

## Air Chéildh: The Gaelic Narrative Project

Feb. 25, 2022

Hosted by Air Chéildh Team

WHAT STRUCK YOU FROM THE VIDEO AND/OR YOUR CONVERSATIONS THIS EVENING? HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM SEASON 2. HOW WILL THIS IMPACT YOUR LIFE GOING FORWARD?

- Taking small steps is enough. Just keep taking them. And remember you're not alone. Keep building your community.
- Similar ... taking small steps. The idea that broken Gaelic is better than no Gaelic at all. Having recently moved away from Cape Breton and away from Cape Breton and farther away from a physical Gaelic community than I've ever been, Gu leòr has been a great way to stay connected, and to get some ideas to keep expressing my Gaelic culture in my day-to-day.
- Perfectly said. Being away from the Gaelic community when I first left home left me feeling very lonely, and this has certainly made me feel more connected.
- Seeing people from the Mi'kmaw Community being involved.
- Gu leòr was a wonderful way to link language and culture.
- A Sense of Belonging is a powerful glue. I don't think community can exist without it.
- Albert Marshall remembers Gaels and Mi'kmaw exchanging greetings in their language outside church in the 1940s.
- All the sessions were wonderful. "Enough is plenty" is a good motto to live by.
- Believe in Building the 3 C's: Connections, Community and Culture
- Time to start building up and thinking how language communities can be build up and quickly. Not slowly as you can lose a language by taking too long.
- Sense of belonging! Possibility to connect to our roots.
- The series offers community as reflected in the varied places that people come from and helps break isolation from Gaelic communities.
- Albert said If you speak your language you can't be colonized. There is much to be gained by working together.
- It's never too late to take a step towards connecting and building community.
- Mòran taing airson seo (Thank you for this.) I was very struck by John William Cremo I did not know anything about the Residential Schools. (Scottish participant).
- "Venues for using the language outside the classroom" Dr Leanne Hinton. I'm always so happy to find things I can do in Gaelic, like a fitness class!
- This connection with this group has helped me understand the Gaelic culture and what parts I want to bring to my life and local community. The desire to bring warmth, listening, caring and connections, and making time for neighbors and visiting as a way to let this culture go on living.
- It's been so great to connect with people beyond Nova Scotia and to see just how special what we have here in NS is.
- A recurring connection with language, community, music and dance, respecting others and sharing plenty in times of need
- I want to find a Gaidhealtachd in Canada, a place I can visit where I can conduct my daily life in Gàidhlig.

- Storytelling, music, food, literature ...sharing like a bridge
- I love that the Mi'kmaw community has been involved. I love that I'm meeting folks here and that the online community is growing strong!
- I have never met a language that I felt was inferior to. any other. Let's value our language and culture, and let's not allow people to tell us otherwise.
- To arrive at a place where each of us see ourselves as advocates at political and societal levels to ensure that efforts to maintain, preserve and share Gaelic language and culture are acknowledged and advanced so that Gaels as a unique ethnocultural group can be sustained. Work around this type of advocacy could be further informed by sharing from Irish, Basque and Indigenous language advocacy efforts.
- Love to make connections with the Mi'kmaw community and learn from them. Carmen's line, "every hill and stream had a name", I would love to know the Mi'kmaw names for places and spaces.
- An incredible season! Taing mhór! I experienced a tremendous sense of community. This is a fantastic conduit for wider connections and sharing.
- It is becoming clearer by the day that we need in Scotland about 18 new and different facilities. While schools are crucial only 10% of the language of the school can be transferred into the home and community.
- The Faroese reference is poignant. The chain dance helped preserve the language. Here's a video of the Faroese in Gàidhlig...  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_\\_iXQgJencw&t=248s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=__iXQgJencw&t=248s)
- An Irish Gaeltacht was established in Ontario (near Goderich, I believe) about 10 years ago. We should undertake a similar initiative here.
- It's come up in a couple breakout rooms this season that folks are looking for Gaelic conversation - We host a weekly online Gaelic conversation session through the Highland Village if anyone is interested <https://fb.me/e/2UQLOBCJj>
- The maturity of the young people and their honesty on the sessions was inspiring.
- May I thank all of you for giving a means of talking about the present situation and what can be done.
- I'll take the notion of Gu leór with me into my days ahead.... I'll use it to examine my own perspectives but also world issues. I am so thankful for these online ceilings...your project has filled such a void in this pandemic time. I am going to try to relearn the few Gaelic songs I learned in my Cape Breton community as a youth. I was so impressed with the youth in your presentations...their burning desire for more language and culture. Looking forward to your team's next offerings that I will look for.

Nona sings a song:Ma bhuannaich thu nighean ghrinn, 'ille na biodh gruaim ort. Ma bhuannaich thu nighean ghrinn.

- Suas e, Nona!
- Drive'r Nona!!!!
- Tapadh le luchd an taighe, leis na h-aoighean uile is leat fhéin gu mór, a Fhrangag | Sincere thanks to the all hosts, the guests and yourself, Frances!!
- Sin agad an dòigh, a Nona!!
- Math Fhéin a Nona!!!
- Tapadh leibh!
- Taing mhòr don sgioba airson na seiseanan seo a chuir air dòigh, tha iad cudromachd is feumail! Great to connect with folks near and far, especially these days.

- Yes! A huge thank you to our leader Frances for weaving this all together so beautifully.
- Tapadh leibh.