



## Dialogue Session by Miri City Council

**M**iri City Council (MCC) took the initiative to organize a dialogue session with representative from SHEDA, professional institutes and consultants on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The dialogue session was carried out in hybrid format at the Bilik Chamber of Miri Council.

Some points of discussion are as follows:

- Online submission for Building Plan
- Letter of undertaking for Occupation Permit
- Construction site management by the contractors
- Illegal construction & dumping issues

On the illegal construction issues, PAMSC suggested for MCC to look into simplifying the submission and approval process for renovation works, especially for residential and commercial premises. Submission and approval for renovations works should be easy and fast. This is important to educate public on the importance of approval and compliance to the by-laws, while encouraging proper submission to avoid illegal construction. Thus, any other construction related issues can be easily tracked and resolved. MCC agreed to look into the proposal by PAMSC.



## PAM AWARDS 2022

**P**AMSC would like to convey our heartiest congratulations to **Design Network Architects** who won the Gold Medal in the Single Residential Category for their **T HOUSE** in the recent PAM AWARDS 2022, and also to **ARKITEK JFN Sdn Bhd** for their **ALONE.TOGETHER** project which won a COMMENDATION in the Special Projects Category, and **SML Architects** who had their **Keranji House** shortlisted for the Awards. INTERSECTION will be interviewing these architects in the coming issues - we start with Ar. William Khoo in this issue.

# T HOUSE by Design Network Architects

Gold - Single Residential Category, PAM Awards 2022



F: Flash W: Ar. William Khoo

F: This is not the first time DNA had won Gold at the PAM Awards in the Single Residential Category - when do you know that a project has a chance of winning a prize? Is it something that you strive to do at the beginning of each project?

W: Every project has a story to tell, that narrative is often stronger when it comes to one's own house. Architectural projects being idea-centric has merits when a narrative is well developed and carried through the project's inception and execution.

Ultimately we want excellence in our projects but that driving factor often is not benchmarked solely by an award. However there are some indicators when a project has a little extra "oomph". For example, client chemistry, unique sites, extraordinary contextually briefs or requirements or even tight budgets. Things that often present a challenge or create tension becomes an architect's playground. If all the cards align, we usually will have a better sense if the project will have a spark after construction commences. If the details are executed well and the design intents are preserved or followed through, we then develop what we would call an "inkling".

F: The award must mean a great deal to the team who worked on the project, what do you think it meant to the house owners? Did you discuss this with them?

W: Winning an award really is to honour the hard work of everyone involved. It has always been a team effort. The client being essentially the patron has one of the most pivotal roles. Our role as an architect is to translate a client's narrative through the means of design, so the boldness and trust that a client would need to place upon us is crucial for us to do work that pushes boundaries.





F: What is the client's role in winning this award ?

W: In the case of Teresa's house, she really was the narrative, her journey of personal development embodied the personality of the project. Her home being uniquely designed to reflect her personality, heritage and love for nature. Ultimately it is her story that encapsulated everyone, the house was the medium in which it was told. The win is much credited to her.

F: Does winning this award mean that more people will be seeking you to design and build their houses for them? And is this a legacy you see for yourself?

W: Awards definitely work for branding, that's sort of one of the many positive responses that come with it. However, it has never been the main reason we participated. Even in our early formative years of DNA, the awards submission were our way of documenting our projects for future showcase. We wanted an archive that we could reflect on and intuitively look deeper into our intentions. It felt almost like an architectural diary.

As for legacy, I believe I speak for the team that we want to continue pursuing excellence. We hope to leave a legacy of many more younger architects that will continue to push the boundaries of their craft, that will love and respect architecture as truly an art form and that great buildings can come out of anywhere, even Sarawak. You are not defined or limited by your environment.

F: What's the winning formula?

W: Being able to articulate these projects/stories in a way an audience would understand is important. Only the designer/architects who worked on the project has the over-arching view of the entire story. It is a vantage point that even the client does not possess.

So, I believe an important quality is how the story is told. People are largely visual so great photography helps, our writings help to evoke an emotion that the project carries. However, there really is no formula. The beauty and challenge of design is that it will remain forever subjective, one's man trash is another man's treasure. As architects and designers, we want to put work out that we take pride in and we leave the rest to "chance".

We were fortunate this round.

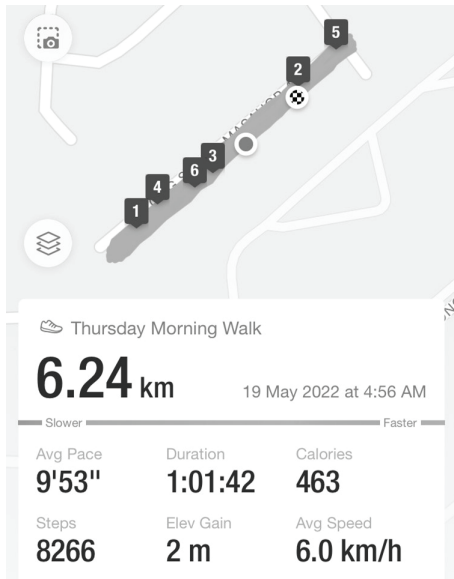
F: Thank you for taking the time to have this interview with us at such short notice, please convey our congratulations to your team members, and we wish you further success in the PAM Awards.

END

# WHAT DO ARCHITECTS DO ALL DAY? 3/12

*This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar Chai Si Yong's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we nominate Ar Leong Pik Shia.*

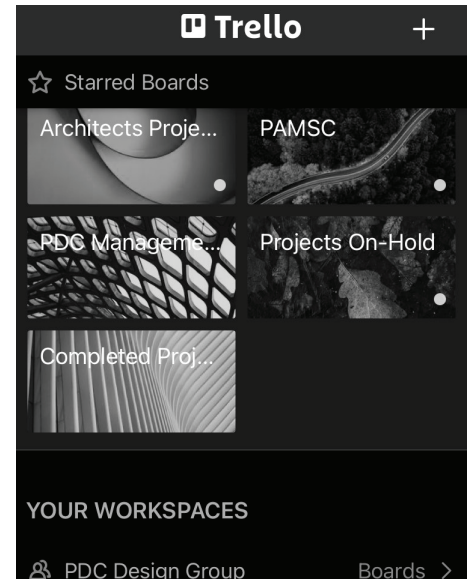
*Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to [intersection.editorial@gmail.com](mailto:intersection.editorial@gmail.com)*



5:57 a.m. Completed 60 mins walk.



7:25 a.m. Laksa with SL after sending the kids to school.



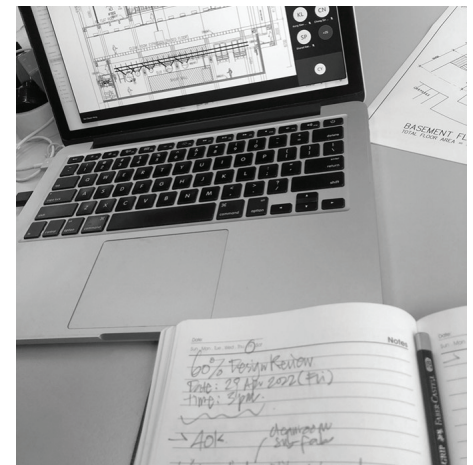
10:16 a.m. Going through & updating task list for the week.



11:45 a.m. Follow Tay to check out the mock up from Ah Jong.



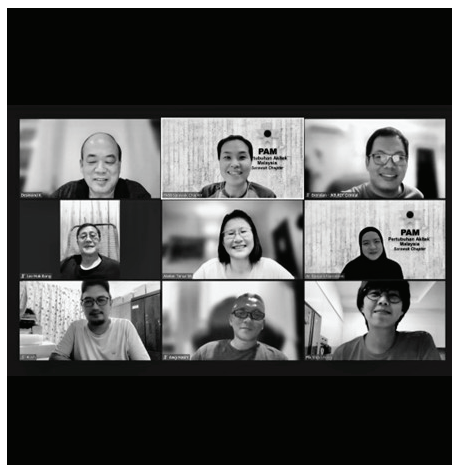
13:35 p.m. Raya luncheon at Fi's house.



15:05 p.m. Online project design review.



16:40 p.m. Coffee break



19:45 p.m. Meeting with my favourite people.



21:25 p.m. Reached home and realized both cutie pies still awake.

# New PAMSC Centre construction updates

(up to June 2022) *by Lau Chee Kiong*

MAIN CONTRACTOR : LIAN HO FURNITURE & INTERIOR WORKS  
TYPE OF WORK : INTERIOR RENOVATION & FITOUT WORKS  
COMMENCEMENT DATE : 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
COMPLETION DATE : 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022



*Concrete floor installation. (07.06.2022 - 09.06.2022)*



*Built-in furniture being mobilized to site. (09.06.2022 - 10.06.2022)*



*Furniture & lighting installation. (13.06.2022)*



*Shower glass installation. (12.06.2022)*



*Furniture & lighting installation. (13.06.2022)*

**More to come. Stay tuned!**

**PARTNERS**



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