Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release

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CEANNARD ÙR DO CHOMANN NA GÀIDHLIG

17 An t-Samhain 2009

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig , a th’air a bhith aig deis mheadhan iomairtean leasachaidh na Gàidhlig bho chionn còrr is còig bliadhna fichead, air ainmeachadh gur e Dòmhnall MacNeill à Inbhir Nis an Ceannard ùr a tha gu bhith oirre. Tòisichidh Dòmhnall anns an obair ùr aige tràth anns an Fhaoilleach, an dèidh a bhith na Mhanaidsear Leasachaidh Gàidhlig aig Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd.

Tha eòlas farsaing aig Dòmhnall MacNeill air saoghal na Gàidhlig agus leasachadh ann an iomadach raon obrach. Mus do thòisich e ag obair do Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd, bha Mghr MacNèill air deich bliadhna a chur seachad ag obair aig Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd’s nan Eilean ann an diofar dhreuchdan. Roimhe sin bha e air a bhith ag obair anns na meadhanan Gàidhlig le gach cuid Telebhisean Ghrampian, STV agus BBC Rèidio nan Gàidheal. Buinidh a’ chuideachd do Ghrìanaig, agus Càrlabhagh, ann an taobh siar Leodhais, agus thogadh e an Inbhir Nis far an deach e do dh’Acadamaidh Allt A’ Mhuillinn.

Thuirt Cathraiche Chomunn na Gàidhlig, Dòmhnall Dòmhnallach: "Tha sinn air leth toilichte Dòmhnall MacNèill ainmeachadh mar Cheannard ùr. Tha e follaiseach gu bheil farsaingeachd de sgilean is eòlas aige a bheir cothrom dha cur gu mòr ris an obair againn, agus tha sinn cinnteach gun tèid aige air an sgioba againn agus na pròiseactan anns a bheil sinn an-sàs a ghluasad gu ìre eile, gan tarraing còmhla gus an grunn dhiofar uallaichean is amasan a choileanadh."

Thuirt Dòmhnall MacNèill: "Tha mise gu math toilichte an dreuchd tha seo a ghlèidheadh aig an ìre sa. Tha e gu math soilleir gu bheil sinn uile a’ tighinn beò aig àm gu math dùbhlanach ach inntinneach leis an dà chuid cunnartan agus cothroman an saoghal na Gàidhlig. Dh’fhaodadh gu bheil sin gu sònraichte fìor do dh’ iomairtean leasachaidh na Gàidhlig measg choimhearsnachdan aig a’ cheart àm. A dh’aindheoin sin, tha mise dhan bheachd gu bheil de dh’ earbsa agus creideas aig daoine ann an Comunn na Gàidhlig agus an obair a tha a’ bhuidheann a’ dèanamh, gun toir sin cothrom dhòmhsa, agus dhan sgioba-obrach air fad, cùisean a’ ghluasad air adhart còmhla, agus gu sònraichte le ar n-iomairtean coimhearsnachd."

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig a’ lìbhrigeadh seirbheisean leasachaidh Gàidhlig thairis air grunn raointean, bho sgeamaichean do oileanaich, gu sgeamaichean soidhnichean dà-chànanach

ach gu sonraichte ag obair ann an coimhearsnachdan leis na h-Iomairtean Gàidhlig a tha iad a' steidheachadh an diofar choimhearsnachdan air feadh Alba. Tha iad an-sàs anns an obair seo gu sònraichte as leth Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

A' bruidhinn mun obair a tha gu bhith roimh Dhòmhnall MacNèill agus CnaG 's an fharsaingeachd, thuirt Dòmhnall Dòmhnallach: "Tha e ceart gu bheil sinn ag obair ann an suidheachadh gu math duilich – suidheachadh a th'air a bhi fàs nas duilghe is nas duilghe thar ùine. Tha Bòrd stiùiridh na companaidh air a bhi an-sàs ann an lèirmheas air structar, prìomhachasan agus obair na buidhne bho chionn greiseag. Tha sinn an dùil sin a' chur an cèill anns na beagan sheachdainnean a tha romhainn. Ged a dh'fhaodadh cuid a' cho-dhùnaidhean duilich a bhi an lùib seo, tha sinn den bheachd gum bith a' chompanaidh ann an suidheachadh nas treasa as a dhèidh, agus tha mi cinnteach gun cuir Dòmhnall MacNèill gu mòr ris an obair a tha sin agus na dùbhlain a tha romhainn."

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NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO LEAD GAELIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

17 November 2009

Donald MacNeill of Inverness, currently Highland Council's Gaelic Development Manager, is to be the new Ceannard or Chief Executive of Gaelic development agency Comunn na Gaidhlig (CnaG). Mr MacNeill will take over the reins of the Gaelic agency, which has been instrumental in the field of community development for more than 25 years.

Mr MacNeill is a very experienced administrator with an extensive background in Gaelic development and the media. Before he took up his current role with Highland Council in their Headquarters in Inverness, he had worked for 10 years with Highlands and Islands Enterprise in a number of roles including media and transport. Prior to that, he had worked with Grampian TV, STV and the BBC's Gaelic radio service Rèidio nan Gàidheal. His parents hailed from Greenock and Carloway and Donald went to school in Inverness.

Comunn na Gàidhlig Chairman Donald MacDonald said: "I am delighted that the role of Chief Executive of CnaG has attracted someone of Donald's experience and calibre. He very obviously has a wide range of skills and extensive experience of roles in challenging environments and he will have a great opportunity here to make his mark at a high level. I am sure that he will be able to lead the organisation and steer it through the many challenges which lie ahead, and take us on to the next stage of our development as an organisation. I am sure that he will lead our team well and have clear targets and aspirations in mind as we meet the various challenges we face."

Donald MacNeill said: "I am very pleased to have been successful in achieving this position at this stage in my career. Gaelic organisations obviously work ion particularly challenging environments and the current challenges present a number of potential difficulties as well as some exciting opportunities. That is particularly true of the community initiatives which CnaG is leading and I am fully confident that the communities themselves believe in what CnaG is doing and this will give me the chance to work with the team on the staff to move onwards and upwards, developing what is already in place in a number of key areas."

Comunn na Gàidhlig is responsible for the delivery of a wide range of Gaelic services including various schemes for students, a bilingual Signage Scheme but particularly work in the communities where they have recently established Gaelic Initiatives in a number of communities across Scotland. Most of their work is focussed on delivering work contracted to them by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the principal public authority with responsibility for developing Gaelic.

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Welcoming Mr MacNeill's appointment, Donald MacDonald added: "In many ways, Gaelic has never faced such challenging times and there is no doubt but that we face new challenges as we go forward. Our board of directors has been reviewing our own structure and priorities recently and we will shortly be implementing a series of recommended changes in the way we are working. No doubt we face some difficult decisions but I am confident that the changes we are planning will make us a more efficient deliverer of Gaelic services and that we will be stronger as an organisation. I am also certain that Donald MacNeill will make a very significant contribution to our development as a body when he joins early in the New Year."