

In search for an icon

Sculpture competition aims to crown a winner who best capture the charms of Sandakan

Dateline: Sandakan

THE Little Mermaid in Copenhagen, Denmark; Eros the Archer at Piccadilly Circus in London; The Charging Bull at Wall Street, New York and The Merlion in Singapore. These are iconic sculptures of the cities they are located in. Most, if not all, has turned into a tourist attraction, and often becomes the city's most photographed.

Now there's an opportunity to design an iconic sculpture that best represents Sandakan to the world.

The winning idea will be 'brought to life' in the form of an actual iconic sculpture to be placed at Sandakan Harbour Square.

"I applaud this initiative by Ireka because the iconic sculpture will definitely enhance Sandakan's status as a Nature City and I'm confident that this will eventually be a tourist attraction to Malaysians and foreigners alike," said Sandakan Municipal Council president Datuk James Wong.

"Since the development began in 2004, the Sandakan Harbour Square has significantly modernised Sandakan town over the years. We are all looking forward to this final milestone — the opening of the Harbour Mall Sandakan and Four Points by Sheraton Sandakan hotel in May," he added.

"The Sandakan Sculpture Competition 2012 is about relishing appreciation and pride towards the town. We want Malaysians to design a signature icon that best captures Sandakan's essence, one that we have a sense of belonging to and can be proud of," said Ireka Development Management Sdn Bhd president and chief executive officer Lai Voon Hon.

The competition is jointly organised by Ireka Development Management Sdn Bhd (development manager for Sandakan Harbour Square), ICSD Ventures Sdn Bhd (developer of Sandakan Harbour Square) and in collaboration with the council (joint development partner for Sandakan Harbour Square).

The contest runs from now to April 16 with attractive prizes of up to RM30,000 to be won, including hotel stays at the soon-to-be opened



Great view: An artist's impression of a bird's-eye view of Harbour Mall Sandakan.

Four Points hotel by Sheraton Sandakan.

Entries accompanied by the required artwork and design rationale can be submitted online, by post or by hand. For details and entry form, visit www.harbourmallssandakan.com.my

The Sandakan Harbour Square integrated commercial development has bagged the Asia Pacific Property Awards 2009 (in association with CNBC Arabiya). With a GDV of RM510mil, the Phases 1 and 2 consisting of the new Central Market and retail shop lots have been completed at the end of 2009.

The five-level Harbour Mall Sandakan (Phase 3) will be the first harbour shopping mall situated in the heart of Sandakan town, offering 200,000 sq ft of space for retailers.

The mall will also host a 10,000-sq ft food court and a 6,000-sq ft entertainment and games centre.

Above the mall, sits the 300-room and 26-storey Four Points hotel tower (Phase 4).



Relaxed mall: An artist's impression of the mall.