of Social Sciences
Mr Tan Wee Beng, Deputy Chief Executive, SkillsFuture Singapore
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Good evening. I hope the vibrant drum performance has lifted everyone's spirits and have you excited for the evening ahead.
2. Today marks the fifth anniversary of the Learning Enterprise Alliance, an initiative that IAL has sight for enterprises of all trades to learn and grow through workplace authentic settings. Please join me first to welcome the 27 new learning enterprises that are joining our Alliance tonight. With your joining, we have now close to 130 enterprises in the network. Thank you all, for coming on board and trusting IAL as your partner in this workplace learning endeavour.
3. Five years may not be a long time, and 130 represented by more than 15 industries might not seem like a big number. But we have every reason to celebrate. For the last half a decade, we experienced the economy reshaping and businesses restructuring, and we have faced the most arduous challenge, with the pandemic being the biggest disruptor. As the famous Chinese saying goes: 有危机就有转机, meaning with every threat comes an opportunity. Our Alliance members have shown steel in their will in uplifting their workforce. Instead of scaling down, you have rode on the headwinds and taken the opportunity to redesign your work and workplaces, allowing your employees to continue learning and value-add to themselves and more importantly, the organisation during this period. Now, we are ready to take on growth opportunities.
4. In the next five years and beyond, IAL will remain committed to partner you in promoting continuous development in the ever-evolving landscape of workplace learning that have vast potential to grow skills agility and open new training pathways for our enterprises and workforce. We hope to do more as the Alliance has since evolved from akin to a young start-up to an SME and we are confident to growing it as the number one Alliance choice for enterprises who are looking to grow and transform their workforce through workplace learning.

5. I would like to use this opportunity to invite you to be our ambassadors, our key opinion leaders, to introduce more members into our Alliance network. As you find our programme and consultancy useful, do share with your business network. Our team of consultants and adult educators are ready to hear their needs, just like we have heard yours, and we hope that we can chart tailored programmes with every enterprise's unique needs in mind. We would be happy to hear your feedback and suggestions as we work together to foster growth in the Alliance and amplify our collective impact.
6. Please allow me to draw parallel to our opening performance. Like the mesmerizing Taiko drum ensemble, where every drum and performer contribute to an awe-inspiring symphony, our shared commitment to workforce upgrading and reskilling creates a synergy that is nothing short of extraordinary. Just as the energy from each strike of the Taiko drum blends seamlessly into a united force, so too does our collective effort to empower and uplift our teams.
7. Today, we stand together, ready to create a cadence of growth, innovation, and excellence, where the sum is indeed greater than its parts. Thank you for being the drummers of change, for it is through your leadership and foresight that we embark on this exciting journey of transformation.
8. Please enjoy your evening and make new friends. Thank you.