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Ardaíonn POBAL Ceist Acht Gaeilge i Stoirmhonadh POBAL Raise Irish Language Act Issue in Stormont

Ardmholadh do Thuairisc POBAL ón Aire Oideachais Praise for POBAL Report from Education Minister

'Inspregadh' - Ár dTuairisc Taighde ar na hEalaíona Gaeilge ar fáil anois

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Tinreamh mór ag ócáid Acht na Gaeilge i Stoirmhonadh

Large crowd attend Irish Language Act event in Stormont

Chuir POBAL, scátheagrais abhcóideachta phobal na Gaeilge, fáilte roimh an suim leathan a léirigh réimse eagrais cultúrtha, sóisialta agus polaitíochta in ócáid POBAL ar Acht na Gaeilge TÉ, i Stoirmhonadh ar 16ú Samhain. Ba i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an Aire Cultúir, Carál Ní Chuilín agus le Basil McCrea CTR, Páirtí Aontachtach Uladh a chuir POBAL cuireadh amach chuig réimse leathan den phobal agus d'eagrais.

POBAL, the Irish language advocacy umbrella group, welcomed the interest expressed by a wide variety of cultural, social and political organisations in its Irish Language Act NI event in Stormont on November 16th. Chuir POBAL, in partnership with the Minister of Culture Carál Ní Chuilín and Basil McCrea MLA, Ulster Unionist Party, invitations out to a wide range of people and organisations.



Ceardlann ar súil / Workshop in progress

Dúirt Janet Muller, PF POBAL said, 'Bhí muid sásta leis an tinreamh i láthair ag an ócáid. Bhailigh muid scaifte mór de dhaoine éagsúla le chéile. Ba mhíthid Gaeilgeoirí, saineolaithe idirnáisiúnta agus ionadaithe na sochaí sibhialta a thabhairt le chéile le plé a dhéanamh ar fhorbairt áitiúla, náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta ó fógraíodh cáipéis POBAL Acht na Gaeilge TÉ / The Irish Language Act NI sa bhliain 2006. Sa bhliain 2007 tugadh tacaíocht thar na bearta dár moltaí comhaontaithe i dhá chomhairliúchán rialtais. Is léir gur cheart go mbeadh ról lárnach ag riachtanais agus tuairimí an Ghaeilgeora i múnla na reachtaíochta. Sa tréimhse ó tugadh an gealltanais leis an Acht a chur i bhfeidhm, i ndlínsí eile na dtíortha seo, bhí cosaint reachtaíochta do theangacha dúchasacha ag dul i bhfeabhais, agus ba mhaith linn a bheith cinnte go bhfuil na hathruithe seo curtha san áireamh agus muid ag obair i dtreo Acht na Gaeilge.'

We were pleased with attendance at the event. We collected a large crowd of different people together. It was time to bring Irish speakers, international experts and representatives of civic society together to discuss local, national and international since the POBAL document Acht na Gaeilge TÉ / The Irish Language Act NI was published in 2006. In 2007 overwhelming support was given to our proposals in two government consultations. It's clear that the needs and opinions of Irish speakers should play a key role in shaping the legislation. In the period since the commitment to implement the Act was made, in other jurisdictions in these islands, legislative protection for indigenous languages has been improving, and we want to be sure that these changes are included in our work towards the Irish language Act.'

Dúirt an tAire, Carál Ní Chuilín, 'Tá cosaint sa dhá don Ghaeilge in Albain agus don Bhreatainis sa Bhreatain Bheag. Ba chóir an stádas céanna a thabhairt don Ghaeilge. Dhirigh mé feidhmeannaigh na Roinne ar dhréacht-Bhille Gaeilge a fhorbairt i dtreo achta. Tá anailís á dhéanamh ar an obair atá curtha i gcríoch ag an Roinn roimhe seo, agus tá muid ag aimsiú scóip na reachtaíochta faoi láthair.'

The Minister Carál Ní Chuilín said, 'Scots Gaelic and Welsh have been protected in legislation and I am keen to see Irish afforded the same status. I have directed my officials to begin work to develop a draft Irish Language Bill which would lead to an Act. Previous work carried out by the Department on this issue is being analysed and a scoping exercise is underway.'

I measc na bpríomhchainteoirí a bhí i láthair ag an ócáid i Stoirmhonadh, bhí an tOllamh Robert Dunbar (Ollscoil Obar Dheathain agus an togra taighde 'Soillse') agus an tOllamh Colin Williams (Ollscoil Caerdydd), beirt a aithnítear mar shaineolaithe idirnáisiúnta iomráiteacha. Dúirt Janet Muller, 'Thug an dá Ollamh Dunbar agus Williams comhairle ar dhréacht reachtaíochta teanga in Albain agus sa Bhreatain Bheag, agus tá taithí idirnáisiúnta leathan acu beirt i gCeanada agus san Eoraip. Duine den tríúr saineolai é an tOllamh Williams a thug comhairle maidir leis an straitéis 20 bliain don Ghaeilge sa deisceart. Thug an bheirt acu a gcuid taithí fhairsing leo chuig an ócáid.' Sa bhreis air sin, bhí díospóireacht phainéil ann a d'oscail Dominic Hannigan, Cathaoirleach an Chomhchoiste um Chur i nGníomh Chomhaontú Aoine an Chéasta agus a chuimsigh cainteoirí lena n-áiríodh Hywel Hughes, Ceann an tSeirbhís Chúirteanna na Breataine sa Bhreatain Bheag, Alasdair MacCaluim, Oifigeach na Gáidhlig i bParlaimint na hAlban, Dòmhnall Mac Néill, PF Comunn na Gáidhlig in Albain, Donald John Mac Inness of MG Alba agus Helen Ó Murchú, a rinne cur síos ar na cosúlachtaí agus na difríochtaí atá sa reachtaíocht ó dheas.

Among the keynote speakers at the event were Professor Robert Dunbar (University of Aberdeen and the research project Soillse) and Professor Colin Williams (University of Cardiff), both of whom are recognised as international experts of the highest calibre. Janet Muller said, 'Both Professors Dunbar and Williams have helped advise on the drafting of language legislation in Scotland and Wales, and both have extensive international experience in Canada and the rest of Europe. Professor Williams is one of three experts who advised on the 20 Year Strategy for the Irish language in the south of Ireland. Both brought great experience and expertise to the event.' In addition, Dominic Hannigan, the Chair of the Joint Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement opened a panel discussion with speakers including Hywel Hughes, the Head of the Welsh language Courts Service in Wales, Alasdair MacCallum, Gaelic language Officer at the Scottish Parliament, Domhnall



Paul Gamble (DCAL), Robert Dunbar, Janet Muller (POBAL) & Colin Williams

Mac Néil, CEO of Comann na Gaidhlig in Scotland, Donald John Mac Inness of MG Alba and veteran researcher and author Helen Ó Murchú who spoke about aspects of Irish language legislation in the south.

[Íoslódáil cóip den cháipéis Acht na Gaeilge do TÉ anseo](#)

[Download a copy of our document The Irish Language Act NI here](#)



Ardmholadh do POBAL ón Aire Oideachais

Gaeilgeochais agus Riachtanais Speisialta Oideachais Thuaidh agus Theas: Ag uasmhéadú na hoiliúna agus na n-acmhainní

Praise for POBAL from Education Minister

Irish Medium Education and Special Education Needs North and South: Maximising Learning and Resources

Mhol an tAire Oideachais ó thuaidh, John Ó Dowd, obair POBAL ar shainriachtanais an pháiste dhátheangaigh, nuair a thug se óráid ag cruinniú uile-oileánda a reachtáil an scátheagrais abhcóideachta in Iúr Cinn Trá, Déardaoin 1ú Nollaig. Bhí mór-scaifte saineolach i láthair ag an chruinniú, le hionadaithe ó chodáistí oiliúna, saineolaithe oideachasúla, taighdeoirí, oideachasóirí, múinteoirí agus lucht na Gaelscolaíochta thuaidh agus theas. Chomh maith leis an Aire ó thuaidh, bhí Diarmaid Dullaghan, cigire sinsearach sa Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna ó dheas i láthair. Ag an chruinniú, dhirigh na rannpháirtithe ar na bealaí le cur le comhoibriú uile-oileánda chun an leas is mó a bhaint as na hacmhainní, as an eolas agus an oiliúint atá ar fáil d'earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta i dtaca le páistí le sainriachtanais. Rinne Janet Muller, PF POBAL, cur síos ar an obair atá déanta ag POBAL ar an cheist seo le 10 mbliana anuas. Dúirt sí, 'Is léir dúinn go bhfuil dea-thoil agus comhoibriú ar siúl faoi láthair ar an talamh ar cheist na sainriachtanais agus ar oiliúint is acmhainní, ach bíonn constaicí ann freisin. Creidimid go bhfuil leas mór le baint as obair as lámh a chéile agus thug an ócáid, deis cur leis an mhéid atá bainte amach go dtí seo.' Thug Caroline Nolan, taighdeoir le POBAL ar an togra, achoimre ar thorthaí na tuairisce **Riachtanais Speisialta Oideachais i scoileanna ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge mar mheán: Taighde uile-oileánda ar riachtanais tacaíochta agus traenála na hearnála**, agus faoi stiúir an Ollaimh Dónaill Uí Bhaoil, bhí díospóireacht bhriomhar ann idir na saineolaithe agus iad ag roinnt eolais agus plé na bhfeidearthachtaí cuí. Bhí an ócáid seo a reachtáil ag POBAL le maoiniú Ó COGG (An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaelscolaíochta agus Gaeltachta)

The Minister for Education (DENI), John Ó Dowd praised the work being carried out by POBAL on the special educational needs of bilingual children during his speech at the conference organised by the Irish language advocacy group, on Thursday 1st December in the Seán Hollywood Arts Centre, Newry. There was a large, expert crowd of participants at the event, including representatives of the training colleges, educational psychologists, researchers, educators, teachers, and representatives from the Irish medium sector north and south. As well as the northern Minister, Diarmaid Dullaghan, senior inspector with the Department of Education and Skills in the south was present. At the event, participants focussed on sharing information and exploring ideas in relation to maximizing North/South cooperation in training and support for the Irish medium education sector throughout the country when providing for children with additional educational needs. Janet Muller, POBAL's CEO gave some background information to the work that POBAL has been carrying out on special educational needs over the last ten years. She said, 'We recognise the good-will that exists in the sector towards all-Ireland co-operation in this specialist area. There are interesting opportunities to maximize resources but, as always, there are also some difficulties to overcome. We believe that it is possible to strengthen these links and find useful ways to share information on a more structured basis.' Caroline Nolan, researcher on the POBAL project, gave a brief outline of findings from the report **Special Education Needs in Irish medium schools: All-Island research on the support and training needs of the sector**, and then under the direction of Professor Dónall Ó Baoill, a lively debate ensued between the expert participants as they shared information and discussed possibilities. The conference was organised by POBAL with funding from COGG (An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaelscolaíochta agus Gaeltachta).



Cainteoirí ag an chomhdháil / Conference speakers



An tAire John O'Dowd

[Íoslódáil cóip den Tuairisc Taighde anseo](#)

[Download copy of the Research Report here](#)

Rang Gaeilge nua don Cheathrún Titanic / New Irish class for Titanic Quarter

Reachtálfar an chéad Rang Gaeilge riamh sa Cheathrún Titanic, ag toiseacht ar 23ú Eanáir 2012 ag 7-9in. Beidh an rang curtha ar fáil ag Coláiste Uirbeach Bhéal Feirste (BMC) ina fhoirneamh nua, sa Cheathrún Titanic, i aice le hOllionad Odyssey.

The first ever Irish class in the new Titanic Quarter will begin on 23rd January 2012 at 7-9pm. Belfast Metropolitan College will run the class in its new building in the Titanic Quarter, near to the Odyssey Complex.

Beidh roinnt mhaith ranganna Gaeilge eile ar fáil ar fud an tuaiscirt sa bhliain úr, gliogáil thíos le heolas agus sonraí a fháil ar ár suíomh.

Many other classes will also start in the new year throughout the north, information and contacts can be found on our website by clicking below.

[Eolas ar ranganna Gaeilge CUBF \(BMC\) anseo](#)
[Eolas ar ranganna Gaeilge ar fud an tuaiscirt anseo](#)

[Click here for information on BMC Irish classes](#)
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Bunaíodh POBAL i mí Eanáir 1998. Páirtíocht tuairimíoch é POBAL, a bhunann treoir straitéiseach agus a chuireann ar fáil fóram daonlathach do na dreamanna a chruthaigh tionscadail rathúla shóisialta, gheilleagracha, ealaíonta agus oideachasúla do phobal na Gaeilge.

POBAL was established in January 1998. We are a representative partnership that provides strategic direction and a democratic forum for groups behind the north's thriving range of social, economic, artistic and educational projects for the Irish speaking community.

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