

**Transforming the Non-Profit Sector  
Learning Journey One: Regenerative City and its Commons**

Friday, 17 June 2022  
Online via Zoom

**PROGRAMME**

3.45 pm – 4.00 pm

**Registration**

4.00 pm – 4.10 pm

**Welcome Remarks**

Dr Justin Lee  
Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Policy Studies

4.10 pm – 5.00 pm

**Local Responses to Global Problems: The Power of  
Just Doing Stuff**

Dr Rob Hopkins  
Co-Founder  
Transition Network

5.00 pm – 5.30 pm

**Panel Discussion**

Dr Harvey Neo  
Senior Fellow  
Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities  
Singapore University of Technology and Design

Ms Elaine Tan  
Director  
Research  
Centre for Liveable Cities

5.30 pm – 6.00 pm

**Question-and-Answer Session**

6.00 pm

**End**

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## SYNOPSIS

The Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) and Tote Board invite you to the first learning journey of the 2022 *Transforming the Non-Profit Sector* (TNPS) series. This virtual learning journey explores the Transition Towns movement, which is a movement of communities coming together to reimagine and rebuild their world. We will address the following questions: What does a good life encompass? How can local communities come together to use mostly local resources to meet their needs in urban Singapore? How can the non-profit sector help to unlock hidden capacities within communities so that everyone can contribute to and collectively manage their common wealth?

TNPS is a three-year partnership between IPS and Tote Board that aims to enhance the capabilities of non-profit organisations as well as support public-private-people partnerships. The theme for this year is “**Solutions that Help Us Help One Another**”, where we will highlight the often-neglected “impulse from the ground” and how non-profits can harness existing assets and consider new ways to help communities help themselves. We will examine how mutual aid, professional help and philanthropic giving can play mutually supportive and complementary roles in the non-profit sector to unlock the hidden potential and untapped capacities of communities.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**Rob HOPKINS** is the Co-Founder of Transition Network and of Transition Town Totnes, and author of several books including *The Transition Handbook* and most recently, *From What Is to What If: Unleashing the Power of Imagination to Create the Future We Want*. He is an Ashoka Fellow, has spoken at TED Global and at several TEDx events, and appeared in the French film phenomenon *Demain*. He holds a PhD from the University of Plymouth, and is a Director of Totnes Community Development Society and of New Lion Brewery. He also hosts the podcast, *From What If to What Next*. His website is [robhopkins.net](http://robhopkins.net).

**Justin LEE** is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, National University of Singapore. He is interested in issues relating to community development and social services. He has created a wiki platform that allows citizen mapping of social needs ([socialcollab.sg](http://socialcollab.sg)) and co-founded a skilled volunteer-matching platform ([serve.sg](http://serve.sg)). He frequently trains and consults for voluntary organisations and foundations in design thinking and programme evaluation. He is Chairperson of ArtsWok Collaborative, and serves on the board of Trampoline and the research committee of Singapore Children’s Society.

**Harvey NEO** is Senior Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities, Singapore University of Technology and Design. His research focuses on critical urban studies, citizen urban science and policymaking as well as nature-society interactions. Previously an Associate Professor of Geography at the National University of Singapore, Dr Neo is on the International Advisory Boards of *Geoforum* and *Progress in Environmental Geography* and a member of the Research Advisory Panel of the Housing and Development Board (Singapore). At the Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities, he leads the Cities Cluster Research on “The Future of Asian Cities”. Amongst other things, he is interested in how citizen-centric urban science can be practised and sustained in tandem with big data”, and in doing so, how it can influence urban

policies positively. The future of such citizen urban science will be studied across several Southeast Asian cities, including Phnom Penh, Jakarta and Manila.

**Elaine TAN** is currently on a secondment stint as Director (Research) at the Centre for Liveable Cities, Ministry of National Development, Singapore.

This secondment draws on Ms Tan's former experience as Director of Strategic Research at the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), where she spearheaded URA's R&D efforts in line with the Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council's first RIE2015 plan.

Ms Tan was also formerly URA's Director of Architecture and Urban Design Excellence, working closely with the industry to advance the state of architecture and urban design in Singapore through new initiatives and programmes including the President's Design Award and Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize.

At the Centre for Liveable Cities, Ms Tan continues to advance research frontiers in the areas of urban resilience, climate change, ageing, and health & well-being. She is currently an appointed member of the HealthCity Novena Master Plan 2030 and Beyond Leadership Panel. Internationally, she is appointed Singapore Representative on the Resilient Cities Network and was a mentor to the Urban Land Institute Singapore Mentorship Programme.

*Last Modified on 6 June 2022*

