

## THE LIVING TRADITION

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## **COMHALTAS - CORONAVIRUS**

## **Communication No. 5**

We hope that you and your family are safe and well in these unprecedented challenging and worrying times. Go raibh Rath Dé oraibh uilig.

We think of and pray for all those people in Ireland and abroad who have been visited by unspeakable tragedy and suffering.

We also think of our colleagues and friends in Mullingar. Not being able to host Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann next August was a devastating blow for them. They invested so much time and effort to deliver something special for Comhaltas, Ireland and the Diaspora. They made the right decision in putting the health and wellbeing of people first. For this, they will in time be remembered by all with appreciation and gratitude. They are determined that in 2021 they will host a Fleadh that will be even bigger and better than ever. We salute them.

Our 18 cultural centres throughout the island will be ready and willing to act in the national interest. These facilities will be available to those selfless and heroic people who are in the front line of this battle against the coronavirus.

As the year progresses, and hopefully we pass through this terrible crisis, and the national spirit is at a low ebb, those who are fortunate enough will make that extra special effort to help raise the morale and regenerate the economy. In this, Comhaltas will not be found wanting.

The Buanchoiste is very focused on ATHNUACHAN/RENEWAL and this will be very much part of AN RÓD SEO ROMHAINN (the road before us). We are looking to the last week of October, with a flow of support and talent from Provincial Fleadhanna and from all who share our ideals, to play our part in delivering a strong message of resilience and determination in the national renewal.

Gabhaimíd buíochas libh as ucht bhúr gcabhrach agus bhúr dtacaíochta. Is i dteannta a chéile is fearr sinn. Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Labhrás Ó Murchú Ardstiúthóir CCÉ

Lakhras Thewelm