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Resorts World Genting hosted the Malaysian All Women Expedition to Antarctica 2018 challenge at Snow World

Protégés challenged themselves for 72 hours in Snow World as part of their simulation

Genting Highlands, May 2018 - In November 2018, the All Women Expedition To Antarctica (AWETA) 2018 – an initiative of Malaysia’s All Women Empowerment To Accelerate Secretariat – will embark on a journey to Antarctica.

On 4 May, the 19 protégés training to become part of this expedition set up base camp in Snow World at Resorts World Genting for 4 days and 3 nights stay totaling 72 hours between 4th and 7th May. With constant sub-zero temperatures, the training camp at Snow World served as the first step of the expedition’s intensive cold weather training programme.

“We are honoured to be chosen as one of the venues for AWETA 2018, as we at Resorts World Genting fully support the initiative to empower Malaysian women,” said Tun Mohammed Hanif Bin Omar, Deputy Chair of Genting Malaysia Berhad.

“The ambition of this initiative, which is to create new role models for young Malaysian women in the Malaysia Boleh spirit is admirable. They say that women of the world support half of the sky. Well, now these brave Malaysian women can now do their part in supporting the future of Malaysia underneath the Antarctic sky. That the Snow World at Resorts World Genting, meant as a place of fun and leisure for families, can serve as a stepping stone for this ambitious task is very gratifying to us,” added Tun Mohammed Hanif.

With the aim of creating protégés for Dr Sharifah Mazlina Syed Abdul Kadir, Malaysia’s National Expeditor that has completed the Polar Hat Trick by conquering the South Pole (2004), the North Pole (2007) and Greenland (2011), AWETA 2018 is devoted to a national mission of empowering Malaysian women aged 18 and above to succeed. The 19 protégés that made it to Resorts World Genting were selected from a pool of 70 participants interviewed over a six-month, nationwide AWETA roadshow. After going through intensive fitness training, the qualifying candidates underwent a rigorous set of challenges as part of a reality television programme designed to test their strength in five aspects – mental, emotional, physical, social and spiritual (MEPSS).

Dr Sharifah in her message advised, “Achieving one’s dream is no easy task. One will face challenges that will test their strength along the way whether it be mentally, emotionally, physically, socially or spiritually. But by having a very focused mind, one will achieve their goals even in the coldest weather.”

'We are very pleased to partner with Resorts World Genting as this mission of 4 days 3 nights in Snow World will certainly help us find the top five ladies to join me at the Antarctica this November," explained Dr Sharifah.

The event saw guest of honor DYMM Tuanku Zara Salim, Permaisuri Perak flag off the challenge at the Snow World. With Her Royal Highness were Tun Hanif, Puan Sri Cecilia wife to Genting Malaysia Chairman Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay, Dr Sharifah and Dato Noorizah Abd Hamid, Project Director of AWETA.

Visitors to Snow World usually spend 30 minutes in the sealed space, but the 19 AWETA protégés challenged themselves to spend a total of 72 hours – a new Malaysian record - in temperatures maintained at a constant -6 degrees Celsius or lower when snow is manufactured and release during midnight. Snow World, designed to resemble an Alpine village with slopes and slides, then tested the protégés in various tasks that will serve as an introduction to the polar challenges ahead. A total of 17 contestants managed to complete the task with Fatin Farhana binti Tuan Kamarudden emerging victorious with 72.85 hours clocked. Nurul Atiqah binti Tamarun and Sharifah Azian binti Tuan Muda followed closely by with 72.83 and 72.48 hours clocked, respectively.

Five successful contestants (and two reserves) will be selected to form the AWETA 2018 expedition. They will then undergo further intensive training, both in Malaysia (4-5 months) and overseas in Norway and Greenland (1 month), before embarking on the journey of a lifetime to Antarctica in November 2018.

Arriving at Hercules Inlet Near Base Camp Patroit Hills on the continent of Antarctica, the AWETA 2018 expedition will then traverse 1,100 km within 55 days to the South Pole. There, they are tasked to retrieve the time capsule placed by National Expeditor Dr Sharifah Mazlina Syed Abdul Kadir in 2004, and place a new time capsule with the Transformasi Nasional 2050 (TN50) mandate envisioned by Prime Minister YAB Dato' Seri Najib Tun Abdul Razak, to be retrieved by future generations of Malaysian women. Snow World at Resorts World Genting will be one small step for this brave group of women, and one giant leap forward for Malaysia.

For more information, call +603 6101 1118 or visit www.rwgenting.com.

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