YMCA, S’pore Red Cross honoured for good governance

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SINGAPORE — With the growing need for more transparency and accountability in the charity sector, two organisations have stood out for their exemplary standards of governance and have been conferred top honours at this year’s Charity Governance Awards.

The Young Men’s Christian Association of Singapore (YMCA) and the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) each received a plaque and a cash award of S$10,000 from Mr Lawrence Wong, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, yesterday.

Organised by the Charity Council in partnership with the NUS Business School’s Asia Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy, the event aims to recognise charities that have adopted the highest standards of governance and implemented best practices.

Mr Wong said at the ceremony that charities must not take the high level of public support it enjoys for granted. “For continued trust and support from the public, charities must always strive to be transparent, accountable and effective in their fund-raising activities.”

As for the common perception that the practice of good governance is something that is more relevant to larger charities, Mrs Fang Ai Lian, Chairman of the Charity Council, said: “Good governance is for all, and size does not matter.”