

PLANS WELL UNDERWAY FOR THE 2015 NATIONAL GAELIC SCHOOLS' DEBATE

The announcement of the preliminary rounds of the National Gaelic Schools Debate competition, formerly known as the BT Scotland Gaelic Schools' Debate, has been made and the 2015 competition looks set to be another excellent year! The first two rounds will again be held in Stornoway, on the Isle of Lewis, on Tuesday the 4th and Wednesday the 5th of November 2015. The competition, which was the recipient of the 'Best Event' award at last year's Gaelic Awards, continues to attract schools from across the country.

Twenty teams from eighteen schools are due to compete in the 2015 competition. This year, for the first time, all the schools will participate in debates over the two days, with the four teams with the highest points, across the two days, will progress to the final stages which will be held in Edinburgh on Tuesday and Wednesday the 24th and 25th of November 2015. The draw for Round One is as follows:

Dingwall Academy V James Gillespie's High School B
Inverness Royal Academy V Glasgow Gaelic School
Tain Royal Academy V Ardnamurchan High School
Oban High School V Mallaig High School
Bishopbriggs Academy V The Nicolson Institute B
The Nicolson Institute A V Lionacleit School
Portree High School V Castlebay Community School
James Gillespie's High School A V Sir E Scott School
Gairloch High School V Hazlehead Academy
Dunoon Grammar School V Lochaber High School

Calum Iain Macleod, Director of Development at Comunn na Gàidhlig, and Chairman of the National Gaelic Schools' Debate Management Committee commented:

“In this the 17th year of the competition we are delighted to have been able to secure funding to enable us to continue. I would, in particular, like to thank the following for their contribution: Bòrd na Gàidhlig, The Scottish Executive, Stòrlann Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig, Skills Development Scotland, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, The Highland Council, Argyll and Bute Council, Glasgow City Council, SCILT (Scotland's National Centre for Languages), Education Scotland and North Lanarkshire Council. Following the success of the 2014 Debate which saw Ella Scarr and Megan Dale of Dingwall Academy emerge as the worthy winners, an extremely high level of competition was set and we look forward to another year of interesting and thought provoking debates.”

Notes to Editors:

Additional assistance for the 2015 National Gaelic Schools Debate has come from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Comunn na Gàidhlig, BBC Alba, The Highland Council, MG ALBA and Pròiseact nan Ealan.

A' CHIAD CHUAI RT DE FHARPAIS DEASBAD NÀISEANTA NAN ÀRD-SGOILTEAN
AIR FÀIRE

Tha an obair ullachaidh mu choinneamh Deasbad Nàiseanta nan Àrd-sgoiltean 2015, a bha roimhe air ainmeachadh Deasbad BT Alba, a-nis air tòiseachadh agus tha a' chomataidh rianachd air ainmeachadh cò bhios a strì an aghaidh a-chèile sa chiad chuairt den fharpais. Tha a h-uile coltas ann gur e deagh bhliadhna a bhios ann don Deasbad! Thèid a' chiad dà chuairt a chumail ann an Steòrnabhagh air Dimàirt agus Diciadain 3mh agus 4mh Samhain 2015. Chaidh an fharpais ainmeachadh mar 'Thachartas na Bliadhna' aig Duaisean na Gàidhlig an-uiridh agus chithear farpaisich a' tighinn bho fhad is farsaing air feadh na dùthcha gus pàirt a ghabhail.

Bidh fichead sgioba à ochd sgoiltean deug a' gabhail pàirt ann am farpais 2015. Thèid na ceithir sgiobaidhean le na comharran as àirde troimhe chun na h-iar-chuairtean deireannach. Bidh na cuairtean deireannach air an cumail ann an Dùn Èideann air Dimàirt agus Diciadain 24 agus 25 Samhain. Chaidh an taghadh airson a' chiad chuairt mar a leanas:

Acadamaidh Inbhirpheopharain V Àrdsgoil Sheumais Gillespie B

Acadamaidh Rìoghail Inbhir Nis V Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu

Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhubhthaich V Àrdsgoil Àrd nam Murchan

Àrdsgoil an Òbain V Àrdsgoil Mhalaig

Acadamaidh Dhrochaid an Easbaig V Sgoil MhicNeacail B

Sgoil MhicNeacail A V Sgoil Lionacleit

Àrdsgoil Phorthrigh V Sgoil Choimhearsnachd Bhàgh a' Chaisteil

Àrdsgoil Sheumais Gillespie A V Sir E Scott

Àrdsgoil Gheàrrloch V Acadamaidh Hazlehead

Thuirte Calum Iain MacLeòid, Stiùiriche Leasachaidh aig Comunn na Gàidhlig, agus a tha na Chathraiche air Comataidh Rianachd Deasbad BT Alba:

“Tha seachd bliadhna deug on a ghabh a' chiad deasbad àite agus tha sinn ga fhaicinn a' dol bho neart gu neart. Bu mhath leam gu sònraichte taing a thoirt do na buidhnean a leanas airson maoinachadh a thoirt seachad dhuinn air a' bhliadhna seo: Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Riaghaltas na h-Alba, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd Foghlam Alba, Leasachadh Sgilean na h-Alba, Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal is Bhòid, Comhairle Baile Ghlaschu, SCILT, Foghlam Alba agus Comhairle Lannraig a Tuath. An-dèidh soirbheachas do Mhegan Dale agus Ella Scarr bho Acadamaidh Inbhirpheopharain an-uiridh tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart gu farpais a bhios a-rithist aig sàr àrd ìre.

Fiosrachadh do Luchd-deasachaidh:

- Tha taic agus maoinachadh air a thighinn cuideachd bho Chomunn na Gàidhlig, am BBC, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, Pròiseact nan Ealan agus MG ALBA.