

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



**\*Please scroll down for English Version\***

## COMUNN NA GÀIDHLIG A' CUR AIR BHOG IOMAIRT GÀIDHLIG LOCH ABAIR

05 An Cèitean 2009

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig air Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair a stèidheachadh, a' chiad fhear ann an sreath de phrògraman cànan coimhearsnachd a tha ag amas air àrdachadh ann an àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig. Chaidh Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair a chuir air bhog ann an seòmar na Comhairle 'sa Ghearasdan, far an robh sluagh mòr an làthair.

Tha Iomairtean Gàidhlig 'gan stèidheachadh an diofar choimhearsnachdan air feadh Alba leis an amas a bhith a' cur ri àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig agus a' cruthachadh chothroman dhaibh an cànan a chleachdadh taobh a-staigh na coimhearsnachdan. Tha Iomairtean Gàidhlig air an stiùireadh leis na coimhearsnachdan le buidhnean-stiùiridh ionadail air an ceann, a' cumail sùil air cùisean. Thathas a' sùileachadh gum bidh na buidhnean-stiùiridh air an riochdachadh le muinntir nan coimhearsnachd aig a bheil ùidh 'sa Ghàidhlig còmhla ri riochdairean bho bhuidhnean ionadail agus nàiseanta agus riochdairean bho bhuidhnean poblach a tha a' libhrigeadh seirbhisean 'sa choimhearsnachd.

Si Eilidh Seathach, a th'air a h-ùr fhadstadh mar Oifigear Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair, a bhios a' co-òrdanachadh tachartasan co-cheangailte ri leasachadh Gàidhlig ann an Loch Abair. Cuideachd aig a' choinneamh, chaidh Co-chomhairleachadh a thòiseachadh far am bheileas a' sireadh bheachdan na coimhearsnachd air de na prìomhachasan a th'aca a thaobh leasachadh Gàidhlig. Bidh toradh na Co-chomhairleachadh seo na bhunait-obrach don Bhuidheann-stiùiridh.

Thuir Eairdsidh MacIlleathain, Ard Oifigear Chomunn na Gàidhlig, "Tha sinn air ar toileachadh gu bheileas air Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair air a chuir air bhog. Tha sinn gu h-àraidh toilichte leis na bha an làthair aig a' choinneamh bhon choimhearsnachd a thuilleadh air riochdairean bho bhuidhnean nàiseanta, mar Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Comunn nam Pàrant, An Comunn Gàidhealach agus cuideachd riochdairean bho Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd, gach cuid Buill agus Oifigearan. Tha mise a' creidsinn gun dèan Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair diofar dhan Ghàidhlig san sgìre agus tha sinn a-nis a' guidhe gun gabh daoine an cothrom a dhol an luib na h-Iomairt. Tha mi taingeil do Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean airson an taic ann a bhith a' stèidheachadh na h-Iomairtean Gàidhlig."

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Thuir Art MacCarraig, Cathraiche Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, “Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig air leth toilichte gu bheil Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair air a chuir air bhog agus gur e seo a’ chiad tè ann an sreath de phrògraman cànan coimhearsnachd a leigeas do thuilleadh dhaoine luach agus tuigse a dhèanamh air a’ chànan agus gu h-àraidh cudromach, gun cleachd iad i. Tha am Bòrd dhan bheachd gur e aon slighe air adhart a bhith a’ targaideachadh goireasan ann an sgìrean, mar Loch Abair, airson stad a thoirt air a’ chrìonadh a th’air tighinn gach cuid ann an àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig agus cuideachd an ìre a thathas ga cleachdadh. Tha e deatamach gum bidh muinntir na coimhearsnachd an luib na h-Iomairt agus gu faighear taic bho bhuidhnean coimhearsnachd le goireasan. Bheir Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair an cothrom dhuinn ar goireasan a stiùireadh ann an dòigh nas èifeachdaiche dhan sgìre agus tha e na adhbhar mhisneachaidh gu bheil uidhir de dhiofar bhuidhnean a’ tighinn còmhla airson an lìonraidh de dh’ innleachdan taic a tha a dhith airson a’ Phlana Nàiseanta a libhrigeadh. Sann le bhith a’ tarraing ar goireasan ri chèile agus a’ co-obrachadh ann a bhith a’ cur aghaidh air na dùbhlain a tha mar coinneamh a bhios an cothrom as fheàrr againn cùisean adhartachadh.”

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## COMUNN NA GÀIDHLIG LAUNCHES IOMAIRT GÀIDHLIG LOCH ABAIR

05 May 2009

Comunn na Gàidhlig has launched Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair (The Lochaber Gaelic Initiative), the first in a series of community language programmes aimed at increasing the number of Gaelic speakers. Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair was launched in a packed Council chamber in Fort William at the weekend.

Iomairtean Gàidhlig, or “Gaelic Initiatives” are being established in several communities across Scotland with the specific aim of increasing the number of Gaelic speakers in the area and providing enhanced opportunities to use the language within these communities. Iomairtean Gàidhlig are community-led, with local steering committees overseeing the work being undertaken. It is expected that the local steering groups will consist of members of the local community who have an interest in the language, as well as representatives of local voluntary bodies, national organisations and public agencies who deliver services in the area.

Gaelic development activity in Lochaber is being co-ordinated by Eilidh Shaw, who has recently taken up post as the Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair Officer. Also launched at the meeting was a community consultation to establish priorities with regard to Gaelic development. The findings of this consultation will form the agenda for the steering group, once formed.

Archie Maclean, Chief Executive of Comunn na Gàidhlig said, “We are delighted to have launched Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair. We were particularly pleased to see so many members of the Lochaber community attending the event, as well as representatives of national organisations such as Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Comunn nam Pàrant, An Comunn Gàidhealach and also to have had so many present from Highland Council, both at Member and Officer levels. I believe that Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair will make a real difference for Gaelic in the area and we now urge as many people as possible to get involved. I am grateful to Bòrd na Gàidhlig and to Highlands and Islands Enterprise for their support in getting Iomairtean Gàidhlig off the ground.”

Arthur Cormack, Chairman of Bòrd na Gàidhlig said, “Bòrd na Gàidhlig is delighted that Iomairt Gàidhlig Loch Abair has been launched and is paving the way for a network of community-based programmes which will enable more people to appreciate, understand

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and, most importantly, use Gaelic. The Bòrd believes that targeting resources into specific areas like Lochaber, is one way forward in reversing the recent decline in both the numbers speaking Gaelic and also the level of usage of the language. It is very important that we have community support and that the community groups contribute to the prioritisation of resources. Iomairt Gàidhlig Lochabair will enable us to channel our resources in the area more effectively and it is encouraging to see so many disparate bodies and agencies coming together to create the network of support mechanisms we need to deliver the National Plan for Gaelic effectively. By pooling our resources and co-ordinating the efforts we are all bringing to bear on meeting the challenges and aspirations we share, we will have the best chance of making progress.”

**For further information, please contact Archie Maclean, Chief Executive, Comunn na Gàidhlig: Tel: 07912 850442 E-mail: [eaidsidh@cnag.org.uk](mailto:eaidsidh@cnag.org.uk)**