

# First LFS in Sabah will open Feb next year

By JAMES LEONG

SANDAKAN: The first Lotus Five Star (LFS) cinema in Sabah at the Harbour Mall Sandakan here is expected to open in February next year.

LFS Cinemas have been around for about 10 years but it has grown to become one of the largest cinema chains in Malaysia with over 25 outlets and 108 screens across the country.

LFS Cinemas are going to start their fit out in October with a target date for February opening. Between RM10mil to RM12mil will be invested in this new entertainment facility at Harbour Mall Sandakan and the Mall's managers are confident this will bring shopping experience to the next level.

"It's all go at the Harbour Mall Sandakan as new occupiers, Popular Bookstore takes on the keys to start business at Level 2 in November and LFS Cinemas," Harbour

Mall Centre Manager, Michael Chong

The Mall is in its fourth year of operation and the man-

agement has worked hard to learn about what local customers and tenants like to see in their one and only modern shopping centre here.

They have put in a lot of efforts to come up with a new refreshed concept that meet demand and needs. "We have taken the opportunity to re-design the tenant mix resulting in bringing in new concept stores to replace certain existing tenants who have not performed so well.

"Our plan is also to add more exciting F&B outlets in the mall over the next few months. First to get going is Cool City, a café and bubble tea shop that will open for business at the Ground Floor in October 2015. They plan to make this new outlet the flagship of Cool City," Chong said.

Maxis will be opening a kiosk on the ground floor next and Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan Tinggi Nasional (PTPTN) will also relocate themselves to Harbour Mall making it easier for students

and their parents to organise student loan services at a convenient place.

Existing tenants such as the karaoke K-Box entertainment centre is well received and attracting a lot of patrons since opening in July.

"All this will broaden the mall's retail offerings which are much welcomed. It's great to see all this activity with new businesses moving in. This will undoubtedly bring a new air of confidence around the mall and I am looking forward to our retailers serving the people of Sandakan," Chong said.

Popular Bookstore is a household name in Malaysia and has grown 86 bookstores nationwide. Its outlet in the mall will be the first in Sandakan and sixth in Sabah.

"Harbour Mall Sandakan fulfils all of our criteria for a new bookstore. We see this as a landmark retail destination locally with a good retail mix which will hopefully result in a high footfall into our store. We look forward to selling books to our customers in

Sandakan – both local residents and visitors alike," its general manager (business development) Siew Shue Liang said.

"This is the start of the "new look" Harbour Mall Sandakan. We are thrilled to be welcoming several new busi-

nesses throughout the rest of the year. The new and existing tenants will help secure our position as the destination for a unique shopping experience in Sandakan.

"As with any mall, the success of it depends largely on the local people and I hope that the exciting changes ahead will turn this mall into something that local people

and tenants can be proud of," President/CEO of Ireka Development Management Sdn Bhd Lai Voon Hon said.

Also present were ICSD Ventures Sdn Bhd Consultant for Government Liaison and Public Affairs (East Malaysia) Thomas Lau and Harbour Mall Sandakan Advertisement and Promotion Executive Sophia Chan



Thomas (left) with Michael and Sophia at the press conference