

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



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

## ‘SOILLSEACHADH’ ÙR ALBANNACH A’ FAIGHINN MAOIN TASGAIDH

07 An Dùbhlachd 2009

Tha maoin eachadh de £5.29 millean airson rannsachadh gus taic is ath-bheothachadh a thoirt air cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig gu bhith air a cho-roinn eadar ceithir institiudan foghlaim àrd-ìre ann an Alba ann an ro-innleachd rannsachaidh ùir. 'S e com-pàirteachais rannsachaidh a tha ann an Soillse, a tha a' gabhail a-steach Institiud nam Mìle Bliadhna (OGE) agus Oilthighean Obar Dheathain, Dhun Èideann agus Ghlaschu. Tha Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba (SFC) a' cur £1.866 millean ris le £2.483 millean a' tighinn bho na h-institiudan, £0.541 millean bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus £0.4 millean bho Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean.

Thèid am maoin tasgaidh a chleachdadh gus sàr luchd-rannsachaidh fhastadh, naoi sgoilearachdan ollamhachd a stèidheachadh thar nan institiudan com-pàirteachaidh, le co-dhiù ceithir dhiubh an co-bhoinn ri buidhnean aig a bheil ùidh sa Ghàidhlig, agus co-labhairt bliadhnaile air a chumail gus lorgaidhean nan rannsachaidhean a thaisbeanadh.

Bidh e na prìomh dhleastanas aig Soillse fios a chumail ri Riaghaltas na h-Alba mu na prìomhachasan eaconomach is sòisealta airson na Gàidhlig. Bidh na ceithir institiudan ag obair an com-pàirt le prìomh bhuidhnean, leithid Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, gus am fiosrachadh a chaidh a chruinneachadh bhon rannsachadh a cho-roinn airson fios a chumail ri oidhirpean nàiseanta is ionadail gus tionndadh a thoirt air crìonadh na Gàidhlig agus gus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig a bhrosnachadh ann an ceàrnaidhean far nach eilear ga bruidhinn gu dualchasach.

Thuirt Mark Batho, Àrd-oifigear an SFC: “Tha eachdraidh bheirteach is ioma-dhathach aig Alba agus chluich a' Ghàidhlig pàirt chudromach san eachdraidh sin. Tha sinne dhan bheachd gu bheil e cudromach gum bi cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig air a bhrosnachadh gus a bhith a' cinneachadh is a' leasachadh agus tha mi toilichte gun urrainn dhuinne agus na com-pàirtichean eile rannsachadh a mhaoineachadh gus am pàirt sònraichte seo de dhearbh-aithne na h-Alba a chumail beò.”

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Thuir Mìcheal Ruiseal, Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Foghlam is Ionnsachadh Fad-beatha:  
“Tha mi cinnteach gun cluich an com-pàirteachas seo pàirt chudromach ann a bhith a’ dealbhadh mar a bhios sinn a’ gluasad air adhart le ar n-obair ann a bhith ag adhartachadh na Gàidhlig thar nam bliadhnaichean a tha romhainn.

“Feumadh sinn ginealach ùr de luchd-labhairt Gàidhlig a chruthachadh gus meur bheairteach de bheatha chultarail na h-Alba agus coimhearsnachd cànan sònraichte ann an Alba a dhìon.

“Seach gu bheil com-pàirtichean Soillse sgaoilte air feadh gach ceàrnaidh den dùthaich, chithear gu bheil oidhirpean ga dèanamh air feadh Alba gus stad a chur air an crìonadh ann an àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig.”

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## **NEW SCOTTISH ‘ENLIGHTENMENT’ BOOSTED BY £5.29 MILLION INVESTMENT**

**07 December 2009**

Funding of £5.29 million for research into the support and revitalisation of the Gaelic language and culture is to be shared among four Scottish higher education institutions in the latest research pooling initiative. Soillse (pronounced soil-shuh), which is Gaelic for enlightenment, is a research partnership of UHI Millennium Institute (UHIMI) and the Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow. The Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council (SFC) is investing £1.866 million, with £2.483 million being invested by the institutions, £0.541 million from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, and £0.4 million from Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

The investment will be used to recruit world-class research staff, create nine PhD studentships based across the partner institutions, with at least four to be in collaboration with Gaelic stakeholders, and hold an annual conference to showcase research findings. The key function of Soillse will be to inform the Scottish Government’s economic and social priorities for Gaelic. The four institutions will work in partnership with key agencies, such as Bòrd na Gàidhlig, to share the information gleaned from their research to inform national and local efforts to reverse the decline of the Gaelic language, and encourage the use of Gaelic in areas where it is not traditionally spoken. Mark Batho, Chief Executive of SFC said: “Scotland has a rich and colourful history and Gaelic has played a large part in that. We feel it is important that the Gaelic language and culture should be encouraged to flourish and develop and I am pleased that we and the partners involved are able to fund research to keep this significant part of the Scottish identity alive.” Mike Russell, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning added: “I am sure that this partnership will play a key role in informing how we drive forward our work on promoting the Gaelic language over the next few years.

“ We must create a new generation of Gaelic speakers in order to preserve a rich seam in the cultural life of Scotland and a distinct language community in Scotland. “The geographic spread of the Soillse partnership demonstrates the efforts that are being made right across Scotland to reverse the decline in the number of Gaelic speakers.”