

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



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

## FREAGAIRT BHÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG DO DH' URRAS A' BHBC

**24 Am Màrt 2010**

The Bòrd na Gàidhlig, a' phrìomh bhuidheann ann an Alba a' stiùireadh leasachadh na Gàidhlig, air a bhriseadh-dùil a nochdadh a' leantainn air an naidheachd a chaidh ainmeachadh an-diugh le Urras a' BhBC gu bheil a' dol a leudachadh a' chlàir-ama co-cheangailte ris an ath-bhreithneachadh air an t-sianal telebhisean Gàidhlig, BBC Alba.

Thuir Art MacCarraig, Cathraiche Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, gun d' fhuair am Bòrd fìor mhealladh gun robh Urras a' BhBC air roghnachadh dàil a chur ann an stèidheachadh BBC Alba air Freeview, a bhathar an dòchas a bhiodh mar thoradh air an ath-bhreithneachadh.

Thuir e: "Tha aithreachas air Bòrd na Gàidhlig mun dàil seo le Urras a' BhBC. Bidh e air a thoirt fa-near fad' is farsaing gu bheil Urras a' BhBC air na cinn-uidhe atharrachadh, a dh'aindeoin 's gu bheil BBC Alba air taisbeanadh gu bheil e air cothachadh ris na dùbhlain a chaidh a chur sìos san ath-bhreithneachadh aig an fhìor thoiseach. Tha sinn a' tuigsinn gun robh a' mhòr-chuid den luchd-fhreagairt taiceil do leasachadh leantainneach BBC Alba, agus bhuilich deasbad ann am Pàrlamaid na h-Alba taic tar-phàrtaidheach do ghiùlain an t-sianail air Freeview."

"Dh'fhaodadh an dàil seo le Urras a' BhBC bacadh a chur air cothrom BBC Alba fhaotainn air Freeview airson co-dhiù bliadhna eile, aig àm nuair a thathar a' dèanamh ath-ùrachadh air oidhirpean gus an àireamh de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig ann an Alba a mheudachadh. Tha sinn a' faicinn BBC Alba deatamach do na h-oidhirpean sin agus chuireadh sinn fàilte air co-dhùnadh nas tràithe bho Urras a' BhBC."

"Tha am Bòrd an-còmhnaidh air a dhèanamh soilleir na bheachd gu bheil e in-ghnèitheach san t-ìosal aig Freeview gun robh e air a dhealbh gus prògraman telebhisean a ghiùlain, agus mar sin tha sinn a' creidsinn gum bu chòir BBC Alba a chur air thoiseach air craoladh stèiseanan rèidio air an àrd-ùrlar sin. Tha mòran dhòighean eile ann leis am faod daoine ruighinn air na stèiseanan rèidio sin an-asgaidh, ach tha leasachadh BBC Alba ga bhacadh a thaobh 's nach eil comas aig co-chuid mhòr de shluagh na h-Alba an sianal fhaotainn an ceartuair. Tha astaran truagh Bann-Leathan sna h-àiteachan as iomallaiche ga dhèanamh doirbh ruighinn air BBC Alba air BBC iPlayer."

Thuir Mgr MacCarraig cuideachd gun cumadh am Bòrd air adhart, a dh'aindeoin a' bhrisidh-dùil seo, ag obair gu dùrachdach le Urras a' BhBC, MG Alba agus am BBC gus

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ruigsinneachd air Freeview a thèarainn do luchd-amharc, nì a tha gu tur a rèir a dhleistanais mar shianal seirbheis poblaich.

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## **BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG'S RESPONSE TO BBC TRUST**

**24 March 2010**

Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the principal body in Scotland leading the development of Gaelic has expressed its disappointment following the announcement today by the BBC Trust that it is to extend the timetable for its review of the Gaelic television channel, BBC Alba.

Arthur Cormack, Cathraiche (Chair) of Bòrd na Gàidhlig said the Bòrd was extremely disappointed that the BBC Trust had chosen to delay the introduction of BBC Alba on Freeview, which was the hoped for result of the review.

He said: "Bòrd na Gàidhlig regrets this delay on the part of the BBC Trust. It will be widely perceived that the BBC Trust has moved the goalposts when BBC Alba appears to have been met the challenges initially set out in the review. It is our understanding that the majority of respondents were supportive of BBC Alba's continued development and a debate in the Scottish Parliament resulted in cross-party support for the channel's carriage on Freeview."

"This delay by the BBC Trust could set back the availability of BBC Alba on Freeview by another whole year at a time of renewed efforts to increase the number of Gaelic speakers in Scotland. We see BBC Alba as being critical to these efforts and would welcome a much earlier decision by the BBC Trust."

"The Bòrd has always made clear its view that it is inherent in its title that Freeview was designed to carry television programmes and we believe, therefore, that BBC Alba should take precedence over the broadcasting of radio stations on that platform. There are many other ways in which people can access these radio stations for free, whereas the development of BBC Alba is being hampered by the fact that a large proportion of the Scottish population cannot access the channel at all at present. Poor Broadband speeds in the most remote areas make it difficult to access BBC Alba on the BBC iPlayer."

Mr Cormack added that, despite this disappointment, the Bòrd would continue to work constructively with the BBC Trust, MG Alba and the BBC to secure access to Freeview for viewers, which is fully in line with its function as a public service channel.