YOUTH DAY VIDEO MESSAGE BY MR EDWIN TONG, MINISTER FOR CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH & CHAIRMAN (NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL)

1 Hi! Happy Youth Month! July is when we recognise and celebrate the youths of Singapore, so this message is dedicated to all of you, our youths. This year, we acknowledge your resilience and tenacity in emerging Stronger Than Ever from the pandemic.

I am so proud of how our youths have adapted to changing situations, yet never hesitating to put others first, and stepping up to help Singapore in your own ways. Some, like student leaders from the Inter-University Network, are working to improve the mental wellbeing of undergraduates in universities. They have recommended for more mental health support and measures to reduce stress on campuses.

3 Others, like Dr Hamid Razak, a National Youth Council member, are creating opportunities for youths to be mentored based on their individual needs, so they can grow confidently in their chosen areas. Youth Corps Leader Chan Ming Hui helped persons with disabilities discover and express their emotions as a volunteer. Now, he is studying to be a medical social worker and is committed to care for society's vulnerable.

4 Throughout July, the National Youth Council will be sharing more of such remarkable stories. There will be a range of activities lined up too. From industry talks on careers in the music industry, to programmes for youths to lead ground-up initiatives.

5 So I encourage all of you to seize these opportunities, or to organise your own ones. Use this time to discover your passions. Be brave in acting on your aspirations.

6 It is you, our youths, who will carry Singapore forward. Together, we can create a home where we care for one another, and where all of us have a fair shot at our dreams.

Watch the video of the message here: <u>bit.ly/minyouthday2022greeting</u>