

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



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An Dàrna Plana Cànan Nàiseanta Gàidhlig a' togail air soirbheachadh Foghlam Gàidhlig

04 October 2011

Chaidh am pròiseas co-chomhairleachaidh poblach airson an dàrna Plana Cànan Nàiseanta Gàidhlig, a tha a' mìneachadh nan gnìomhan a tha riatanach gus fàs a thoirt air an àireamh ag ionnsachadh agus a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig ann an Alba, fhoillseachadh ann an Alba an-diugh le Ministear Riaghaltas na h-Alba airson Ionnsachadh is Sgilean, an Dr Alasdair Allan BPA.

A' foillseachadh an dreachd Plana, thuirt Ministear Riaghaltas na h-Alba airson Ionnsachadh is Sgilean, an Dr Alasdair Allan: "Bu toil leam taing a thoirt do Bhòrd na Gàidhlig airson an cuid ùine, spreigeadh agus lèirsinn ann a bhith ag ullachadh a' Phlana Nàiseanta seo airson co-chomhairle. Tha sinn mothachail gum feum sinn deagh adhartas a dheanamh le Gàidhlig ann an Alba agus bidh am Plana Nàiseanta gu mòr na chuideachadh mu choinneamh sin. Leis an sin, tha e cudromach gum faigh sinn ceart e. Bidh sinne, còmhla ris a' Bhòrd, a' gabhail ùidh shònraichte ann am freagairtean a' cho-chomhairleachaidh agus na teachdaireachdan a tha ag èirigh às. Tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ris an deasbad air a' chuspair chudromach seo agus dh'iarraim air daoine fa leth, buidhnean agus ùghdarrasan com-pàirt a ghabhail sa cho-chomhairle."

Thuirt Cathraiche Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, Art MacCarraig: "Tha an dreachd Phlana seo a' mìneachadh dòigh iomlanach air leasachadh na Gàidhlig, a' dearbh-aithneachadh a' phrìomh dhleastanas a tha aig foghlam is ionnsachadh Gàidhlig ann an stèidheachadh fàs agus na dòighean sam faod an siostam foghlaim, dachaighean, coimhearsnachdan, na h-ealain, na meadhanan agus dualchas, taic fhaotainn gus ar n-amasan a choileanadh, a thaobh an dà chuid fàs agus deagh-ghnè ann an ionnsachadh is cleachdadh cànan sna bliadhnaichean a tha ri teachd."

Thuirt e: "Ged is e dleastanas Bhòrd na Gàidhlig Plana Cànan Nàiseanta Gàidhlig a dheasachadh, agus stiùir a thoirt seachad ann a bhith ga liubhairt, 's e aon phrìomh phuing gur e ro-innleachd nàiseanta a tha seo, agus 's ann tro bhith mothachail air sealbh co-roinnte dheth agus gach neach a' gabhail a phàirt fhèin ann a bhith ga liubhairt a bhios an cothrom as fheàrr aige air soirbheachadh. Tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ri freagairtean fhaighinn air ais mun dreachd Plana seo."

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Tha am Plana a’ cur cuideam sònraichte air an fheum air togail air soirbheachadh Foghlam Gàidhlig, gu h-àraid foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig, gus tèarainteachd seasmhach a dhleasadh don chànan san àm ri teachd. Nochd an Cunntas-sluaigh Nàiseanta 2001 gun robh an àireamh de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig ann an Alba air a dhol sìos bho 1991 ach gun robh an ìre crìonaidh air tòiseachadh a’ lùghdachadh agus gu h-àraid, gun robh an àireamh de luchd-labhairt òg air meudachadh. Bha seo an urra gu ìre mhòr ris an t-soirbheachadh ann am foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig, le taic bho na leasachaidhean thar nan deicheadan a dh’fhalbh ann an inbhe na Gàidhlig agus anns an raon de sholar ri fhaotainn sa chànan.

’S e prìomh thargaid a’ Phlana bunailteachd a ruighinn anns an àireamh de dhaoine a’ labhairt na Gàidhlig le bhith ag àrdachadh na h-ìre aig a bheil luchd-labhairt ùr na Gàidhlig gan cruthachadh gu ìre cur an àite’ – ’s e sin, an ìre gu far a bheil cruthachadh an luchd-labhairt ùr a’ cothromachadh call luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig nas sine. ’S e na slatan-tomhais coileanaidh sònraichte mu choinneamh na targaid seo gun daingnich Cunntas-sluaigh Nàiseanta 2021 gu bheil an t-àrdachadh anns an àireamh de dhaoine òga a’ labhairt Gàidhlig a’ leantainn air adhart, agus aig 2031 gu bheil e air ìre cur an àite a ruighinn.

Tha coinneachadh na targaid seo a’ comharrachadh mar riatanas bunaiteach, dùblachadh anns an àireamh de chloinn ag inntrigeadh foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig aig P1 ro 2017 (bho 400 gu 800). Gus iarrtas phàrantan a choinneachadh, tha feum air dòigh cho-òrdanaichte le ùghdarrasan ionadail, Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus buidhnean eile gus planadh airson fàs ann an cothrom air foghlam tron Ghàidhlig air feadh Alba, tro phrògram de thasgadh calpa agus planadh luchd-obrach.

Thuir Murchadh MacIomhair, a bha na Stiùiriche Foghlaim aig Comhairle Lannraig a Tuath agus na Chathraiche air Buidheann Stiùiridh Ro-Innleachd Foghlam Gàidhlig Nàiseanta: “Is e foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig an aon chothrom a tha ri fhaotainn fad’ is farsaing airson oideachadh gu dà-chànanach ann an Alba. Gu h-eadar-nàiseanta, tha rannsachadh air buannachdan dà-chànanais a dhaingneachadh gu cunbhalach ann an àrdachadh chothroman beatha do dhaoine òga. Tha seo air a dhearbhadh ann an Alba tro rannsachadh neo-eisimeileach air coileanadh oideachail sgoilearan ann am foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Tha e mar fhiachaibh oirnn barrachd cothrom a thoirt do dhaoine òga air feadh na dùthcha air foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig inntrigeadh. Tha mi a’ creidsinn gu bheil am beachd sin aig gach ball den Bhuidheann seo, a chuidich leis an ro-innleachd foghlaim is ionnsachaidh sa Phlana seo a dhealbhadh.”

A’ meòrachadh air a phrìomh àite aig foghlam is ionnsachadh Gàidhlig sa Phlana, thuir Stiùiriche Ionnsachadh is Coimhearsnachd ann am Foghlam Alba, Anna Jardine: “Tha Foghlam Alba a’ cur taic agus a’ meas luach air na tha foghlam Gàidhlig a’ cur ri sgoiltean na

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h-Alba agus a tuigsinn a chomais ann an cuideachadh le foghlam farsaing agus eòlasan beatha luchd-ionnsachaidh. Leanaidh Foghlam Alba air adhart a' solarachadh stiùireadh ro-innleachdail agus ag obair ann an com-pàirteachas le buidhnean eile mar a bhios iomchaidh gus na rùintean oideachail a choileanadh a tha air an comharrachadh sa phlana agus gus dèanamh cinnteach à fàs ann an Gàidhlig ann an Alba san àm ri teachd."

Thuirte Cathraiche a' Bhùird, Art MacCarraig a-rithist: "Tha sinn taingeil airson an taic a fhuair sinn ann am buileachadh a' chiad Phlana Càin Nàiseanta Gàidhlig, agus a' chomhairle 's an cuideachadh a chaidh a thoirt dhuinn ann an cumadh an dreachd Plana seo."

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, cuiribh fios gu:

Steven MacIomhair, Oifigear Conaltraidh is Cùisean Corporra aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

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NOTAICHEAN DO LUCHD-DEASACHAIDH:

Tha e na riathanas de Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 gum feum Bòrd na Gàidhlig Plana Càin Nàiseanta Gàidhlig a dheasachadh agus a chur a-steach gu Ministearan na h-Alba, sam feum molaidhean a bhith a thaobh buileachadh a' Phlana a rèir na h-Achd. Feumaidh na molaidhean sin a bhith a' gabhail a-steach ro-innleachd airson adhartachadh, agus a' comasachadh adhartachadh, cleachdadh is tuigsinn na Gàidhlig, agus foghlam Gàidhlig is cultar na Gàidhlig.

Tha na dleastanasan builichte air a' Bhòrd leis an Achd rin cur an gnìomh às leth inbhe na Gàidhlig a thèarainn mar chànan oifigeil ann an Alba, ag àithneadh spèis co-ionnan ri Beurla tro mheudachadh na h-àireimh de dhaoine aig a bheil comas a' Ghàidhlig a thuigsinn 's a chleachdadh, a' brosnachadh cleachdadh is tuigse don Ghàidhlig agus a' comasachadh cothrom air a' Ghàidhlig agus cultar na Gàidhlig ann an Alba agus àiteachan eile.

Ann an deasachadh a' Phlana, feumaidh am Bòrd comhairle fhaotainn bhon Phàrlamaid, dreach Plana fhoillseachadh, cothrom airson riochdachadh a dhèanamh air an dreach Plana an taobh a-staigh trì mìosan de fhoillseachadh na Co-chomhairle, agus cunntas a ghabhail do riochdachadh sam bith a gheibhear an taobh a-staigh na h-ama sin.

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Second National Gaelic Language Plan to build on Gaelic Education success

04 October 2011

The public consultation process for the second National Gaelic Language Plan, which sets out the actions required to grow the numbers learning and using Gaelic in Scotland, was launched in Edinburgh today by the Scottish Government Minister for Learning and Skills, Dr Alasdair Allan MSP.

Launching the draft Plan, Dr Allan said: "I would like to thank Bòrd na Gàidhlig for their time, energy and insight in preparing this National Plan for consultation. We are aware we need to make good progress with Gaelic in Scotland and the National Plan will help us greatly with that. It is therefore important that we get it right. We, along with the Bòrd, will be taking a close interest in the consultation responses and the messages that come from it. We look forward to the debate on this important topic and I would encourage individuals, groups, bodies and authorities to respond to this consultation."

Bòrd na Gàidhlig Cathraiche (Chair) Arthur Cormack, said: "This draft Plan sets out an holistic approach to Gaelic development identifying the central role of Gaelic education and learning in securing growth and the ways in which the education system, homes, communities, arts, media and heritage can be supported to achieve our aims in terms of both growth and quality in language learning and use in years to come.

He went on: "While it is Bòrd na Gàidhlig's duty to prepare a National Gaelic Language Plan, and to take a lead in delivering aspects of it, a key point is that this is a national strategy and it is through a sense of shared ownership and everyone playing a part in its delivery that it will have the best chance of success. We look forward to receiving responses to the draft Plan."

The Plan places particular emphasis on the need to build on the success of Gaelic Education, particularly Gaelic medium education, to secure a sustainable future for the language. The 2001 National Census showed that the number of Gaelic speakers in Scotland had fallen since 1991 but that the rate of decline had begun to slow down and, in particular, that the number of young Gaelic speakers had risen. This was largely due to the success of Gaelic-medium education, supported by the improvements during the past few decades in the status of Gaelic and in the range of provision available in the language.

The Plan's headline target is to attain stability in the number of people speaking Gaelic by raising the rate at which new Gaelic speakers are created to 'replacement level' – i.e. the level at which the loss of mostly older Gaelic speakers is balanced by the creation of new

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speakers. The specific performance criteria for this target are that the 2021 National Census confirms that the growth in the number of young people speaking Gaelic continues and that by 2031 it has reached replacement level.

To meet this target the Plan identifies as a basic requirement a doubling in the number of children entering P1 Gaelic medium education by 2017 (from 400 to 800). To meet parental demand, this needs a co-ordinated approach by local authorities, the Scottish Government and other agencies to plan for growth in access to Gaelic medium education across Scotland, through a programme of capital investment and workforce planning.

Former Director of Education at North Lanarkshire Council and Chair of the National Gaelic Education Strategy Steering Group, Murdo MacIver, said: "Gaelic medium education is the only widely available opportunity to be educated bilingually in Scotland. Internationally, research has consistently confirmed the benefits of bilingualism in enhancing the life chances of young people. This is borne out in Scotland by independent research into educational performance of pupils in Gaelic-medium education. We owe it to young people across the nation to allow more of them to access Gaelic medium education. I believe this view is shared by all the members of the Group who helped to shape the education and learning strategy in this Plan."

Reflecting the key role of Gaelic education and learning in the Plan, the Director of Learning and Community at Education Scotland, Anne Jardine, said "Education Scotland supports and values the contribution of Gaelic education in Scotland's schools and recognises its potential to contribute to learners' wider education and life experiences. Education Scotland will continue to provide strategic direction and work in partnership with other bodies as appropriate to achieve the educational aspirations identified in the plan and ensure the future growth of Gaelic in Scotland."

Bòrd Cathraiche Athur Cormack concluded: "We are grateful for the support which we have enjoyed in implementing the first National Gaelic Language Plan and the advice and support which we have been given in formulating this Draft Plan."

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NOTE FOR EDITORS:

It is a requirement of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 that Bòrd na Gàidhlig must prepare and submit to the Scottish Ministers a National Gaelic Language Plan which must include proposals as to the exercise of its functions under the Act. Those proposals must include a strategy for promoting, and facilitating the promotion of, the use and understanding of the Gaelic Language, and Gaelic education and Gaelic culture.

The functions conferred on the Bòrd by the Act are to be exercised with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland, commanding equal respect to the English language through increasing the number of persons who are able to understand and use the Gaelic language, encouraging the use and understanding of the Gaelic language and facilitating access in Scotland and elsewhere to the Gaelic language and Gaelic culture.

In preparing the Plan the Bòrd must consult the Parliament, publish a draft of the Plan, publicise the opportunity to make representation about the draft Plan within three months of the launch of the Consultation and take into any account any representation received by it within that period.