Tha roinn foilseachaidh na Gàidhlig san latha an-dìugh stèidhte timcheall air Comhairle nan Leabhraichean (CnL), a’ phriomh buidheann maoinéachaidh airson litreachas Gàidhlig. Taobh a-staigh an roinn sin, tha foillschearan a thà tha fior ghnìomhach, leithid Acair a tha a’ dèanamh mòran, agus tha foillschearan eile lithid Birlinn aig an robh gu eachdraideil ceangal ri foillseachadh Gàidhlig ach nach canadh gur e foillsichear Gàidhlig a th’ anna.

Geàrr-chunntasan raoin: Roinn Foillseachaidh na Gàidhlig

AR STÒRAS GÀIDHLLIG

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Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean, Taigh Friseal, Sràid nam Manach, Inbhir Nis, IV1 1BA, Alba
t. +44 (0)1463 234469
e. info@hient.co.uk

Chàidh CnL a stèidheachadh ann an 1968 agus 's e catharras a th' ann nach eil a' sreath prothaid, cuibhiriche tro bharran.
Tha iad a' faighinn maicieadh poblach (m.e. tha iad a faighinn maicieadh bunaidh bho Alba Cruthachail) gead th a tha a' faighinn teachd-a-steach bho bhith a' reic stuth.
Mar phriomh bhuidheann maicieadh litirreachais na Gàidhlig, tha an raon-obrach aig CnL, gu math farsaing ach th a th' am fòcas a motha air a bhith a' brosnachadh luchtsgrobhaidh na Ghàidhlig.
An-dràsta, tha timeach ail de-thrian gu tri-chairtaile de mhaiconeadh na boidheachd air chur a mach-tach sgeama thabhartasan, leis an amais gu thar so an comadas do dhaoine a tha mar-thà a' sgribhaidh na Ghàidhlig thearrteachtaidh air thigear gu eile, thigear gu www.hie.co.uk/gaelic sireadh prothaid, cuibhrichte tro bharantas.
agus 's e catharras a th' ann nach eil a' Chaidh CnL a stèidheachadh ann an 1968 leithid comain eachdraidh, le bhith a' cur goireasan bhuidhean a dhìon, buidhean leabhraichean airson comhairle fhaighinn agus seo anns an obair le bàird baile, ag iarraidh mar-thà ga dhèanamh. Tha aon eisimpleir den Tha obair CnL cuideachd a' gabhail a-steach tachartasan dà-chànanach.
aona-ghuthach den Ghàidhlig far a bheil tha an fhèis Aye Write, far a bheil CnL a' San t-seadh seo, tha iomairtean ionadail ann bheil cothroman margaidheach rim faotain.
phàirt chudromach den obair aca a bhith a' bùthean leabhraichean mar McGillvery's far a bheilear a' reic leabhraichean Gàidhlig, oilthighean is leabhairlann, agus àiteachan eile Meadhain Gàidhlig – cho math ri ceanglan ri cocheangailte ri bun-structair foghlam Gàidhlig teartachd fhaighinn gus an obair a tha mar-thà a' sgrìobhadh sa Ghàidhlig.
Le bhith ag atharrachadh gu stèidh roinneachadail a tha a' coimead air adhart, agus a' gladasd am priomhachasan chun an latha an-diuigh, tha CnL a' planadh airson an fhidhme gus déanamh cinteach gu bheil an aithne air a bheil a i airidh ann aon an saoghal cultair lèireachd a h-a'. CnL na nan urrasairean airson bàrdachd sa Ghàidhlig ann an iomairt cairt-puist a bho eilean ann an obair ann Seachdain Leabhraichean na h-a' Bheil a fheara a' foilseachadh buaidh na h-obaion an clò.

sealltainn a' chàileachd àrd a tha ri fhaighinn a mhaoineachadh bho chionn ghoirid – a' fhèin air 10 'sgrìobhdairean ùra Gàidhlig' duais ùr airson foghlam Gàidhlig. Tha CnL na h-Alba gus a bhith na h-urraisean airson bàrdachd sa Ghàidhlig agus tha iad an-dràsta ann an foitich ùrachaidh airson sgrìobhadh is sgrìobhadairean asgaidh. Tha iad ag amas air cothroman eile fhàthainn airson sgribhaidh na Ghàidhlig agus tha iad a' bhith a' sgribhaidh a' nóbar a' chàileachd a' chànain.

Tha CnL a' creidinn gu bheil a' cothroman leis an fhad-ùine ann an raon foilseachaidh na Gàidhlig, airson a bhith ag obair air cruthachadh a' chàileachd a' chànain, mar a' chàileachd a' chànain.

Le bhith airson tuilleadh fios, thigear gu eile, thigear gu www.hie.co.uk/gaelic.

Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean
www.hie.co.uk
Today’s Gaelic publishing sector is centred around Comhairle nan Leabhraichean - the Gaelic Books Council (GBC), the main funding body for Gaelic literature. Within the sector there are active publishers such as Acair which is a major player, while other publishers such as Birlinn, have historically had some association with Gaelic publishing although would not categorise themselves as a Gaelic publisher.
Established in 1968, GBC is a not for profit charity, and company limited by guarantee. It is publicly funded (e.g., it receives foundation funding from Creative Scotland) although it does generate income through sales.

As the main funding body for Gaelic literature, its remit is very wide with the main focus being the encouragement of writers and publishers in the Gaelic language. At present, approximately between two-thirds and three-quarters of its funding is subsequently disbursed through a grants scheme, the aim being to allow potential and current writers in the language the security of being able to develop their creative work and bring it to fruition.

The GBC has a steady market linked to the existing Scottish Gaelic educational infrastructure – wherever there is Gaelic Medium Education - plus connections to universities and libraries, and other recognized Gaelic book outlets such as the arts centre Aros, An Lanntair, and book outlets including McGillivery’s in the Uists and Seallam in Harris. In addition the GBC sees an important part of its role as outreach into communities where marketing potential exists. In this way, local Glasgow initiatives such as Leabhrachain ’s Craic are also seen as very important to it, as is the Aye Write festival where the GBC supply simultaneous translation through headsets for Gaelic and bilingual events.

The GBC’s work also includes support to existing community writing. One current such example is through encouraging community bards to engage in dialogue with the books council in order to obtain advice, and help find publishers. Another aspect of the Book Council’s work is helping safeguard the resources of organisations such as the historical societies by putting into print appropriate materials produced by them. The GBC also ensure that contemporary work by other Gaelic organisations (such as the young persons’ submissions to the sgeulachdan during the Mòd) can be likewise made permanent through publishing, and thus act as an encouragement to potential future Gaelic writers. This eye to the future while safeguarding the past has also helped inform GBC’s recent strategy of encouraging the printing of autobiographies and biographies – a necessary approach given the current demographic of Gaelic speaking communities.

Adopting a forward looking strategic position, and adapting its priorities to the present, the GBC is planning for the long term to ensure Gaelic is given rightful recognition within the world of Scottish literary culture. The GBC sponsors the Gaelic poem in the national poetry day postcard initiative, and also the Gaelic element in the Scottish Book Week free book publication. It is aiming to open up other possibilities for Gaelic writing and writers and is currently in negotiation with the Scottish Book Trust to sponsor a new award for Gaelic education. The GBC has itself already funded 10 ‘new Gaelic writers’ in the recent period – a reflection of the high quality existing in the field.

The GBC now aspires to work with the Scottish Book Trust to obtain funding for a young Gaelic writer project which could provide a year of master classes and mentoring support. In addition to this, it is in discussion with the Playwrights’ Studio to establish a dedicated new Gaelic playwright award and wish to expand its current ‘Donald Meek’ award which is open to Gaelic writing of any genre. Applications to the latter have quadrupled in the last three years – a reflection of positive changes in the area of Gaelic literature. In the future the GBC also hope to expand this to involve private sponsorship for different aspects of the award – such as creating a children’s award, or indeed a best children’s illustrator award.

Other areas where the GBC hope there is a possibility to have a positive future impact include the Government sponsored Book Bug Bag scheme where the Scottish Book Trust provides parents of new born and pre-school children with Gaelic translations of the books in the regular Bookbug packs – now newly available to the Gaelic community. Similarly, it would hope to influence the Book Trust’s publication of the ‘best 50 Scottish books’ which at present has no Gaelic element.

The GBC believes that working together with other organisations can lead to a jointly beneficial approach and cites as an example its current work with organisations such as Pròiseact nan Ealan in developing drama work in schools related to the current anniversary of WW1 – materials which can then be published and encourage further confidence within these local communities, and important age groups. ‘Young people then don’t have to leave their communities to engage with the world of publishing. They do the work, which is locally based, and then they see the fruits of their labour in print.’ The GBC believe this will help instil confidence in young people at an early age, and allow them to see the asset that Gaelic is as a way of understanding and recording real memories of their own communities.

Also in terms of developing future and longer term necessary skills in the area of Gaelic publishing, the GBC has been working on the creation of a comprehensive editor’s network within Gaelic communities, to strengthen local capacity in this specialised field. Importantly this has also involved training for these individuals to gain some business acumen and personal confidence in this area and to go on later and market their own skills and expertise.

In short the Gaelic Books Council believe that the printed Gaelic language is a tremendous asset for Scotland as a whole, and particularly in Gaelic communities – and one which is only really beginning to come into its own, having had to fight against neglect of the printed word in Gaelic for a major part of the language’s history.