

## **Bun is Bàrr**

Bun is Bàrr (Root and Branch) is a Mentoring Program which offers Gaelic learners in Nova Scotia the opportunity to work with fluent elders as they develop their language and cultural skills. The goal of Bun is Bàrr is to further assist in the creation of fluent Gaelic speakers who are knowledgeable of Nova Scotia's Gaelic tradition and motivated to learn, live, teach, share and champion Gaelic Nova Scotia.

An elder is not necessarily elderly, but can be a fluent speaker who has demonstrated a strong commitment to Nova Scotia's Gaelic tradition: through research, visiting, connecting in community with other Gaelic speakers, past and present. These should have demonstrated commitment and knowledge of Nova Scotia's Gaelic tradition.

## ***Criteria***

Applicants should:

- Be at advanced Gaelic conversational level where they can easily converse on many topics that interest the elder they are working with. Preference will be given to those who have already established trust and friendship with an elder.
- Have a high level of interest in becoming a tradition bearer, or a Gaelic resource person with a solid knowledge of Nova Scotia's Gaelic tradition.
- Demonstrate an interest in passing on this information to other Gaelic learners, whether as teachers, mentors, workshop leaders, parents or grandparents to ensure the continued transmission of Nova Scotia's Gaelic tradition.

## ***Requirements***

- Apprentices will visit the elder in his/her home. Applicants should complete a minimum of 60 hours.
- Apprentices are required to take other Gaelic learners on 1/3 of their visits.
- Apprentices are encouraged to record their mentor, with their permission, and take note of any phrases, stories, words of interest that can be shared with other or used in future lesson plans.
- Apprentices will organize a social gathering/discussion in the elder's home or a place in their community or on-line if the elder is not able to leave the home, to which other learners and community members will be invited.



## Mentoring Programs Bun is Bàrr Daltachas

Call for Letters of Interest

- Apprentices will be required to ask the elder to participate in the program. They won't have to do this before applying but will do so on notification of conditional acceptance. When the elder has agreed they will be given full acceptance.

### ***Application Process***

Interested Apprentices should send a letter of interest and/or resumé to [Kelly.Schlay@novascotia.ca](mailto:Kelly.Schlay@novascotia.ca) outlining:

- Their language, social and cultural skills
- Their current involvement in the transmission of Gaelic language and culture
- Their plan to support the future of Gaelic Nova Scotia.
- Information on the person they will work with
- Their proposed workplan, including the involvement of other Gaelic learners on 1/3 of their visits and the social gathering to be organized.

Past participants are encouraged to reapply, but need to explain how the program builds on the work done in the past.

Applicants should have completed a Vulnerable Sector Check.

### ***Other Program Details***

- Program runs from September 23, 2019 until March 13, 2020.
- Mandatory online two-hour orientation in the week of September 16
- Participants must keep an electronic visiting log accessible to other participants and to Gaelic Affairs.
- Mandatory online debrief in the week of March 16, 2020
- Amounts awarded per team -- \$2,500, including the elder's stipend, social gathering costs and orientation and debriefing time.
- Max. 6 apprentices accepted into the program.

Please contact Frances MacEachen if you have any questions at (902) 945-2114 or [Frances.MacEachen@novascotia.ca](mailto:Frances.MacEachen@novascotia.ca).

## **Daltachas**

Daltachas (Fosterage) is an immersion program targeted at learners at the intermediate and advanced language levels. Its aim is to expand on comprehension and speaking abilities, with a focus on conversation, structure and intricacies of Gaelic language and grammar, idiomatic expressions, and the culture that is encapsulated in and through the language. Part of the instruction will be based on Gaelic Nova Scotia seanchas (Gaelic oral tradition).

This program is intended to expand on the participants' language foundation to prepare them for further programs, such as Bun is Bàrr, Stòras a' Bhaile (Gaelic Folklife School) and Dian-oidias na Gàidhlig (Gaelic immersion programs).

## ***Criteria***

Applicants should:

- Be a Nova Scotia resident
- Commit to a minimum of 4 hours a week of language learning for the duration of the program
- Be a serious Gaelic learner with an interest in seanchas in Nova Scotia
- Be conversant in Gaelic and, in addition to the hours spent in the program, be motivated and committed to independent Gaelic learning
- Desire to use Gaelic daily and pass on the language
- Own a recording device to record sessions (to be archived as part of Gaelic Affairs' Archive)
- Be prepared to meet regularly either in person or by phone with their Oide and/or Muime to review their work and set goals
- Is required to attend at least two Gaelic social gatherings during the program period, which will include the other (Ban-) Daltachan and Oide and/or Muime

## ***Application Process***

Interested Apprentices should send a letter of interest to [Kelly.Schlay@novascotia.ca](mailto:Kelly.Schlay@novascotia.ca) outlining:

- Their name, age, address and phone number
- The efforts made to acquire and use Gaelic language, and the language level they are currently at
- The language goals they would like to achieve (as detailed as possible)



## **Mentoring Programs Bun is Bàrr Daltachas**

Call for Letters of Interest

- Their plans to maintain their Gaelic language skills and share them with others
- The name of one reference and their contact information who will support your letter of interest

Selection may depend on the number of other learners in the area who are interested in the program.

Mentors in the program should have completed a Vulnerable Sector Check.

### ***Other Program Details***

- Program runs from September 23, 2019 to March 13, 2020.
- Video or audio clips of applicant's spoken Gaelic may be requested.
- Past participants may reapply.
- Based upon 4 hrs per week (up to 22 weeks) at \$11.00 / hr, participants can receive up to max. of \$968.00 for their participation in the program.

Please contact Goiridh Dòmhnallach if you have any questions at (902) 870-6837 or [Jeffrey.D.MacDonald@novascotia.ca](mailto:Jeffrey.D.MacDonald@novascotia.ca).