

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



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**Airson Sgaoileadh sa bhad**

**08/05/2013**

## **Ceud Mìle Fàilte air a h-uile Ball Pàrlamaid**

Air feadh na seachdain a' tòiseachadh air 13 Cèitean bithear a' cur 'Ceud Mìle Fàilte' air Buill Pàrlamaid na h-Alba.

Bithear a' toirt cuireadh don a h-uile Ball Pàrlamaid tighinn a dh'fhaicinn taisbeanadh a bhios ga chumail sa Phàrlamaid agus coinneachadh ri riochdairean bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus MG ALBA gus cluinntinn mu dheidhinn an adhartais a tha air a bhith ga dhèanamh a thaobh a' chànain. Chaidh an dà bhuidhinn seo a stèidheachadh le Achdan Pàrlamaid airson cur ri oidhirpean gus an cànan ath-bheothachadh.

Thathar a' cumail an taisbeanaidh gus taingealachd a nochdadh do luchd na Pàrlamaid airson na taice a tha gach pàrtaidh air a thoirt don Ghàidhlig bho chaidh fèin-riaghladh a stèidheachadh. Bithear cuideachd a' sealltainn mar a tha foghlam tron Ghàidhlig air a dhol am meud ann an caochladh cheàrnaidhean de dh'Alba agus mar a tha BBC ALBA air soirbheachadh le bhith tarraing barrachd is barrachd luchd-amhairc a tha cur sùim nach beag san t-sianal.

Tha a' Ghàidhlig air a bhith ga teagasg mar chuspair ann an sgoiltean na h-Alba fad iomadach bliadhna, ach chan eil e cho fada bho thòisicheadh ga cleachdadh mar mheadhan ionnsachaidh is teagaisg. Barrachd is barrachd thathar ag aithneachadh nam buannachdan a thaobh tuigse, foghlaim is cultair a gheibhear bho dà-chànanas is ioma-chànanas, agus gur e foghlam tron Ghàidhlig aon de na dòighean na buannachdan sin a ghleidheadh. Tha sgoilearan, a tha a' dèanamh foghlam tron Ghàidhlig, a-nis ann an sgìrean gach Ùghdarras Ionadail ann an Alba, ach a-mhàin ceithir, agus tha an àireamh sgoilearan air a dhol an àirde bho fichead ann an 1985 gu còrr is 3,500 ann an 2013.

Thuirt Ceannard Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Iain Aonghas MacAoidh: "Dhearbh figearan bho Chunntas-sluaigh 2001 gun robh am poileasaidh gus taic a thoirt do dh'fhoghlam tron Ghàidhlig a' cuideachadh le bhith cur maill air cho luath agus a bha an àireamh de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig a' crìonadh, mar a sheall fianais sa chunntas-sluaigh ron sin. Bhon uair sin chaidh Bòrd na Gàidhlig a stèidheachadh fo Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) le dleastanas gus Plana Cànan Nàiseanta Gàidhlig ullachadh a bheir stiùireadh do bhuidhnean is daoine fa leth ann an Alba a thaobh nam prìomhachasan a th' ann ann a

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bhith toirt taic don Ghàidhlig. Tha am Plana Cànain Nàiseanta Gàidhlig as ùire a’ cur cudrom mòr air mar a bhios foghlam tron Ghàidhlig – cho math ri bhith cleachdadh Gàidhlig san dachaigh agus sa choimhearsnachd – a’ cur ri meudachadh san àireimh de dhaoine òga le Gàidhlig sna bliadhnaichean ri thighinn feuch gun seas a’ Ghàidhlig mar chànan brìoghmhor is buan.”

Chur Àrd-Oifigear MG ALBA, Dòmhnall Caimbeul, ris a sin: “Bidh na meadhanan Gàidhlig a’ dèanamh obair chudromach agus iad a’ toirt cothrom do dhaoine air a’ Ghàidhlig agus a cultar, agus tha sin a’ togail ìomhaigh a’ chànan. Chaidh leudachadh air a’ bhuaidh seo gu mòr bho chaidh an sianal telebhisein Gàidhlig, BBC ALBA, a stèidheachadh ann an 2008, agus cha tug e fada dhuinn luchd-amhairc a tharraing a tha dìleas agus a’ cur luach air an t-seirbheis chan ann a-mhàin bho measg luchd na Gàidhlig ach bho air feadh Alba. Tha goireasan eile ann a bhios iad an sàs ann mar LearnGaelic.net, làrach-lìn far am faigh daoine le ùidh ann a bhith ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig a h-uile rud a tha dhìth orra.”

Tha an àireamh de luchd-amhairc agus an t-iarrtas a th’ ann airson Gàidhlig ionnsachadh a’ dearbhadh mar a tha ùidh sa Ghàidhlig agus tha fianais ann cuideachd gu bheil a’ mhòr-chuid de dhaoine a’ smaoinichadh gu bheil e cudromach gun glèidh Alba a dualchas Gàidhlig. Mar fhianais air a’ bheachd sin thuirt 81% de dhaoine ann an suirbhidh, a dh’fhoillsich Riaghaltas na h-Alba an-uiridh, gun robh Gàidhlig cudromach do dh’ìomhaigh is cultar na h-Alba san latha an-diugh. Cha bu chòir seo a bhith na iongnadh ann an dùthaich a chaidh ainmeachadh às dèidh nan Gàidheal (a thuinich ann an Alba tràth ann an eachdraidh na dùthcha) air an tug na Ròmanaich na Scotti mar ainm. Tha fianais – a chaidh a thrusadh o chionn ghoirid sa mhodal Ghàidhlig den t-Suirbhidh air Beachdan Sòisealta na h-Alba 2012 agus mun tèid fiosrachadh fhoillseachadh an ath sheachdain leis an lìonra rannsachaidh Soillse – a’ dearbhadh gu bheil beachd math aig daoine air foghlam tron Ghàidhlig agus BBC ALBA agus a’ bhuaidh a th’ aig an t-sianal air cùisean.

Ri linn an adhartais agus deagh rùn seo, tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus MG ALBA den bheachd gum biodh e iomchaidh feadhainn de na toraidhean a shealltainn a tha sinn air fhaicinn air sgàth nam beachdan is poileasaidhean taiceil a chaidh a chur air adhart sa Phàrlamaid, agus iad sin a’ togail air an taic a tha am mòr-shluagh air a thoirt don chànan. Nì an taisbeanadh, a thèid a chumail air an t-seachdain a’ tòiseachadh air 13 Cèitean, sin agus thèid an dàrna Plana Gàidhlig aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba fhoillseachadh aig an aon àm.

Tha riochdairean Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus MG ALBA a’ coimhead air adhart ri bhith toirt Ceud Mìle Taing don a h-uile Ball Pàrlamaid air feadh na seachdain, airson an taic leantainneach a tha iad a’ toirt dhuinn agus sinn a’ feuchainn ri dèanamh cinnteach gun seas a’ Ghàidhlig ann an Alba.

**DEIREADH**

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Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun bhrath-naidheachd seo, cuiribh fios le ur toil gu Steven MacIomhair, Manaidsear Corporra is Conaltradh aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig, aig [steven@gaidhlig.org.uk](mailto:steven@gaidhlig.org.uk) no air 07557 481 081.

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**For Immediate Release**

**08/05/2013**

## **Ceud Mìle Fàilte – A Hundred Thousand Welcomes – To all Members of Parliament**

On the week commencing 13 May, the traditional Gaelic greeting ‘*Ceud Mìle Fàilte*’ will be extended to all Members of the Scottish Parliament.

All Members will be invited to view an exhibition in the Parliament and to meet representatives from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and MG ALBA to hear about recent positive developments for the language. These are the two Gaelic bodies established by Acts of Parliament to support the revitalization of Gaelic.

The exhibition is being staged to thank the parliamentarians for the Cross-Party support shown to Gaelic since devolution, and, in return, to highlight the successful growth of Gaelic-medium education in diverse locations in Scotland and to demonstrate the success of BBC ALBA in attracting growing and appreciative audiences.

Gaelic has been taught as a language in schools in Scotland for a long time, but its consistent use as a medium of learning and teaching is a relatively recent phenomenon. The cognitive, educational and cultural benefits of bilingualism, and multilingualism, are being increasingly recognised, as is Gaelic-medium education as a route to securing these benefits, with numbers of pupils in all but four Local Authority areas in Scotland growing from less than twenty in 1985 to over 3,500 in 2013.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig Ceannard (CEO) said: “The 2001 Census statistics demonstrated that the policy of support for Gaelic-medium education was helping to slow the rate of decline in the numbers of Gaelic speakers evidenced in the previous Census. Since then The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 has established Bòrd na Gàidhlig with a remit to develop a National Gaelic Language Plan to guide organisations and individuals in Scotland in regard to priorities for action in support of Gaelic. The current National Gaelic Language Plan places strong focus on the role that Gaelic-medium education has to play - alongside the use of Gaelic in the home and the community - in future years to increase the numbers of young Gaelic speakers in Scotland to ensure the language has a sustainable and vibrant future.”

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MG ALBA'S Chief Executive, Donald Campbell added: "The Gaelic media play a very important role in allowing people to access Gaelic language and culture, and in raising the profile of the language. This role has been significantly enhanced since the establishment in 2008 of the Gaelic TV channel BBC ALBA which has quickly grown loyal and appreciative audiences across the wider Scottish community as well as amongst Gaelic speakers. Related resources such as LearnGaelic.net also offer a one-stop shop for anyone and everyone interested in learning Scottish Gaelic."

The interest in Gaelic which is evidenced by audience figures and demand for Gaelic learning is underpinned by a general recognition that it is important for Scotland to retain its Gaelic identity. This view is evidenced by the 81% positive response in a survey published by the Scottish Government last year confirming Gaelic as an important factor in how Scotland is defined and viewed in the modern world. This should not be surprising in a country whose very name derives from the early Gaelic-speaking people designated by the Romans as the Scotti. More recent information from the Gaelic module of the Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2012, a briefing on which will be published by the research network Soillse next week, confirms positive attitudes to Gaelic-medium education and the impact of BBC ALBA.

Against this background, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and MG ALBA feel it appropriate to demonstrate some of the practical outcomes that have emerged from supportive attitudes and policy within the Parliament, which mirror wider public support. The exhibition in the week commencing 13 May will fulfil this role and will form a backdrop for the launch of the second version of the Parliament's own Gaelic Language Plan.

The representatives of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and MG ALBA are looking forward to say in person to each and every MSP in the Parliament in the course of the week, *Ceud Mìle Taing* (A Hundred Thousand Thanks) for their on-going support to help secure a sustainable future for Gaelic in Scotland.

**ENDS**

**For more information about the content of this press release, contact Steven MacIver, Corporate and Communications Manager at Bòrd na Gàidhlig, by e-mailing [steven@gaidhlig.org.uk](mailto:steven@gaidhlig.org.uk) or by phoning 07557 481 081.**