Community Relations Council



CRC e-News

Programme for Government Consultation

The Programme for Government is the highest level strategic document of the Executive – setting out the priorities that it will pursue in the current Assembly mandate, and the most significant actions it will take to address them.

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You can access the Programme for Government Consultation via the link below: Programme for Government Consultation document

The PfG contains 14 strategic outcomes which, taken together, set a clear direction of travel and enable continuous improvement on the essential components of societal wellbeing. They touch on every aspect of government, including the attainment of good health and education, economic success and confident and peaceful communities. In addition to merely fulfilling our statutory obligations, we will in future be able to target those things that make real improvements to the quality of life for the citizen.

The outcomes are supported by 48 indicators which will allow us to assess if we are turning the curve in the right direction. These will show how the Executive is performing in relation to the outcomes and will provide a basis to monitor progress and take corrective action.

The draft Programme for Government reflects the messages that emerged from the extensive stakeholder engagement and consultation process which also showed that there is strong support for the approach adopted.

In due course, the Programme for Government will provide the strategic context for other key Executive strategy documents, including the Investment Strategy, the Economic Strategy and a Social Strategy. The Programme will also inform the development of the Executive's budget over the course of this mandate and provide a mechanism for ensuring our limited funds are best directed to where they can contribute most.

As the process of development of the final Programme for Government is ongoing we continue to welcome your participation.

Contact the PfG Team:

Email: pfg@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Phone: 028 9052 0584

November 2016 Issue 78

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The views expressed in the eNews are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of CRC.

Power, Politics and Planning in the Divided City

Elizabeth DeYoung (Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool) discusses her research trip to the former Girdwood Army Barracks in Belfast



My PhD thesis focuses on the way space is used and controlled in ethnically segregated cities. In particular, I am concerned with the actors and agencies which shape space in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and how these have actually reinforced both sectarian and economic divides in what should be a 'post-conflict' society. This summer, I continued my fieldwork on the regeneration of the former Girdwood Army Barracks. The Barracks are located across from a 'peace wall' in a multiply divided and deprived area of North Belfast. Because of the BAIS bursary, I was able to supplement the broader theoretical framework within which I have been working with the minutiae of everyday life, political machinations and social interaction which is no less important in the analysis of space.

Initially, the Girdwood Barracks' prospective redevelopment garnered huge enthusiasm as a way to bring life and activity back to a derelict space, to provide employment and educational opportunity to a poor area and to promote good relations across the 'peace wall'. Indeed, the Draft Masterplan referred to the project as internationally significant and a catalyst for social and economic growth in North Belfast. However, space itself is the source of conflict in Belfast, serving as a symbolic site of power used to further political ideology. Resource competition between the two main ethno-national political traditions, particularly around social housing and shifting electoral demographics, stalled the development plans. The site lay empty until 2011, when Belfast City Council received EU PEACE III funding to build a cross-community 'Hub'. Today, the Girdwood Community Hub has opened, offering a gym, educational courses, event space, a youth space and a 4G pitch. It has been hailed as a 'state of the art building', a 'significant stepping stone for North Belfast', and alternately a 'sectarian carve up' of territory and a 'neoliberalinfluenced peace-building project'. Despite its shiny exterior, the building seems a far cry from the initial optimism for an internationally renowned 'shared space'. My research argues that it serves instead as a subtler, more insidious redesigning of the 'peace walls' which mar the surrounding landscape.

Power, Politics and Planning in the Divided City continued

This summer, I was first able to reacquaint myself with this landscape. As an anthropologist, I believe that using walking and observation as methodology is vital in getting to know a space over time. One day, I was taken on an extensive tour of a neighbourhood near Girdwood, its hidden side streets and stories, by a community worker who had grown up there. Other times, I retraced the physical geography of the area on my own: charting new territorial markers and murals, derelict and newly -refurbished houses, changes in the built environment on both sides of the 'peace walls' and what these might reflect more broadly in terms of power and resources (or lack thereof). One shift worth mentioning was the removal of the former Barracks security barriers from the perimeter of the site as part of redevelopment. Without the hulking metal sheeting, what had been a claustrophobic series of neighbourhoods opened up. There was a sweeping view of the Belfast Hills and the city centre instead of a wall — a glimpse of possibility.

Having been primarily based in Liverpool during the months previous, this visit was also an opportunity to revisit my connections and re-immerse myself in the field. I attended meetings between a range of local community groups and statutory agencies. These discussed how the first few months of the Girdwood Hub had unfolded: the challenges, priorities and practical realities on the ground and the responses of the stakeholders involved. Sitting in on these meetings allowed me to get a sense of how everyday politics, administration and use of the space had progressed since my last visit, and to observe the dynamics within and between groups. I also arranged one-on-one meetings with people working around the Girdwood site. These were to gauge opinion on shifts in policy and planning in the area and if, in practice, the Hub was a 'shared space' or, more frankly, a wasted opportunity. And of course, I visited the Hub itself to observe patterns of usage and the events and activities taking place. This data will lend itself to analysing if the Girdwood Hub has achieved its initial aims as a development, or if it has failed in its outcomes. During the summer, I was also commissioned for a separate project: to produce a research report for a community development trust on the impact of urban regeneration on deprived neighbourhoods in Belfast.

My weeks in Belfast this summer were spent immersing myself in the Girdwood Barracks area and the wider urban landscape, and reconnecting with the people who have been so helpful to me in my fieldwork thus far. I gathered a wide range of detailed observations and opinions on the site which will be an invaluable supplement to my theoretical framework. In addition, I researched and produced a report about broader themes of urban regeneration and uneven investment in the city. The ultimate aim of my work is to balance theory and practice, to contrast rhetoric and reality, and to involve the detailed observations of everyday life and social interaction in analysing contested space. Thanks to BAIS, I was able to visit Belfast for an extended period in pursuit of achieving these objectives.

If you are interested in Elizabeth's research you can contact her via Institute of Irish Studies, 128 Mount Pleasant University of Liverpool, L69 3GR

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Patricia at poneill@nicrc.org.uk or Ellana, etomasso@nicrc.org.uk

Caught in the conundrum: Neoliberalism and education in post-conflict NI Joanne Hughes, Caitlin Donnelly, Ruth Leitch & Stephanie Burns, School of Education, Queen's

Joanne Hughes, Caitlin Donnelly, Ruth Leitch & Stephanie Burns, School of Education, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Northern Ireland (NI) is emerging from a violent period in its troubled history and remains a society characterized by segregation between its two main communities. Nowhere is this more apparent than in education, where for the most part Catholic and Protestant pupils are educated separately. During the last 30 years there has been twofold pressure placed on the education system in NI – at one level to respond to intergroup tensions by promoting reconciliation, and at another, to deal with national policy demands derived from a global neoliberalist economic agenda. With reference to current efforts to promote shared education between separate schools, we explore the uneasy dynamic between a school-based reconciliation programme in a transitioning society and system-wide values that are driven by neoliberalism and its organizational manifestation – new managerialism. We argue that whilst the former seeks to promote social democratic ideals in education that can have a potentially transformative effect at the societal level, neoliberal priorities have the potential to both subvert shared education and also to embed it.

If you are interested in this research contact

Joanne Hughes, UNESCO Chair Director of the Centre for Shared Education, School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast, 69/71 University Street, BT7 1HL

A Woman's Guide to Controversial Conversations

Kellie O'Dowd Good Relations Worker, Women's Resource & Development Agency

As women we have all been there. We've all been at meetings large and small where men have completely dominated the conversation and/or the discussion. They talk ad nauseum and at length often making broadcasts as opposed to saying things that A: haven't been said before but they clearly like the sound of their own voices or B: that are anyway relevant and would move the conversation along. Juxtapose this with women's social conditioning to remain quiet or silent, our constant fear of reprisals for speaking out, making a mistake or giving inaccurate information and also our fear of offending anyone; and you have a very toxic dynamic of engagement. The important role women have played and continue to play in supporting peacebuilding has been well documented, however 18 years after the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement what women have found is the reassertion of male control in communities and the diminished opportunities to for women to participate in political discussions. Take for example the composition of the Flags, identity, Culture and Tradition Commission, of which only one of the 15 nominees is a woman.

To recognise these dynamics is the first step in changing them and that is what a women's guide to controversial conversations is all about. The workshops provide the opportunity for women to explore issues relating to sectarianism and racism in an uninterrupted space which also provides a gender context. It also provides recognition given to the gendered experiences and legacies of the conflict which have resulted in particular inequalities and experiences of loss for women. It provides the time, space and oxygen for the consultation and participation of women; something that has been deeply lacking in our peace building projects. But most importantly, it provides a safe space for women to come together to discuss sensitive and controversial issues without fear of reprisal or silencing or further marginalisation within communities. It is much needed work that I am proud to be undertaking.



Hate Crime and Hate Speech Survey

The institute for Conflict Research is one of a number of local and international organisations involved in a research project, eMORE, to monitor online Hate Crime and Hate Speech. The initial stage of this project is to gather a broad range of experiences from individuals who have experienced or observed Hate Crime and Hate Speech online, whether it has been on a website or on any social media.

To achieve this we would like your organisation to participate in the online survey, and to disseminate this throughout your own networks to people who have witnessed episodes of hate crime, hate speech or other forms of prejudice displayed through online forums. Please feel free to share this opportunity as widely as possible. Follow the link below

Monitoring and reporting hate speech in Europe

The eMORE project aims to contribute to developing, testing and transferring a knowledge model on online hate speech and offline hate crime, based on a circular and advanced joint monitoring-reporting system, to gain a sound understanding of the phenomena/trends over the Internet and offline, to allow comparative analysis at national/EU level, and to support the harmonised combating against hate-motivated offences at EU/national level. The Project will develop a knowledge platform available to target groups, which will allow to in-depth analyse hate phenomena online/offline. The platform will process data/information collected through a crawler to monitor the Internet and a APP to report crime. Both of them will be developed by the Project, too. The APP will be tested in 9 participating countries.

The knowledge base will include the most important categories of hate motivated offences (hate against gender, race, religion, sexual orientation and disability). Have you witnessed episodes of hate crime, hate speech or other forms of prejudice?

Do you think that expressions of hate are increasing in our communities? IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SURVEY

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/eMORE

If you have any queries or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Denise Hughes Institute for Conflict Research Unit 14, North City Business Centre 2, Duncairn Gardens, Belfast BT15 2GG Tel: 028 90 742682

Mob: 07960151304

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Patricia at poneill@nicrc.org.uk or Ellana at etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

Reflections on loss and living

We are pleased to launch our public arts programme for HMD 2017 on a new, dedicated website: HowCanLifeGoOn.hmd.org.uk

Our new site is the home of this year's arts programme: **Reflections on loss and living**, which explores living with absence after the Holocaust and genocide, and the roots of life. We are calling for people to take part in our nationwide arts programme and submit their own artistic responses to our Wall of Life.

The images, text and videos that you upload will continue to build the wall ahead of Holocaust Memorial Day 2017. In February, we will create a video showcasing some of the artworks you send in.

You could upload an artwork you create, or a photograph of something you see that reflects absence, cultural roots, the roots of a tree or life overcoming barriers. Just like the theme for this year, there are few known answers and we are looking for your personal responses.

Reflections on loss and living is open to everybody - whether you have a camera phone or an art studio, you can take part!

Click here to see the Wall of Life and to upload your artwork.

Gillian Clarke, the former National Poet for Wales, has written a poem entitled *Bird-song* especially for HMD 2017. We are encouraging everyone to read or listen to the poem which can be used as inspiration for your own artistic response.

You can take inspiration from a particular line or image from the poem, or from the themes as a whole.

Click here to read Birdsong.

Aged 14-24? Sign up for a Youth Champion workshop in Belfast

Each year Holocaust Memorial Day Trust holds free Youth Champion workshops in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland for anyone aged 14-24 who is interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD). Anyone is welcome, whether you have held an activity before or don't know where to start!

If you have any questions or would like to join the Youth Champion programme but are unable to attend a workshop, please email Jessica at youth@hmd.org.uk

Sign up to our Belfast Youth Champion workshop here.

We have already visited many cities across the UK, from Aberdeen to Norwich. It has been great to hear lots of exciting HMD activity ideas from attendees!

If you want to learn more about the theme **How can life go on?** or want the opportunity to share ideas with other people marking HMD 2017, our free sessions taking place across the UK are for you. There is still time to sign up for workshops in Derby, London, Bristol, Belfast and Liverpool over the coming weeks.

Book your place for support, advice and resources to help you hold an activity for Holocaust Memorial Day. Workshops are a great way to meet other local activity organisers, as well as your regional or national support worker and HMDT staff.

Book your free place at a workshop in your area.



Gillian Clarke

Chinese Welfare Association

Patricia O'Neill, Communications Manager, CRC



The Chinese Welfare Association had its 30th birthday this year and will celebrate this with a special 30th anniversary themed annual report that will be launched on the 28th November. This Report will contain an overview of its 30 year history.

The Chinese community is one of the largest and oldest minority ethnic community in Northern Ireland, the first generation arrived in the 1960s, most came from Hong Kong but others came from China, Malaysia and Singapore.

In 1983 members of the Chinese Community established the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (CCC) and after years of hard work they bought their own building in Eblana Street in Belfast. In 1986 the CCC set up the Chinese Welfare Association (CWA). In 2009 the Chinese Resource Centre of Northern Ireland opened, managed by the CWA and situated on the banks of the Lagan at Stranmillis Embankment.

Over the years CWA established many projects, a Chinese Elders Project, Bilingual Health advocacy, a youth club to name a few. CWA Advocacy Services, advice drop ins, community development, martial arts classes, workshops on anti-racism and diversity, cultural festivals and has been actively involved in policy work, lobbying and campaigning.

CWA also works with other BME groups and is keen for other groups to take advantage of their space, allowing space for people from other minority ethnic communities is vital in widening ideas of identity from the sometimes-narrow focus of identity in Northern Ireland.

With the loss of NICEM, the work of the Chinese Welfare Association will not only be important in preserving the heritage of the Chinese community but in working with and advocating for the wider BME communities.

Chinese Welfare Association 1 Stranmillis Embankment Belfast Northern Ireland BT7 1GB

Tel: 028 90 288277

Race Equality works for Northern Ireland

Maciek Bator CRAICNI

A short study by Ulster University into race equality legislation in Northern Ireland has indicated significant work needs to be carried out to give employers more confidence in dealing with the issue. The research carried out for the first time on a small amount of Northern Ireland employers found that they overwhelmingly needed more support to raise awareness of racial bias, communicate the value of diversity and maintain a focus of equality.

Funded by Business in the Community NI and CRAICNI, the research is also supported by the Department for the Economy's Northern Ireland Higher Education Innovative Fund. Of particular concern was the impact of English fluency on the ability of highly skilled migrant workers in low skilled positions, to maximise their contribution to the economy.

However, of the small number of employers assessed most were able to identify at least one action which they could implement immediately to improve race equality in their workplace. In addition, employers who implemented a zero tolerance approach to discrimination and harassment reported success in producing a strong team environment and respectful work culture, even where there is no significant training on racial or other biases.

Ulster University's Dr Lucy Michael said: "This research is an important first step in understanding how people, however they might be identified, can participate in the workplace as equals.

To read the full report <u>click here</u> or go to <u>http://www.community-relations.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Race-Equality-Works-for-Northern-Ireland-2016.pdf</u>



Celebration event marks conclusion of Youth Cohesion project

By <u>digitalblogger</u>



Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council recently held a reception in their civic headquarters for a number of local young people to mark the completion of "The Journey" project.

Participants aged 14-17 from across the Borough took part in a five-day programme designed to build leadership skills and provide opportunities to develop friendships with people from other geographical and cultural backgrounds.

The Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Alderman Maura Hickey, said: "The project required the young people to take a risk that would bring them into contact with people they didn't know; that would take them on an adventure to Rathlin Island, where they would have to survive the outdoors together and depend on one another as they undertook various challenges. The courage and trust that they have shown in this is an example to us. I think we often underestimate the vital and spirited role that young people can play in peacebuilding."

Joy Wisener, Good Relations Officer for Council added: "The Journey is one of our Good Relations projects which specifically targets young people as a key priority under the Executive's strategy 'Together: Building a United community'. Our aim is to build a community where our young people can play a full and active role in building good relations, and we trust that this is just the beginning of some important friendships that will continue. Our hope is that we would all be as willing as these young people to break down barriers, meet new people and extend the hand of friendship across traditional divides – in order to build a more cohesive community for the future of our Borough"

This project has received financial support from The Executive Office.

This article first appeared in *The Chronicle* on the 25th October 2016

Events

Belfast City Council Autumn—Winter Training Programme

Our Community Development Training Programme for autumn and winter will consist of 14 workshops which will be delivered in east, west, north and south Belfast.

The training is free and open to community groups and their representatives, committee members, staff and volunteers in Belfast.

The programme will begin in November 2016 and will run until March 2017. The programme will consist of a broad range of sessions which cover some of the key components and skills local community organisations need to operate in an effective manner in meeting the needs of their communities. The programme has been designed in partnership with some of the leading sector agencies and training providers to equip community groups, community workers, staff and volunteers across the city with key skills in a range of subject areas with the aim of supporting groups in carrying out their work in meeting the needs of their community.

There will be seven different subjects covered in the programme with 14 workshops in total (each workshop will be repeated).

Autumn - Winter Training Programme 2016/17

- 1. Outcomes BasedAccountability (CENI)
- 2. Governance and charities (NICVA)
- 3. Making grant applications
- 4. Committee skills training
- 5. Basic introduction to good governance
- 6. Social innovation (NICVA)
- 7. Basic health and safety

Delivery partners

- Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA)
- Community Evaluation Northern Ireland (CENI)

Who can apply?

The workshops are open to community groups and representatives in the Belfast area.

How do we apply?

Register your interest by www.belfastcity.gov.uk/communitytraining email community@belfastcity.gov.uk or tel 028 9032 0202 ext 3636.

The courses will run from week beginning 7 November 2016 to 13 March 2016 We'll provide training materials, resource packs, refreshments free of charge to programme participants.

Places are limited to 15 participants per workshop.

Events continued

'Yours Faithfully' workshop

Tuesday 15 November 2016, Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown, 9.00am – 1.00pm

A free half day workshop offering practical training and support in religious and cultural diversity.

The 'Yours Faithfully' workshop, organised by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and delivered by Diversiton, will provide a range of valuable insights and practical support for anyone wishing to develop greater awareness and understanding of religious and cultural diversity.

It will also help individuals and organisations to be clear about their values, behaviours and ways of working which are core to building strong and positive relationships across all faith traditions in Northern Ireland.

Key topics included in the workshop are:

- The impact of the Brexit vote on our community and working relationships
- Belief systems and faith patterns in Northern Ireland main concepts and challenges
- Getting to know all of our neighbours the different faith communities in NI
- Overview of the equality provisions contained in the Northern Ireland Act (1998)
- Working together legal requirements and practical considerations
- Recognising the needs of different faiths in the workplace and in our communities how are we doing?
- Looking after all our children understanding religious diversity in schools
- Creativity in religious and cultural diversity
- Building Good Relations with people of different faiths and beliefs our role promoting respect, inclusion and good relations.

The workshop will coincide with National Inter Faith Week, which takes place this year from 13-20 November.

To register for the 'Yours Faithfully' workshop please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh & Omagh District Council on T: 0300 303 1777 or E:goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com by Friday 11 November.

Refreshments and lunch included.

Events Continued

Women at the cutting edge: The impact of Austerity on the Women's Sector and the Way Forward

Reclaim the Agenda are hosting a major Women's Conference to explore the cuts to funding and the impact on service delivery to women and children in local communities. The conference will then plan how we as a sector challenge these decisions and the broader austerity agenda.

We want participants to come along to share their experiences of the cuts and to generate 3 key asks from the conference that RTA will present at an event following the conference to government departments, decision makers & funders. Childcare and travel will be paid for and we ask that those attending can stay for the whole event which will commence at 9.00am and finish at 4.00pm.

When? 15th November 2016 Where? Riddle Hall, Stranmillis, Belfast

Booking required. Click here for tickets

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/women-at-the-cutting-edge-the-impact-of-austerity-on-the-womens-sector-and-the-way-forward-tickets-28529410234

'Never doubt that a group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the World. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has' - Margaret Mead - Women's Rights Activist

Armagh Stories: Voices from the Gaol

'Armagh Stories: Voices from the Gaol' will be screened at 7pm, Nov 17th, at Hive Studios, Rath Mor Centre, Bligh's Lane, Creggan, Derry.

The film portrays the experiences of those who passed through the predominantly female prison during the Troubles and includes prison staff, prisoners, tutors, chaplain, doctor and solicitor. The film is edited from the Prisons Memory Archive (www.prisonsmemoryarchive.com) and is one of many bottom-up initiatives that engages with how our society might address the legacy of a violent past.



The film's post production was funded by the CRC.

The Music Bridge programme

The Music Bridge programme is now open for registration for the 2016-2017 training year. The programme is run by Musicians without Borders, an international non-profit organisation which uses music as a tool for peacebuilding and reconciliation in current and post conflict regions, in partnership with Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin, a pioneer in bringing a multi-ethnic approach to the exploration of arts and culture in the city of Derry/ Londonderry.

The training offers an introduction to the principles of Musicians without Borders, training youth leaders, social workers, teachers and community practitioners how to integrate musical skills into their work. The content of the training can easily be adapted to fit the needs of a wide range of groups, enabling trainees to create a workshop environment where participants can feel safe to express themselves and to make connections with new communities. While the course uses musical activities to illustrate workshop leadership skills, a musical background is not required to benefit from the course. Previous trainees have come from diverse backgrounds such as music therapy, art, psychology, community and social work.

The programme is comprised of four periods of four days each, over the course of six months. The trainees are required to complete three workshops in the community in between each training period in order to practice the skills introduced during each training. Examples of workshop placement sites include primary schools, community centres and

programmes for youth with disabilities.

All training sessions will be held at Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin on Great James Street, Derry/Londonderry. The training dates are as follows:

Week 1: Nov 13 - 16, 2016 (9.00 am – 5.00 pm)

Week 2: January 29 - Feb 1, 2017 (9.00 am – 5.00 pm)

Week 3: April 2 - 5, 2017 (9.00 am - 5.00 pm)

Week 4: May 21 - 24, 2017 (9.00 am – 5.00 pm)

More information about the Music Bridge programme can be found here: http://culturlann-doire.ie/an-tacadamh-ceoil/music-bridge



WAVE Trauma Courses – Information Session

Friday 18th November 10am – 12pm – Rural Community Network, 38a Oldtown Street, Cookstown

WAVE Trauma Centre is pleased to announce a new collaboration with the School of Education through open learning at Queen's University Belfast. A range of short trauma focused courses will be accredited at 10 CATS points at Level 1. The following courses will be offered between January and April 2017:

- Psychological Trauma
- Trauma & Addiction
- Traumatic Loss, Grief and the Helping Relationship
- Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Traumatic Stress: Cause and Prevention.

If you are interested in attending the information session, contact Denise on 028 9077 9922 or email d.mcnaughton@wavetrauma.org

Up and coming workshop 'EU Debate NI'

Tuesday 22nd November, 2pm – 3.30pm Rural Community Network, 38a Oldtown Street, Cookstown

The Centre for Democracy & Peace Building (CDPD) 'EU Debate NI' programme has launched a post-EU referendum toolkit for community groups and organisations.

The toolkit has three key parts:

- A simple to follow overview of where we are post-referendum and what might happen next;
- Four short videos by Jamie Smart, author of the best-selling book 'The Little Book of Clarity'. These videos provide tools which empower communities to deal with uncertainty and change;
- An introduction to the issues that NI will have to consider in the future negotiations such as peace funding, freedom of movement of people and other relevant issues.

We will capture this information at our workshops across NI, one of which is being held at RCN; to try to establish the best outcome for all the people of NI.

Please register your interest with Teresa McKernan – teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org or ring RCN 028 8676 6670

Our EU Debate NI programme is kindly supported by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Events continued

Droichead Living Language & Hidden Heritage - An Teanga Bheo agus Oidhreacht Fholaithe

21 - 25 November 2016

21 - 25 Samhain 2016

Professor Dan Bradley: Ancient DNA & Irish Genetic Heritage - Monday 21st November 7.00pm An Croí - Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin.

Aisling Ghéar presents Alice Milligan 'A Girl of Genius' - Tuesday 22nd November 7.30pm An Croí - Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin.

Dr Andrew Holmes: An Independent People? The Presbyterians of the North West 1798 -1914 - Wednesday 23rd November - 7.00pm An tSean Eaglais - Great James St.

Heritage and Language Evening - Thursday 24th November - St Columbs Park House.

Special Guest - 'Who do you think you are?' - Friday 25th November - Lunchtime Event.

Day Trip to the Gaeltacht - Saturday 26th November.

e: <u>lisa@culturlann-doire.ie</u> / <u>pauline@culturlann-doire.ie</u>

Hope – A Light in the Darkness

Reflections on Chanukah and Christmas

Saturday, 26 November 2016, 10am – 3.30pm at Corrymeela Ballycastle

Coming the day before the start of Advent, this day of guided reflection will focus on the theme of hope found in both the Jewish festival of Chanukah and Christian festival of Christmas. It is facilitated by Yvonne Naylor, a member of the Corrymeela Community and the N.I. Inter Faith Forum and by Alyssa Tender, a member of the US Jewish Community and a Long Term Volunteer at our Centre in Ballycastle.

Cost: £20 per person (including lunch). To book a place, please download a <u>Booking</u> Form.

If you require further assistance, please contact: Corrymeela Belfast Office, +44 (0) 28 9050 8080 or email belfast@corrymeela.org



Events continued

One History - Many Stories | Enniskillen Castle, Enniskillen

Fermanagh & the Great War, differing perspectives of the conflict 29 November 7 - 9.30 pm

Speakers include Quincey Dougan, Sean Collins and Seamus Farrell.

A wonderful exhibition called 'Postcards of the Great War' will be on display along with many WW1 artefacts.

This is a free event, everyone welcome, high levels of interest are expected. There will be a panel discussion along with poetry recitals, music & singing. Refreshments on arrival. Please register for this by emailing goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com or contact Pauline Clarke, 0300 303 1777

Refugee Awareness and Arabic Culture Information Session

A number of Syrian families have been resettled in Northern Ireland as part of the UK Governments participation in the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme.

If you are interested in hearing how the VPR scheme operates and understanding more about refugee and asylum issues in Northern Ireland, the Consortium supporting the resettlement of families in NI has organized an information session in partnership with Belfast City Council.

Date: 29th November 2016, 9.30-4pm Belfast City Centre venue will be provided following registration.

This awareness session will cover an introduction to asylum and refugee issues in the UK and NI in particular. It will provide a general awareness of Islamic and Arab culture and factual information about how the VPR Scheme works. It will allow participants the opportunity to hear directly from Refugees and Asylum Seekers living in Belfast.

To register please contact: goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk or by phone 9027 0663

If you have any dietary or access requirements please inform us when you register.

Cities as Living Museums for Peace

The International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP) invites you to participate in the 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace to be held April 10 - 13, 2017 in Belfast

The conference theme, "Cities as Living Museums for Peace," will highlight Belfast's social and political transformation – from a divided, troubled city to a one which models peace consciousness through post-conflict healing and reconciliation.

See http://www.museumsforpeace.org/inmp-belfast-2017-conference-home.html for details.

With your experience and expertise on this topic, the INMP Conference Committee also invites you to <u>submit a proposal</u> [http://www.museumsforpeace.org/inmp-belfast-2017-presentation-call.html to make a paper, panel, workshop or poster presentation at the Conference The closing date for this presentation proposals is November 30, 2016.

Click on the left column menu for other information on "Registration"; "Program Overview" and "Accommodations."

We look forward to your proposal and to your participation at the 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace.



Community Relations Council

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Promoting a peaceful and fair society based on reconciliation and mutual trust