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Uig
Leodhas

A bheil sibh ag aontachadh leis an lèirsinn a tha anns an dreachd Plana?:

Tha gu dearbh, ach a bheil sinn ag amas ard gu leor?

Ri linn freagairt na ceiste mu dheireadh, a bheil na pròiseactan roinneil a thatar a' moladh riatanach do na h-amasan airson 2012? Mura h-eil, ciamar nach eil?:

Chan eil mi a' smaoinichadh gu bheil iad radigeach gu leor. Feumaidh sinn a bhith a' smaoinichadh air doighean airson deugairean a th ag ionnsachadh Gaidhlig a tharraing. Seall air a' bhocsa mu dheireadh airson grunn de smaointean radigeach (nam bheachd-sa co-dhiu.)

A bheil na builean airson an fichead raon agus na prìomhachasan airson dèiligeadh leotha air am mìneachadh gu ceart agus ann an òrdan freagarrach? Mura h-eil, ciamar nach eil?:

Tha gu dearbh, oir bha mi fhein an-sas nan cruthachadh aig an toiseach :-)

Ri linn freagairt na ceiste mu dheireadh, dè na pròiseictan a tha, nur beachd-se, riatanach gus na prìomhachasan sin a choileanadh (tha eisimpleirean cheistean ann an Eàrr-sgrìobhadh I)?:

Seall am bocsa mu dheireadh airson faicainn nam proiseactan a bu mhath leam leam a bhith ann.

An iad na buidhnean freagarrach a tha air an comharrachadh mar phrìomh bhuidhnean ann an coileanadh nam prìomhachasan sin?:

Tha gu dearbh agus feumaidh am bord smachd a chumail orra gus dheanamh cinnteach nach faigh iad as gun a bith a' coileanadh nam prìomhachasan.

A bheil beachdan sam bith eile agad mun dreachd Phlana?:

Chan eil mi buileach cinnteach cait an teid seo, ach tha mi an dochas gum bi sibh a' gabhail riutha aiteigin 'sa phlana.

1. Improve provisions for school-age learners.

The numbers of children doing Learners Gaelic in high school are ignored significantly by the Gaelic development agencies. What is required is support for programs such as weekend long masterclasses for Higher pupils from across the country, to come together and receive tuition, perhaps from Tertiary Education specialists. Having such classes three times before final exams would really improve their Gaelic and also general feel for the language and culture, encouraging them to continue with it into Further Education. The lack of a learners' equivalent to the BT Gaelic Schools debate is notable also.

2. Demand that UHI offer a Gaelic Language element to all courses at its Stornoway campus, especially those linked with a trade.

This is the most logical progression of Gaelic medium education, especially if the language is to become embedded as a community language. At present the only logical progression for continuing with the language is to move into a very academic university/college course and to deal with either literature or the media. This is of very little use to the many (especially male) youngsters who

wish to take up a trade. These courses have been offered in Irish in recent years in Northern Ireland and means that Gaelic maintains a normality instead of becoming a purely intellectual concern, peopled by those who find immense pleasure in the plu-perfect.

3. Sabhal Mor Ostaig. Try and ensure that the Gaelic college has a larger intake of learners in the 16-30 age group and also offer courses in Portree.

The age demographic of a Sabhal Mor Ostaig summer course is pushing that of a retirement home. From speaking to teenagers who have attended the courses this image puts them off attending what is a powerful institution for the revitalisation of our language. Whilst the older learning community is vital for the goodwill they bring to Gaelic, at present it is at the expense of younger learners who could have access to courses and improve their Gaelic at a time in their life when they can still acquire a language efficiently. However, pricing is usually prohibitive for the older teenage/young student wallet. How about reserving a month of the summer for the 16-30 bracket? Also the distance from Portree is surely an issue for many potential students, usage of UHI facilities in Portree could surely enable the Cursa Comais or some variation to be delivered off campus for a few days of the week. Funding support should be offered to aid such a development.

4. Increased support for sporting activities in Gaelic, especially football and shinty.

Efforts in shinty in partnership with the Camanachd Association and also those of CnaG in running GME football tournaments are to be applauded. These show the potential for engaging children and providing employment to many young people with Gaelic who have an interest in the sporting and leisure environment. The development of Gaelic medium active sports coordinator posts in the Highlands and Islands would be a massively positive step. Support for Gaelic speaking shinty teams to visit Hurling teams in the Irish Gaeltacht would also be a positive step.

5. A slick advertising campaign, presenting Gaelic in an attractive manner through the visual media, TV, Cinema and Internet.

The advent of the internet has made the possibility that Gaelic can move away from the traditional photocopied poster approach to advertising as soon as possible. Unfortunately, Gaelic still seems to rely upon flyers, albeit of a much more glossy nature to spread the gospel of the language. Usage of viral advertising on the internet as well as the cheapness of micro region TV advertising should be exploited to the maximum. Giving away free Gaelic dictionaries as part of a wider promotion of the language in a Sunday Newspaper would also be an excellent step, given the success of the Guardian's educational posters and also that of Scots.

6. Provide both Gaelic and English subtitles on the new Gaelic TV service.

The proliferation of subtitling on Gaelic TV programmes means that no-one benefits. For Native speakers, they are distracted by subtitles and are forced to read the English, whether they wish to or not. For learners, the English is not that helpful, from conversations with many learners, Gaelic subtitling would be of much more benefit in helping language acquisition. Fortunately the invention of the "Red Button" on digital TV ensures that this should never be an issue. The screen should initially show only the picture sans subtitles. The programme may be seen in this mode, or for those who require it they may press the Red Button (or the Blue Button) and they will be presented with the option for English or for Gaelic subtitles.

7. Transfer Speaking Our Language, indeed everything, to DVD.

VHS is as dead as East Sutherland Gaelic. Monetary support is needed to digitise the mass of top quality learners materials produced over the years to ensure that they are easily accessible in an age of iPods and DVDs.. For example an update Can Seo - Give Learners a proper, nationally broadcast programme and also ensure that at least an hour a day on the new Gaelic TV is dedicated towards learners. Machair and Donnie Murdo on DVD as well please!

8. Ensure better quality support materials for Gaelic Novels to allow school children to read them.

Frankly the quality of books that children in high school are expected to read is diabolical in comparison with those at a similar level in the subject of English. What is required is less quantity and more quality from Storlann.

9. Use funding to emulate the music school model in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Plockton and have Gaelic high schools which take lodgers.

Such an approach has been successful for creating highly proficient classical and traditional musicians. A similar approach should be attempted for Gaelic, allowing children who cannot access quality secondary GME can access the language. IT could also be used to allow advanced learners of Gaelic at S5/S6 level to do a year of immersion in the language whilst also doing Highers or perhaps once they have achieved most of their qualifications.. This would be an ideal preparation for the world of university and would also help a higher number of young people achieve fluency whilst still at school

10. Aim to have 100,000 speakers of Gaelic by 2031.

It's a biggie, but the Plan should have a nice big figure on it. This figure should be achieved by pushing forward with GME at as quick a pace as is feasible, ensuring that Comhairle nan Eilean Siar in particular is asked to take drastic measures regarding ensuring Gaelic's survival and by tapping into the hundred's of thousands of people who are one or two generations removed from Gaelic and encouraging them to take up the language again. I did it, why can't they.

Tha mi toilichte na beachdan agam fhoillseachadh gu poblach: Tha
Tha mi toilichte m' ainm agus mo sgìre fhoillseachadh gu poblach: Tha