



An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha (Faoi scáth Chonradh na Gaeilge)

Outreach and Development Committee

A chairde

At the 2021 AGM of An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha, the wonderful work and input that had been provided by the International Work Group over the past 15 months was discussed in great detail.

The IWG had been formed to provide support to teachers during Covid-19 and it was clearly recognised that the contributions that the group had made to assist the dancing community during the pandemic had been monumental. It was only correct that every person that had contributed in any way, should be both congratulated and sincerely thanked.

The IWG had also provided an alternative model for engaging with teachers and give a more direct route to developing the support that teachers were looking for and required.

With the dark clouds of the pandemic slowly clearing, CLRG agreed that the innovative ideas and alternative way of looking at things that had come from IWG, could not and must not, be lost. It also identified that the delays between idea generation and implementation must be shortened to keep teachers and volunteers both engaged and enthusiastic. To facilitate this, a stronger presence and voice on CLRG would be required.

It was therefore decided that a new **Outreach and Development Committee** would be formed which would officially formalise and continue the valuable work that the IWG had started. The initial remit of this committee is:-

- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS** - engaging with them, providing support, education and advice in all aspects, e.g. insurance, rebuilding classes, retaining pupils, child safety, vetting, recovery plan from Covid-19.
- **OUTREACH** – Reaching out to all teachers worldwide that have special skill sets, who are willing to lend their expertise to aid in engaging with the wider community and bringing their innovative ideas to the fore.
- **COMMUNICATION** – increase the dialogue between CLRG and teachers to make the organisation more pro-active rather than reactive. Promoting and enhancing the use of IT and on-line systems will be used to facilitate this.
- **COSTUMES and IMAGE** – To give advice, rules and guidance in a constructive manner.

The chairperson of this new committee is Órla Nic Conuladh. At their first meeting, the committee decided to subdivide the committee into the following areas:



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- **CEIM, CONTENT GENERATION & PUBLICATIONS**
 - Lead by Karen Gleeson and Margaret Morgan
- **DATA & SURVEYS, ENGAGING IT RESOURCES & COMMUNICATIONS**
 - Lead by Gabrielle Hall & Paula Doyle
- **DANCER ENGAGEMENT & EXTERNAL NEW AUDIENCES**
 - Lead by Breeda Pierce & Katrina O'Hehir
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & WEBINARS, TEACHER SUPPORT, & SOCIAL EVENTS**
 - Lead by Helan Greene, John Carey & Philip Owens
- **COSTUMES & IMAGE**
 - Lead by Angela Hogan & Linda Possak

The success of this new Committee is entirely dependent on the support of the world-wide Irish Dancing community. Each of the sub-committees are reaching out to their colleagues to form **focus groups** to provide the innovative and forward thinking ideas that will enhance the route CLRG will take in the future.

I would therefore appeal to everyone that if you feel you have any skills to offer that may be of benefit to any of the sub-committees, or feel that you want to assist in any way to take the organisation forward, then please contact the Chairperson, Órla Nic Conuladh via Email: orlanicconuladh@gmail.com, expressing which focus group you would like to join. It would also be of great benefit if you could outline any particular skills you have that would enhance the group. As this group is anxious to move ahead, please forward your details by **Friday, 28th May**.

Please note that membership of the focus groups is open to everyone and numbers will not be restricted. CLRG members that are members of any of the other committees in the organisation are also invited to participate in any of the focus groups. It is hoped that each group will have diverse representation from all over the globe.

I dearly hope that teachers will engage with this very exciting and innovative committee. This is your opportunity to have positive input into how CLRG can engage with and interact more directly with teachers world-wide.

Le meas

James McCutcheon SDCRG
Cathaoirleach
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