

Dear Sir/Madam

## **DRAFT GAELIC LANGUAGE BILL**

I am pleased to see that the Scottish Executive has published a Draft Gaelic Language Bill but feel that the Bill could be strengthened to give Bòrd na Gàidhlig additional powers, a realistic budget and a supportive contract with the Scottish Executive.

Gaelic Medium Education must be strengthened and expanded to increase the number of Gaelic speakers so it is crucial that the role of Gaelic Medium Education is stressed within the Act.

The Gaelic Act by itself will not save the language but it is a welcome step in the revitalization of the Gaelic language. For it to be effective, however, the Bill must encompass and address the aspirations of the Gaelic Community throughout Scotland.

Yours in anticipation