

From: Sean Doran  
Sent: 23 October 2006 00:06  
[Attachment: Rezitalizing Indigenous Languages, Reyhner et al 1999, Arizona:  
Flagstaff]

Sir,

Having read the consultation document "Plana Naiseanta na Gaidhlig" I would like to make the following points:

1. I am pleased that there is an emphasis in the plan on the use of spoken Gaelic in people's homes and families. I think it is vital that assistance and encouragement should be given to families who wish to use Gaelic as part and parcel of everyday family life.
2. I was a little disappointed that there was not more said about those learners of Gaelic who aspire to achieving fluency. Some research papers by Jon Reyhner at the University of Northern Arizona seem to suggest that "language apprenticeships" are important for the development of a language and in my view such apprenticeships could benefit Gaelic and benefit learners of Gaelic. For ease of reference I have attached a paper which discusses language apprenticeships. I would suggest that Bord Na Gaidhlig could play an important role by inviting both learners and potential tutors to team up to form such voluntary language apprenticeships where the Bord could introduce learners and tutors, provide guidance on effective language apprenticeship and monitor the effectiveness of such apprenticeships, perhaps even providing awards to those apprenticeships which are found to be particularly successful.

I would be grateful if my points could be taken into account as part of the consultation process.

Yours faithfully,

Sean Doran

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21 October 2006