



Bòrd na Gàidhlig
Co-chomhairle Maoineachaidh Ro-Innleachdail
Strategic Funding Consultation
Foirm-freagairt / Response Form

A. Mu do dheidhinn / About you	
A1	D' ainm / Your name William Jack
A3	Ainm na buidhne (ma tha sibh freagairt às leth buidheann) / Organisation name (if responding on behalf of an organisation) Gaidhlig san Dachaigh – Glaschu Deas
B. Buidhnean Com-pàirteach Lìbhrigidh / Delivery Partners	
B1	A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil an lìonra chom-pàirtichean lìbhrigidh a th' ann an-dràsta èifeachdach agus a' toirt seachad luach an airgid ann a bhith a'libhrigeadh amasan Plana Corporra Bòrd na Gàidhlig? Do you believe that the current network of delivery partners is effective and provides value for money in their delivery of Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Corporate Plan objectives?
<p>By way of introduction I should state that we have a limited view of the wider range of Bord na Gaidhlig's activities and that our answers can only address those issues where we directly interface with Bord na Gaidhlig. As a result many of the responses to questions will be left blank. The consultation document has been circulated to all the members of our committee who have considered the questions raised and their views are reflected here. Although our contribution to the survey is fairly narrow in scope we feel that it is important that we engage with this exercise given the limits of our contribution.</p> <p>We are constituted under the aegis of Gaidhlig san Dachaigh, and for the last decade have continued to pursue the objectives of that initiative. This has broadly been to provide tuition in the Gaelic language to parents, grandparents and families with children in Gaelic education. In reality we offer tuition to any adult who is prepared to make an effort to master the complexities of the language and to provide them with a window into the broader aspects of Gaelic culture. Our goal is to bring our students up to a moderate level of conversational ability and to supplement this with visits, events and projects which help them gain a fuller insight into the richness of our Gaelic culture.</p> <p>Since our inception, Bord na Gaidhlig have supported us financially with grant funding amounting to around £2,000 per year – about half our annual expenditure. This funding has allowed us to keep our term fees to a modest level and in so doing remove any potential financial barrier to interested candidates. Were this funding to be withdrawn it probable that we would see a marked drop-off in class membership.</p> <p>In the great scheme of things our role is a modest one but we believe that what we do is important, tackling, at root level, ignorance of our language and opening the door to the richness of our culture. Our reach goes beyond the class and through our members into the wider society in which they participate. In our daily interactions we can offer a robust response to the frequently posed question, 'Why do you bother to learn Gaelic? What use is it?'</p> <p>In pursuing our objectives, the financial support we receive from Bord na Gaidhlig is vital to us in relieving us of financial concerns.</p>	

B2

A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil taic ri fhaotainn bhon a' Bhòrd gus taic a chumail ris a' bhuidheann agaibh a bhith ag obair ann an com-pàirt le buidhnean eile, agus mur eil de an taic a bhiodh thu smaoinichadh a bhiodh freagarrach?

Do you believe that support is available from the Bòrd to support your organisation to work in partnership with other organisations, and if not what support do you believe would be appropriate?

As stated above, the financial support received from Bord na Gaidhlig is greatly appreciated and is vital to our continuing activity.

From our own initiatives we do make contact with other learning groups but it is perhaps true to say that we lack a more comprehensive view of the wider Gaelic scene. We have very little ongoing contact with the Bòrd and would welcome a closer working relationship. It would be helpful if members of the Bòrd interacted more closely with us, perhaps making occasional visits to our classes, looking at what we do and how we do it and providing us with feedback, guidance and possibly a broader perspective.

B3

A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil taic ri fhaotainn bhon a' Bhòrd airson taic a chumail ris a' bhuidheann agaibh a thaobh goireasan is trèanadh a thaobh conaltradh is tèicneòlas fiosrachaidh, agus mur eil de an taic a bhiodh thu smaoinichadh a bhiodh freagarrach?

Do you believe that support is available from the Bòrd to support your organisation with resources and training in terms of communication and ICT, and if not what support do you believe would be appropriate?

We have just been through a difficult year. Initially our classes had to be suspended as our meeting rooms were closed because of Covid restrictions. However, as a result of the determination of our tutor we resumed classes after a short hiatus utilising Zoom. We were fortunate that one of our students, an IT professional, based in California, came to our aid offering his technical expertise from his home in Los Angeles. With his help our tutor has developed a short introductory on-line distance learning course hosted on You Tube which offers a 'sampler' to potential candidates.

Our classes are now back to meeting regularly on Zoom and our tutor has mastered the techniques of on-line teaching, screen sharing and, fortunately for us, is willing to invest the necessary personal effort to achieve this. One class has set up a WhatsApp group to pursue their studies together outwith the classroom. We have learned that much can be done utilising the IT facilities at our disposal.

It occurs to us that when things return to a more normal situation, we should make use of the experience gained and should not necessarily return to the status quo ante. Much more could be made of the growing familiarity with remote interaction. We could. For example (and only as an example) consider establishing an Internet based Gaelic Community Group with a view to keeping the scattered Gaelic speaking communities more readily in contact with each other. One of the difficulties experienced by learners is access to native Gaelic speakers outside of the classroom. Some form of remotely interacting community might help to address this problem.

B4

A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil an cothromachadh maoinichaidh a th' ann an-dràsta eadar com-pàirtichean libhrigidh, sgeamaichean maoinichaidh agus pròiseactan a gheibh taic bho Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' libhrigeadh prìomhachasan a' Phlana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig agus a' dèiligeadh ri feumalachdan na coimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig?

Do you believe that the current balance of funding between delivery partners, funding schemes and Bòrd na Gàidhlig supported projects adequately deliver the priorities of the National Gaelic Language Plan and address the needs of the Gaelic community?

Apart from the comments made in relation to our own learning group we have little insight of value to contribute to this issue.

B5	<p>A bheil molaidhean sam bith agaibh a bhiodh leasachadh mar a tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig cumail taic ri bhuidhnean a tha libhrigeadh pròiseactan Gàidhlig?</p> <p>Do you have any proposals that could improve the way Bòrd na Gàidhlig supports organisations that deliver Gaelic projects?</p>
See our comments on a higher level of ongoing interaction between Bord na Gaidhlig and learning groups.	

C. Sgeamaichean taic-airgid / Funding schemes

C1	<p>A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil na sgeamaichean maoinachaidh aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig an-dràsta a' dèiligeadh gu h-ìomchaidh ri prìomhachasan a' Phlana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig agus na coimhearsnachd Gàidhlig, agus mura h-eil, dè na h-atharrachaidhean a bhiodh tu a' moladh gus an leasachadh?</p> <p>Do you believe that Bòrd na Gàidhlig's current funding schemes adequately address the priorities of the National Gaelic Language Plan and the Gaelic community, and if not what changes would you propose to improve them?</p>
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Again see our comments in section B1 regarding the importance to us of regular funding support

C2	<p>A bheil sgeamaichean maoinachaidh Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' toirt cothrom gu leòr dhut fhèin no don bhuidheann agad taic a thoirt do na h-amasan agad ann an leasachadh na Gàidhlig? Mura h-eil, ciamar a mholadh tu dèiligeadh ri seo?</p> <p>Do Bòrd na Gàidhlig's current funding schemes provide you or your organisation sufficient opportunity to support your goals in Gaelic development? If not, how would you propose addressing this?</p>
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See our comments in section B1 regarding the importance to us of regular funding support

C3	<p>A bheil thu ag aontachadh ris na prionnsapalan maoinachaidh agus a bheil dad sam bith eile a bhiodh tu a' moladh gus an leasachadh?</p> <p>Do you agree with the funding principles and is there anything else you would recommend to improve them?</p>
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Given the limited view we have of the broader activities of Bord na Gaidhlig we lack sufficient knowledge to offer any insightful comment here.

C4	<p>A bheil molaidhean sam bith eile agaibh a bhiodh leasachadh sgeamaichean maoinachaidh Bòrd na Gàidhlig?</p> <p>Do you have any other proposals to enhance Bòrd na Gàidhlig's funding schemes?</p>
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Given the limited view we have of the broader activities of Bord na Gaidhlig we lack sufficient knowledge to offer any insightful comment here.

D. San fharsaingeachd / General

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A bheil molaidhean sam bith eile agaibh a bhiodh leasachadh mar a tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' cleachdadh am buidseat leasachaidh aige?

Do you have any other proposals that could improve how Bòrd na Gàidhlig uses its development budget?

Given the limited view we have of the broader activities of Bord na Gaidhlig we lack sufficient knowledge to offer any insightful comment here.