

CPG Scots Language

Thurs 26 August 2021

Initial Virtual Meeting

Emma – Introduction and Agenda

Michael Dempster – Started with The Red Book and the 13 Statements

Then Briefly what we have so far:

- Ministerial Group
- Scots Language Policies/Debates
- Scrieverships
- SQA Scots Language Award
- L3
- Text in Scots
- Education Scotland has Scots Language Educators
- 1.5 million people speak Scots
- Health Campaigns in Scots
- Scots Language Resource Networks
- Scots Books – Publishers now see as normal
- Reminiscence Groups use it
- The new Scots renaissance

Challenges:

Emma – need more MSP's, there are those that signed the pledge, others that may be interested: Alistair Allan, Jackie Dunbar

Clare Adamson – thanks for pulling the meeting together

We need to recruit other MSP's.

Stuart Paterson – Need other MSP's, brilliant collaboration between Scots & Ulster, SQA, Schools & Libraries etc

Professor R Millar – Great hearing all the achievements from Scots Language Group but we need to do more for the children.

William Hershaw – Is there a limit on when we have to have CPG up & running, official deadline is 31 October

James MacDonald – there are dangers in giving wains tablets, screens etc as overused which causes difficulties with concentration and slows speech development.

Karen Lowing – Conducts research in Scots Language in Education, needs to be built into policies

Jack Capener – Thanks, Oor Vyce is a Campaign Group for a Scots Language Act, they have secured SNP commitment, CPG will be an asset

Neill Martin – Scots Language has helped younger kids feel more comfortable in their own language, unlocking archives

Joanna Kopaczyk – attitudes of Scots in & outside of education need to normalise this, speak in Scots at home and in public, make Scots a subject to degree level, how can we empower the scots speaker

Andy Harvey – involvement of trade unions

Stuart Paterson – start at the bottom with weans, use Bruce Fairbairns Framework (Highlands), some school projects, next census ? numbers of Scots speakers go up

Claire Adamson – suggested everyone in meeting to join CPG, start with 13 principles, Scots language Centre is interested in secretariat, 15 minute chat with other MSP's

Emma – wound up and agreed with Claire. Suggested they hold a formal AGM in 2-3 weeks.

Attendees

Claire Adamson MSP

Rhona Alcorn

Jean Anderson

Sam Best

Alan Bett

Valentia Bold

Susi Briggs

Steve Byrne

Jack Capener

Gerrard Carruthers

Mr Clark

Ian Crozier

Michael Dempster

Karen Dick

Bruce Eunson

Iona Fyfe

David Gilliard
Laura Green
Simon Hall
Andy Harvey
Alistair Heather
William Hershaw
Alice Heywood
Duncan Jones
Billy Kay
Asif Khan
Joanna Kopaczyk
Dawn Leslie
Karen Lowing
Willy Maley
Neill Martin
Prof R Millar
Mrs McAllister
James MacDonald
Claire Needler
Stuart Pescodd
Rhiannon Purdie
Susan Rennie
Nicola Royan
Jim Scobbie
Marc Sherland
Donald Smith
Jennifer Smith
Kirsty Strachan
Rosemary Ward
Rab Wilson

(Emma's team – Carol Dew, Ishbel McGeorge, Sharon Makepeace, Karen Harper)