

Gaelic Council of NS Board meets at St. Peter's



Board members included (l-r): Francie Gillis of Grand Mira North, Wendy MacInnis of Trenton, Lewis MacKinnon of Halifax, Debbi MacDonald Sobey of Stellarton, Ashley MacKay of Antigonish, Tim Aggett of Dartmouth, Bev Brett of St. Ann's Bay, Barbara Sutherland-Foote of Westmount and Jessica MacLennan of Blues Mills. Board members not present: Beth Anne MacEachen of Halifax and Ishbel Munro of New Glasgow.

by Caroline Cameron, Coordinator

The scenic community of St. Peter's hosted the September Meeting for Comhairle na Gàidhlig – The Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia Board of Directors on September 12. The Comhairle is a province-wide, community level group, which has supported and promoted Gaelic language and culture in the province for over 20 years.

Quarterly meetings of the Directors bring together their experience in regrowth of Gaelic both through community initiatives and school education. They are both learners and teachers, and at this meeting, they took the opportunity to invite Lewis MacKinnon, the CEO of the province's Office of Gaelic Affairs (OGA) to provide a workshop on less commonly used Gaelic vocabulary pertaining to meetings and administration.

The session offered by the OGA reflects a widespread desire to broaden the use of Gaelic in Nova Scotia as a working language. This province is the only region outside Scotland where Gaelic language and culture remain everyday aspects of commu-

nity life, and thirty percent of Nova Scotians claim Scottish Gaelic heritage as their birthright, representing the largest ethnic group of the province.

Comhairle na Gàidhlig is working to reconnect people with this distinctly Nova Scotian Gaelic identity which draws upon the Gaelic language spoken here, the story telling tradition, and of course the music and dance traditions which are known internationally.

The cultural richness of Nova Scotia is one of its strengths – drawing tourists and even people who move here from areas across the globe to be part of our communities. The Comhairle is proud to be a part of strengthening our heritage, not as an exhibit in a museum, but as part of our everyday lives.

Comhairle na Gàidhlig is preparing for a busy fall, securing funding to support immediate and long-term work, and working with community and OGA to establish projects for coming years which will move forward the use of Gaelic and raise the level of awareness about Gaelic as a culture and cultural resource for Nova Scotia.

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Tunes gu leòr - Volume I
October 9 7:30 PM
Wagmatcook Culture and Heritage Centre
The Gaelic "gu leòr"—meaning: many, much, plenty—is actually the root of the English word "galore" which means, well, basically the same thing. There'll be plenty of tunes this night in Wagmatcook with this exciting collection of players.
Chris Stout & Catriona McKay . Troy MacGillivray
Andrea Beaton . Colin Grant Band
Nuala Kennedy Trio

Down North with Dwayne
October 13 7:30 PM
North Highlands Academy, Aspy Bay
Cape Breton fiddler Dwayne Cote will be joined by the lively Acadien vocal and instrumental quartet Vishten, and the innovative harmonica player Brendan Power with multi-instrumental accompanist Tim Edey.
Dwayne Côté & Hilda Chiasson-Cormier . Vishtèn
Brendan Power & Tim Edey

There's Music in the Hills
October 14 7:30 PM
St. Peter's Church, Ingonish
There will be French, Newfoundland, Irish, and Cape Breton music in the hills of Ingonish at this concert. This is a great opportunity to hear folk music from different regions of Canada and the Irish tradition, in the beautiful Cape Breton Highlands.
De Temps Antan . The Once
Laoise Kelly . Rocky Shore

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