

Legal Advisors' Workshop Plans For Major Conference In 1986



Y.B. Dato' Lamin bin Haji Mohd., Solicitor-General of Malaysia (centre) flanked by participants at the opening ceremony of the Law and Economics Workshop.

Co-sponsored by CIDA and the Malaysian Attorney-General's Chambers, the workshop was conducted at the Institute of Public Administration (INTAN) in Kuala Lumpur in October.

Demonstrating Canada's interest in supporting Human Resources Development in South East Asia and the Pacific, the 3-day preparatory workshop outlined a training program for lawyers in Law and Economics and the application of these disciplines to public policy questions. The purpose was to explain and demonstrate to representatives from Asia-Pacific countries the scope of a training program in Law and Economics, and to undertake preliminary planning for the first such program likely to be held in Canada in 1986. The rationale is that developing countries face a variety of legal and public policy questions that have economic overtones and implications. Lawyers may be called upon to deal with these questions, but their background, training and skills in such areas are often limited.

During the course of the workshop, Government Legal Advisors from ASEAN, Fiji and Papua New Guinea worked closely with three Canadian Academics: Professor William A.W. Neilson, Dean and Professor of Law and Professor M. Brown, Associate Professor of Law both from University of Victoria; and Dr. Jack L. Knetsch, Professor of Economics of Simon Fraser University. The Canadian Faculty illustrated, how a better understanding of economic principles could assist lawyers in the discharge of their responsibilities. The areas of land-use control and pollution, safety in the work-place, and the management of off-shore resources were used as examples.

Canadian Technology On Malaysian Estates

One of the stories resulting from the CIDA-sponsored Canada-Malaysia TECH-TRANS '85 Fair has its roots in the fruit farms of Western Canada.

Mr. William Bleasdale, President of Okanagan Turbo Sprayers Ltd. of Penticton, British Columbia, has been involved with the special equipment developed by his company for different orchard crops.

Mr. Bleasdale was briefed by the Palm Oil Research Institute of Malaysia, PORIM, on the industry's perennial and costly problems of weed and pest control. He has since adapted some of his company's equipment to suit the special conditions in the local estates.

The modified equipment was assembled by Tractors Malaysia Berhad. Testing began on an estate owned by Harrisons Malaysian Plantations Berhad, with observers from PORIM, Tractors Malaysia, and Harrisons.

Initial reactions are very positive. Extended tests will determine whether the mechanized solution is viable as compared with present labour intensive manual spraying, weed-cutting and harvesting methods.

If the Canadian equipment is accepted by the estate-owners, it will be assembled, and later manufactured in Malaysia by Okanagan Turbo Sprayers Ltd. in partnership with one or more Malaysian joint-venture partners. The potential benefits are substantial. Malaysia's palm oil exports are running at almost US\$3 billion per annum. It is Malaysia's second largest export earner, after petroleum products.

Participation In Malaysia

The Canadian fitness movement "Participation" has made its first foray into Southeast Asia. Well-known for its enthusiastic promotion of exercise and activity, it has already exported the fitness concept to several other countries.

The Physical Education Association of Malaysia held a convention in Kuala Terengganu on the theme "A Physically Fit Malaysia: A Nation on the Move", focussing especially on youth in sport and recreation. Participation's President, Dr. Russ Kisby, was invited to give a talk and explained that "Once Canada was one of the least fit nations in the industrialized world, but today the land is rich with joggers, swimmers, cyclists, walkers, swingers of racquets, and clubs. Now Canada is reaping the benefits of fitness both as a country and individuals."

Participation has a sister organization in Malaysia, "Malaysia Cergas" or "Fitness Malaysia". Dr. Kisby's talk served to underline the importance in Canada of fitness. He also encouraged the Physical Education Association in its efforts to promote health-consciousness in Malaysia.

Second Annual Terry Fox Run

The Canadian community in Kuala Lumpur held its second annual 10km. Terry Fox Run on Sunday, October 6. Sixty-five participants turned out, about double last year's number.

Over 6,000 ringgit was raised for donation to the Canadian Cancer Society which funds cancer research in Canada. The Marathon of Hope, which is organized each year in communities across Canada, is named in honour of Terry Fox, a Canadian who having lost a leg to cancer completed 5,376 kilometers of an 8,000 kilometer run across Canada.



Start of 1985 Terry Fox Run