Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release

Please scroll down for English Version

Beachd Bhòrd na Gàidhlig air molaidhean Chomhairle nan Eilean Siar son sgoiltean a dhùnadh

30 An t-Ògmhios 2010

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig, a' phrìomh buidheann airson leasachadh na Gàidhlig, a' moladh do Chomhairle nan Eilean Siar foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig a leudachadh ma thèid iad air adhart le molaidhean sgoiltean a dhùnadh. Airson a' chiad uair, tha am Bòrd air beachdan a chur air adhart a chur a-staigh air molaidhean fo an Achd Sgoiltean (Co-chomhairleachaidh) (Alba) 2010 a thaobh a bhuaidh a dh'fhaodadh a bhith aig na planaichean air foghlam Gàidhlig.

Anns an fhreagairt air na molaidhean aig a' Chomhairle airson sgoiltean a dhùnadh, thuirt Art MacCarmaig , Cathraiche Bhòrd na Gàidhlig: "Tha e daonnan gu math duilich airson comhairlean-ionadail co-dhùnadh a dhèanamh air sgoiltean a dhùnadh. Ni pàrantan agus coimhearsnachdan strì airson na sgoiltean seo a chumail airson math nan coimhearsnachdan. Tha Bord na Gàidhlig a' tuigsinn sin agus tha sinn direach air beachdan a thoirt seachad air a' bhuaidh a bhiodh aig seo air foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig agus dè seòrsa foghlam a bhios ri thabhann ma thèid na planaichean seo air adhart."

"Airson a' mhòr-chuid, chan eil Bòrd an Gàidhlig a' dol an aghaidh na planaichean airson na sgoiltean a dhùnadh fhad's a thèid a dhearbhadh gum bi foghlam tro meadhan na Gàidhlig a' leudachadh. Tha sinn ag aithneachadh gum bi buannachdan ann dhan chloinn a thèid a ghluasad bho aon sgoil gu sgoil le sgoilearan a bharrachd aig an aon aois agus gum bi ann an cuid de suidheachan, foghlam Gàidhlig ga thabhann airson a' chiad uair anns an sgoil ùr."

Anns an fhreagairt, tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' toirt fa-near gur e, le cuid nach e air sgàth nan àireamhan na lùib, an àbhaist gum bi clasaichean co-dhèanta ann am FTG sna sgoiltean nas lugha anns na h-Eileanan an Iar. Tha am Bòrd ag ràdh gu bheil eòlas à dùthchannan eile a tha air am puingean mion-chànanach athbheothachadh gu soirbheachail gu ìre bogaidh, a' sealltainn gu bheil sin deatamach airson bunait a stèidheachadh a dh'ionnsaigh comas agus fileantachd sa chànan a thoirt cothroman fileantachd agus èifeachdas a bhuinnig sa chànan.

Leis sin, chan eil clasaichean co-dhèanta anns a bheil bogadh an Gàidhlig ga thairgse do chuid ri taobh chloinne eile a tha nas sinne agus a' tòiseachadh ag ionnsachadh Beurla, idir na àrainneachd a tha freagarrach airson a bhith ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig bho thùs.

Thuirt Mghr McCarmaig: "Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig airson obrachadh còmhla ris na comhairlean-ionadail agus buidhnean eile gus an àireamh luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig

àrdachadh mar a chaidh fhoillseachadh anns a' phlana gnìomh againn Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig. Tha ag àrdachadh an àireamh de chloinn ann am foghlam tro meadhan na Gàidhlig cudtromach mar phàirt den an ro-innelachd sin agus bu chòir dha a bhith comasach dhan na h-Eileanan an Iar an àrdachadh seo a dhèanamh."

Thèid breithneachadh air na beachdan aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig air a' cho-chomhairleachadh air sgoiltean a dhùnadh anns na h-Eileanan an Iar le Comhairle nan Eilean Siar thairis air na mìosan a tha romhainn còmhla ri beachdan eile a th'air an cur a-staigh fon cho-chomhairleachadh.

Crìoch

Notaichean

Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig
Tha Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig a' cur taic ri Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig 2007-12 agus ri riatanasan Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005, ag ath-phriomhachadh ghoireasan agus ghnìomhan gus meudachadh air togail cànain a thoirt gu buil mean air mhean.

Tha Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig ag ath-aithris cho cudromach 's a tha foghlam tron Ghàidhlig. Tha e ag aithris gu bheil "Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' creidsinn gum feum ùghdarrasan ionadail àireamhan sgoilearan a mheudachadh ann am foghlam ro-sgoile agus clasaichean Prìomh 1 gu ìre 15% sa bhliadhna; bidh a leithid sin de mheudachadh deatamach ma thathar a' dol a choileanadh targaidean 2021 a tha comharraichte ann am Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig". Airson tuilleadh fiosrachadh faicwww.gaidhlig.org.uk

Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar Plana Gàidhlig
Chaidh Plana Cànain Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar a' deasachadh fo Achd na Gàidhlig 2005 a chaidh aontachadh leis a' Bhòrd ann an 2007. Airson lethbhreac den phlana, faic http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/cxdir/index.asp
Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mu ghnothach sam bith an luib an naidheachd seo, cuiribh fòn gu Shona Sloan, Manaidsear Corporra & Conaltraidh, shona@gaidhlig.org.uk, 07500099394 no gu Uisdean MacIllInnein air 0751 528 67040

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release

Bòrd na Gàidhlig responds to Comhairle nan Eilean Siar schools closures proposals
30 June 2010

Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the main organisation leading Gaelic Development, is urging Comhairle nan Eilean Siar to extend Gaelic medium education (GME) should its proposals to close certain schools go ahead. For the first time, the Bòrd has responded to school closure plans as a statutory consultee under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, on the basis that Gaelic education would be affected.

In its response to the Comhairle's proposals for school closures, Arthur Cormack, Cathraiche (chairman) of Bòrd na Gàidhlig said: "The closure of local schools is never an easy decision for a local authority. Parents and community leaders will almost always fight to resist such a move for reasons of community cohesion and the need for focal points in communities. This is clearly understandable, and the Bòrd has limited its views to the quality and extent of Gaelic medium provision that would be available should the proposed changes take place."

"In the majority of instances, Bòrd na Gàidhlig would not oppose the closing of schools providing this would lead to better provision of Gaelic medium education. We recognise that children transferring to a new school could benefit from being in a larger peer group and that, in some cases, Gaelic education would be provided in the new school for the first time as a result."

"We note that, in a number of instances, smaller schools in the Western Isles offer only composite classes in GME. Experience in other countries that have successfully revitalised their minority language points to the immersion phase as critical for laying the foundations to enable fluency and competency in the language. That being the case, composite classes where Gaelic immersion is being attempted for some pupils alongside older children beginning to learn English, do not offer a satisfactory environment in which to begin learning Gaelic."

"We welcomed a the commitment Comhairle nan Eilean Siar offered in the Gaelic Language Plan it agreed with the Bòrd, to begin introducing a policy of GME, in line with the National Gaelic Education Strategy, as mainstream primary provision within the Western Isles. Bòrd na Gàidhlig recognises the considerable challenges this presents for Comhairle nan Eilean Siar. Given that the global school roll is almost 50% of what it was some 30 years ago, the Comhairle must remain mindful of the fact that a small increase in the percentage of children being enrolled in GME, although extremely welcome, will not restore numbers to the level they were at some 20-30 years ago. Only by increasing the numbers enrolled in

GME quite dramatically will the decline in numbers of speakers of Gaelic begin to be stemmed."

"Bòrd na Gàidhlig wants to work with local authorities, and others, to increase the number of speakers of Gaelic, as outlined in our recently-published action plan, Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig. An increase in numbers of children in GME is one essential part of our strategy and the Western Isles should be one of places able to bring about such an increase."

The Bòrd's response to the consultation in school closures in the Western Isles will be considered by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar over the next few months.

Ends

Notes

Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig
Ginealach Ùr Na Gàidhlig supports the National Plan for Gaelic 2007-12 and the requirements of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, reprioritising resources and actions to support an incremental increase in learning and using Gaelic.

Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig is equally clear about the importance of Gaelic medium education. It states that "Bòrd na Gàidhlig believes that local authorities must increase pupil numbers in local authority pre-school and in P.1 classes by 15% per annum; such increases will be essential if the 2021 targets identified in the National Plan for Gaelic are to be achieved". For more information, see, www.gaidhlig.org.uk
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar Gaelic Language Plan Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar developed a Gaelic Language plan under the Gaelic Language Act (Scotland) 2005 which was approved by Bord na Gaidhlig in 2007 . For a copy of the plan, please see

http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/cxdir/index.asp
For more information on this news release, contact Shona Sloan, Communications Manager, shona@gaidhlig.org.uk, 07500099394, or 01463 225454