‘Cultivating love for city among youths important to govt’

KUCHING: Cultivating love for the city among youths is an important part of the government’s efforts in preserving the city’s harmony and beauty, free from unhealthy social activities.

Speaking at the launch of ‘Youths Day Out’ organised by Angkatan Zaman Mansang (AZAM), AZAM Sarawak’s CEO Datu Aloysius Dris said that emotional support is important to make sure youths stay away from unhealthy activities.

Dris said that Kuching may be a small city but it was known internationally, making it a tourist attraction in the state.

“As a citizen of this state, we must know the natural beauty that we have and make good use of it to move our economy forward,” he said.

The programme was attended by over 40 participants such as students from ICATS, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UiTM) dan Institut Perguruan Tun Abdul Razak Samarahan.

The programme consisted of a talk on youth involvement and a group session called ‘Our City: A City Like No Other’.

There was also a forum on youth and innovation at the Sarawak Tourism Complex.

As part of the activities, there was a BMX and skateboard competition at Waterfront Square and Earth Hour at Kuching Waterfront.

The objective of the programme is to allow youth participation and contribution to the effort in making Kuching more alive and energetic.

The programme gives Sarawakian youths a platform to improve themselves through learning, exposure, sharing, networking and contribution.

There were also group activities that focused on issues like integrity, unity, caring community, volunteerism, the environment, community safety and career development.

Around 60 participants pitted their skills on the skateboard in a competition organised together with The Myth Skateboarding Club, a Kuching-based extreme sports club.

It featured Joseph Romey, a local skateboarding icon and a winner in the 2001 Borneo Xtreme Games.

Two groups - Sonar Tribal and Jeremy and Friends - took part in the Busking4Charity event that showcased talented youths.

During Earth Hour, around 80 young people joined in a candle walk, choir performance, poetry recital and acoustic performances.

ALL EARS: Students at one of the ‘Youth Day Out’ forums.