



# MORE OPPORTUNITIES to GROW



Two new initiatives announced at the Early Childhood Conference and Carnival 2015 will support early childhood professionals as they enhance their skills and progress in their careers.

target educators, and similar programmes for educators and leaders will be introduced subsequently. Teachers, while continuing to work, will be placed on a three-year structured programme comprising 180 hours of professional development. These will include new modular courses at the Institutes of Higher Learning (to be launched in 2016), centre-based projects as well as Continuing Professional Development courses. Cash awards amounting to \$12,000 in total will be provided at key programme and service milestones.

"The PDP is meant to complement employers' human resource management and development frameworks," said Mr Tan. The scheme would also help to retain and upgrade staff. Employers may nominate teachers with at least three years of experience for the programme, from October 2015.

## Keeping Track of Progress



With the increased opportunities for professional development, ECDA will launch a new online platform, ONE@ECDA, to enable EC professionals to easily keep track of their professional development. Using their individual ONE@ECDA accounts, educators can search and sign up for courses, and receive direct updates from ECDA. Centre operators can also use the platform to track the professional development of educators in their employment. ONE@ECDA will be launched by end-2015. ♥

**E**ARLY CHILDHOOD (EC) PROFESSIONALS can look forward to more opportunities for professional development with the two new initiatives unveiled by Minister for Social and Family Development Mr Tan Chuan-Jin at the Early Childhood Conference and Carnival (ECCC) 2015 on 25 September. Implemented by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA), both the Professional Development Programme (PDP) and ONE@ECDA will support EC professionals in their career progression.

"These initiatives are part of the Government's commitment to invest in and develop our early childhood professionals. They will strengthen the fraternity, raise professionalism and improve overall quality in our sector," said Mr Tan to the 2,000 EC centre leaders, educators and educarers present on the first day of ECCC 2015 at the Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre.

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**JUST AS IT TAKES AN ENTIRE KAMPONG [VILLAGE] TO RAISE A CHILD, ALL OF US PLAY A ROLE IN DEVELOPING MEANINGFUL AND FULFILLING CAREERS FOR OUR EDUCATORS.**

//Minister for Social and Family Development Mr Tan Chuan-Jin at ECCC 2015

"Once in place, they will provide support for your development at every stage of your career."



## 1 Honing Professionalism

The PDP aims to equip EC professionals with the competencies and skills needed to take on larger job roles and responsibilities within the sector. The first phase will



