

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



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IOMAIRTEAN CÀNAIN GAN STEIDHEACHADH AN DIOFAR CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN

14 Am Faoilteach 2009

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig (CnaG) an diugh 14 Faoilleach 2009 a' foillseachadh gu bheil iad a' steidheachadh Iomairtean Cànain ann an diofar choimhearsnachdan air feadh Alba, a bheir grunn chothroman cosnaidh gu ìre.

Tha na h-Iomairtean Cànain air am maoinachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus le Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean. Tha iad a' leantainn air còmhraidhean agus deasbad aig a' Cho-labhairt Nàiseanta, "*Toirt Fàs air Gàidhlig ann an Coimhearsnachdan*", a chaidh a' cumail le Bòrd na Gàidhlig is Comhairle nan Eilean Siar ann am Breascleit bho chionn beagan mhiosan.

Thèid na h-Iomairtean a stèidheachadh airson àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig àrdachadh agus airson cothroman a chruthachadh gus a' chànan a chleachdadh anns an dachaigh, anns an àite-obrach agus anns a' choimhearsnachd. Tha CnaG a-nis a' sireadh grunn luchd-obrach ann an Loch Abar, Ceann a-tuath an Eilean Sgitheanaich agus Dùn Èideann gus cuideachadh leis na h-Iomairtean Cànain seo. Bidh an luchd-obrach a thèid fhastadh ag obair le òigridh, teaghlachan, coimhearsnachd is gnìomhachas.

Tha na h-Iomairtean Cànain air an dealbh air dòighean-obrach Menter laith a tha air a bhith stèidhte sa Chuimrigh airson faisg air fichead bliadhna agus a tha air feum mòr a dhèanamh, chan ann a mhàin le a bhith ag àrdachadh àireamh luchd-labhairt na Cuimris, ach cuideachd le bhith a neartachadh eaconomaidh nan coimhearsnachdan sin.

Thuir Eairdsidh MacIlleathain, Ceannard ChnaG: "Tha CnaG a' coimhead air obair anns na coimhearsnachdan mar an rud is cudromaiche airson a' Ghàidhlig a neartachadh. Tha sinn air a bhith a' coimhead air mar a tha na h-Iomairtean Cànain air soirbheachadh sa Chuimrigh le sùil gun obraich iad ann an coimhearsnachdan air feadh Alba. Tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ri Iomairtean Cànain a stèidheachadh ann an Loch Abar, Ceann a-tuath an Eilean Sgitheanaich agus Dùn Èideann. Anns na beagan sheachdainean air thoiseach oirnn, bidh sinn a' dèanamh an dearbh rud anns na h-Eileanan an Iar."

Aig a' Cho-labhairt ann am Breascleit thuir Linda Fabiani BPA, am Ministear air am bheil uallach airson Gàidhlig agus Cultar, gu robh an Riaghaltas a' meas Gàidhlig mar ghoireas

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



phrìseil a bha cudromach air feadh Alba, anns na bailtean mòra agus anns na bailtean beaga a bharrachd air na sgìrean Gàidhealach is Eileanach a bhathas a' tomhas mar na h-àiteachan far am biodh a' Ghàidhlig làidir. Thuir i cuideachd gu robh a' Ghàidhlig cudromach bho thaobh eaconamaidh le mòran chothroman cosnadh air an cruthachadh, gu h-àraidh ann an sgìrean far an robh cothroman obrach eile gann.

Thuir Art MacCarraig, Cathraiche Eadar-amail Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, "Chaidh a dhearbhadh dhuinn gu soilleir aig a' cho-labhairt ann am Breascleit cho cudromach is a bhios taic do dh'obair anns na coimhearsnachdan ma tha Gàidhlig a' dol a chumail oirre a' leasachadh agus ma tha àireamh an luchd-labhairt gus a bhith a' dol am meud thairis air na bliadhnaichean a tha romhainn. Faodaidh pròiseactan sna coimhearsnachdan diofar mòr a dhèanamh glè thric eadar an cànan a bhith air a chleachdadh neo air a cur an dàrna taobh. Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig ro-thoilichte a bhith a' maoinachadh leasachadh mar seo airson coimhearsnachdan a bhrosnachadh gus pròiseactan ùr-ghnàthach a phlanadh aig am bi buaidh leantainneach air a' Ghàidhlig anns na sgìrean ionadail aca." Tha a' phròiseact, Iomairtean Cànan air a mhaoinachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean agus air a ruith le Comunn na Gàidhlig.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh cuiribh fios gu, Eairdsidh MacIlleathain, Comunn na Gàidhlig air 01463 234138.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



COMUNN NA GÀIDHLIG LAUNCHES IOMAIRTEAN CÀNAIN (COMMUNITY LANGUAGE INITIATIVES)

14 January 2009

Gaelic development agency Comunn Na Gàidhlig (CnaG) has today (January 14th) detailed plans for a number of Iomairtean Cànain (Community Language Initiatives) throughout Scotland, offering a number of career development opportunities.

The Iomairtean Cànain are funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the lead development agency responsible for delivering the National Plan for Gaelic and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The Iomairtean Cànain are a direct outcome of discussions and recommendations produced at the national conference “Growing Gaelic in the community”, organised by the Bòrd and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, which was held in Breascleite, Lewis at the end of last year.

The Iomairtean Cànain’s main aim is to contribute to the growth in numbers of Gaelic speakers and the creation of a wide range of opportunities where Gaelic can be spoken in home and family situations, at work and in the community. CnaG has now launched a recruitment drive in Lochaber, the north of Skye and in Edinburgh to assist in the delivery of the initiatives. The team which will be working on the project will be tasked with working with youth groups, families, community agencies and groups and the private sector in the three targeted areas.

The Iomairtean Cànain are based on a very successful Welsh model called Menter Iaith which has operated in Wales for over two decades. Menter Iaith has not only helped increase the number of Welsh speakers, but also been of great assistance in terms of boosting the economy at a community level.

Archie Maclean, Chief Executive of Comunn na Gàidhlig said: “CnaG has clearly identified Iomairtean Cànain as the most important of our targeted areas of work aimed at developing the number of people speaking Gaelic. We have seen how the language initiatives have been successful in Wales and we are confident that their approach and methods could be very successful throughout Scotland. We are going to launch a programme of the projects in Lochaber, the north of Skye and Edinburgh initially. Then we are planning to do the same in the Western Isles and that will hopefully happen within the next few weeks.”

Speaking at the conference in Breascleite, Linda Fabiani MSP, Minister with responsibility of Gaelic and Culture, said that the Government valued Gaelic enormously as one of Scotland’s

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



great assets and resources. Its value extended throughout Scotland and into communities well beyond those traditionally thought of as the Gaelic “heartlands”. The Minister also emphasised the contribution Gaelic could make to stimulating and sustaining local economies through employment opportunities, especially in areas where the economy was experiencing a downturn.

Arthur Cormack, Interim Chair of Bòrd na Gàidhlig said: “The Breasclèite conference showed us all very clearly how important employment creation and retention is for the future of Gaelic and if the number of speakers is to grow, and if Gaelic is to develop as a language fit for purpose in the 21st century, then we have to do everything we can to offer communities the chance to create employment to strengthen the communities. Community-based projects and initiatives can very often be the crucial difference between Gaelic being used or set aside in any given area. Bòrd na Gàidhlig is delighted to support this project which will hopefully energise and strengthen the communities involved and inspire others to come on board with their own local initiatives which will help contribute to a sustainable future for the areas concerned and for Gaelic.”

The Iomairtean Cànanain are supported financially by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Highlands and Islands Enterprise and managed by Comunn na Gàidhlig.

For further information about the contents of this News release and the projects involved, please contact Archie Maclean Comunn na Gàidhlig on 01463 234138