

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



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

27/06/11

**Airson a chleachdadh sa bhad**

## **Ceangal Choimhearsnachdan air a' Chosta: Rannsachadh cheanglaichean cultarach eadar nòsan iasgaich ann an coimhearsnachdan na h-Èireann agus na h-Alba**

Tha Colmcille – prògram com-pàirteachais a tha ag adhartachadh dualchas cànanach is cultarach co-roinnte na h-Èireann agus na h-Alba – a' cur taic ri rannsachadh ùr a tha a' coimhead ris na ceanglaichean eadar nòsan iasgaich coimhearsnachdan nan eilean san dà dhùthaich.

Bheir maoinachadh Cholmcille cothrom do dh'Iain MacFhionghain às an Eilean Sgitheanach diofar thaobhan de dhualchas iasgaich Arainn Mhòir ann an Sgìre Dhùn nan Gall agus Barraigh sna h-Eileanan Siar a rannsachadh. Gheibh e taic bho Liam Caimbeul à Dùn nan Gall. Tha an dithis air a bhith ag obair ann an Oilthigh Ulaidh. Tha iad air a bhith a' rannsachadh cuid de na creideasan is cleachdaidhean sònraichte co-cheangailte ris an fhearann agus ri nàdar a tha nam pàirt iomlan den chultar Ghàidhlig, agus ri ceanglaichean eadar na nòsan sin agus cleachdaidhean obrach traidiseanta.

Chaidh an rannsachadh sin a spreagadh nuair a mhothaich Iain, a bha a' fuireach ann an Èirinn aig an àm, gun robh coimhearsnachdan ann an Arainn Mòr agus Barraigh a' cur an aghaidh reachdas àrainneachdail an riaghaltais, a bhathar an dùil a bheireadh buaidh air an iasgach.

Thuir Iain: "Ged a tha na cùisean sònraichte glè fhaicsinneach – bacadh air iasgach bhradan le lìn drioftaidh ann an Dùn nan Gall agus comharrachadh àrainneachdail san amharc anns na h-uisgeachan mu thimcheall Bharraigh – tha draghan air na h-eileanaich mun chunnart a thaobh obraichean san iasgach, mun chall àireamh sluaigh a dh'fhaodadh a thighinn gu bith agus a' bhuaidh a dh'fhaodadh a bhith aige air brìgh na beatha anns na h-eileanan."

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Bidh an rannsachadh, a tha a’ faotainn taic bho Cholmcille, a’ sireadh ri ceanglaichean a stèidheachadh agus a dhaingneachadh, eadar an dà chuid cleachdaidhean is nòsan co-cheangailte ris a’ mhuir a chaidh a chlàradh roimhe agus modhan iasgaich an latha an-diugh. Bidh na rannsaichean a’ ceasnachadh iasgairean nan eilean mu dhòighean stiùiridh iasgaireachd san àm a dh’fhalbh, mu na h-atharrachaidhean a chunnaic iad nam beatha fhèin agus mu dheidhinn nan adhbharan a tha iad a’ faireachdainn cho làidir mu chudromachd na mara mar phàirt de an dòigh-beatha, chun na h-ìre agus gu bheil iad deònach seasamh an aghaidh pròiseasan co-dhùnaidh an riaghaltais aca.

Thuirtean eile cuideachd: “Tha an rannsachadh a tha mi fhìn agus Liam air a bhith a’ dèanamh a’ nochdadh gu bheil slugh na Gàidhlig air a bhith a-riamh a’ faicinn an t-saoghail nàdarraich ann an dòigh shònraichte. Bhon dòigh smaoinichid seo mun t-saoghal, tha sinn air cleachdaidhean a chruthachadh a thaobh mar a bhathar a’ dùileachadh do dhaoine a bhith beò air an fhearann, agus a bhith ag obair ‘s a’ dèanamh feum de ghòireasan mara is fearainn. Is ann bho na creideas an t-sìne sin, mar eisimpleir, a thàinig an t-siostam croitearachd ann an Alba.

“Tha sinn air leth taingeil do Cholmcille airson an cothrom a thoirt dhuinn an obair seo a choileanadh, obair a bhios a’ sgrùdadh mar a dh’fhaodadh nòsan iasgaich nan coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig freagradh air an dòigh smaoinichid seo air an t-saoghal.”

Thuirtean Liam Caimbeul, a thogadh ann am Burt ann an Dùn nan Gall: “Tha an dithis againn air mothachadh bhon rannsachadh againn gu bheil am faireachdainn làidir mu bhuntainneas agus uallach don àite àraich – ris an canar dùthchas sa Ghàidhlig – air a bhith na adhbhar spreagaidh cudromach anns na h-iomairtean a tha a’ cur taic ri diofar thaobhan de ar cultar.

“Tha e doirbh am facal Dùthchas a mhìneachadh ach tha e a’ giùlain mothachadh don bhuntainneas a tha neach a’ faireachdainn airson àite – buntainneas a tha a’ tighinn beò tron cheangal a tha aig neach don àite aca ann an sgeulachd, òran, obair an fhearainn agus nan cuimhne air na daoine a bha a’ fuireach ann.”

Thuirtean eile MacFhionghain: “Tha tuigse a’ sìor fhàs gu h-eadar-nàiseanta mu chudromachd dhualchasan eadar-mheasgte cultarach a’ chinne-daonna agus na cànanan a tha a’

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libhrigeadh na h-iomadachd sin. Tha tèarmann ga chur an sàs gus an cuideachadh agus an dìon.

“Aig an aon àm, tha poileasaidhean iasgaich a’ gluasad a dh’ionnsaigh buileachadh barrachd uallaich air na h-iasgairean fhèin, a’ tairginn dhaibh comas air barrachd cho-dhùnaidhean a dhèanamh gu h-ionadail air mar a tha iasgach ga choileanadh ann an uisgeachan na h-Alba agus na h-Èireann.

“Bhiodh e gu buannachd mhòr nam b’ urrainn do dhòighean labhairt agus smaoinichidh luchd na Gàidhlig mun t-saoghal a bhith air an cumail suas agus air an cuideachadh aig an aon àm ri dìon na h-àrainneachd nàdarraich a tha mar phàirt de ar dùthchas.”

## CRÌOCH

**Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, cuiribh fios gu:**

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## NOTAICHEAN DO LUCHD-DEASACHAS AIDH:

*’S e com-pàirteachas a th’ ann an Colmcille eadar Bòrd na Gàidhlig, a’ bhuidheann le dleastanas airson adhartachadh na Gàidhlig agus a cultar ann an Alba agus gu h-eadar-nàiseanta, agus Foras na Gaeilge, a’ bhuidheann le uallach airson adhartachadh na Gaeilge ann an eilean na h-Èireann. Chaidh Colmcille a stèidheachadh ann an 1997, air a mhaoineachadh le Riaghaltasan na h-Alba agus na h-Èireann le dleastanas airson ‘coimhearsnachd bheòthail eadar-obrachail a chruthachadh eadar Èirinn agus Alba’. Tha Colmcille a’ cur taic ri agus a’ gabhail phròiseactan os làimh a tha a’ togail mothachadh do dhualchas Ghàidhlig cho-roinnte na h-Èireann agus na h-Alba.*

*Tha Gàidhlig agus Gaeilge mar chànanan coitcheann coimhearsnachd anns a’ mhòr-chuid de choimhearsnachdan na Gaidhealtachd / Gaeltacht ann an Alba agus Èirinn, agus air an cleachdadh gu làitheil le mòran daoine taobh a-muigh na Gaeltacht ann am bailtean mòra*

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*mar Glaschu, Inbhir Nis, Dùn Èideann, Doire Cholm Chille, Beal Feirste agus Baile Atha Cliath. Tha comas air choreigin ann an Gàidhlig aig 92,396 neach ann an Alba. A rèir a' Chunntais-sluaigh mu dheireadh, tha comas labhairt ann an Gàidhlig aig 58,652 neach, le 33,744 neach a bharrachd le comas an cànan a leughadh, a sgrìobhadh agus a thuigsinn. A rèir figearan a' Chunntais-sluaigh mu dheireadh, tha comas aig 1.66 millean neach ann an Èirinn a Deas Gaeilge a labhairt, agus 10.4% de luchd-còmhnaidh ann an Èirinn a Tuath ag ràdh gu bheil beagan eòlais aca air a' chànan.*

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## Use Immediate Use

### **Connecting Coastal Communities: Research exploring cultural links between the fishing traditions of communities in Ireland and Scotland**

Colmcille – a partnership programme which promotes the shared linguistic and cultural heritage of Ireland and Scotland – is supporting new research which looks at connections between the fishing traditions of island communities in the two countries.

Colmcille's funding will enable Iain MacKinnon from the Isle of Skye to explore aspects of the fishing heritages of Arranmore in County Donegal and Barra in the Western Isles. He will be supported by Liam Campbell from Donegal. Both men have been working at the University of Ulster. They have been researching some of the distinctive beliefs and customs towards the land and nature that are an integral part of Gaelic culture, and at connections between these attitudes and traditional working practices.

The research was prompted when Iain, who was living in Ireland at the time, became aware that there was resistance on both Arranmore and Barra to government environmental legislation which the communities feared would affect fishing interests.

Iain said: "Although the particular issues are quite distinct – a ban on drift-net fishing for salmon in Donegal and a proposed environmental designation in the waters off Barra – the islanders share concerns about the threat to fishing jobs, about potential population loss, and the possible effects on the viability of island life."

The Colmcille sponsored research will seek to establish and affirm connections between, on the one hand, customs and practices relating to the sea that have been recorded in the past and, on the other hand, fishing as it is practiced now. The researchers will ask island fishermen about how fisheries were managed in the past, about the changes they have seen in their own lifetimes and about why they feel so strongly about the importance of the sea as part their way of life that they are prepared to stand against their governments' decision making processes.

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Iain added: “The research that Liam and I have been doing suggests that the Gaelic speaking peoples have always regarded the natural world in a distinctive way. From this way of thinking about the world we have created customs for how people were expected to live on the land, and to work and make use of the resources of land and sea. It's from these indigenous beliefs, for example, that the crofting system in Scotland is descended”.

“We are very grateful to Colmcille for giving us the opportunity to carry out this work which will explore how the fishing traditions of Gaelic speaking communities might fit into this way of thinking about the world.”

Liam Campbell, who was brought up at Burt in Donegal, said: “What both of us have found in our research is that a sense of belonging to and responsibility for the home place – what has traditionally been called dùthchas in Gaelic – has been an important motivating factor in campaigns to support aspects of the culture.

“Dùthchas is a hard word to translate but it carries a sense of belonging that someone feels for a place – a belonging that comes alive through a person's connection to their place in story, song, working on the land and in their memories of the people who have lived there.”

Iain MacKinnon added: “Internationally there is now growing recognition of the importance of humanity's diverse cultural heritages, and of the languages that express that diversity. Safeguards are being put in place to protect and support them.

“At the same time fisheries policies are moving towards giving more responsibility to fishermen themselves, offering the potential for more local say in how fishing is carried out in Irish and Scottish waters.

“It would be a win-win situation if the Gaelic speaking peoples' important ways of talking about and understanding the world can be upheld and supported at the same time as we protect the natural environment that is part of our dùthchas.”

**END**

**For further information contact:**

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## NOTE TO EDITORS:

*Colmcille is a partnership programme between Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the body charged with promoting Gaelic language and culture in Scotland and internationally, and Foras na Gaeilge, the body charged with the promotion of the Irish language in the island of Ireland. Colmcille was set up in 1997, and is funded by the Governments of Scotland and Ireland with a remit to 'create a vibrant interactive community spanning Ireland and Scotland'. Colmcille undertakes and supports projects that raise awareness of the shared Gaelic heritage of Ireland and Scotland.*

*Gàidhlig and Gaeilge is the community language in much of the traditional Gaidhealtachd/ Gaeltacht heartlands of Ireland and Scotland and is also in use on a daily basis by many people outside the Gaeltacht in the cities of Glasgow, Inverness, Edinburgh, Derry, Belfast and Dublin. A total of 92,396 people have some Gaelic language ability in Scotland. According to the last Census 58,652 people can speak Gaelic, with an additional 33,744 having the ability to read, write or understand the language. According to the last Census figures 1.66 million people in the South of Ireland can speak Gaeilge, whilst 10.4% of residents in Northern Ireland claim to have some knowledge of the language.*