

Tha Cnoc Soilleir Earranta toilichte innse gu bheil an obair togail air an dàrna ìre dhen phròiseact againn ann an Dalabrog, Uibhist a Deas a-nis air a chrìochnachadh leis an togalach air a ghabhail a-null bho chompanaidh MhicAonghais Earranta.

Thuirt cathraiche bòrd stiùiridh Chnoc Soilleir Earranta, Ailig O’Henley: “As leth bòrd stiùiridh Chnoc Soilleir, bu toil leam ar taing a thoirt dhan h-uile duine a tha air obrachadh no air cur ris an dara pàirt dhen togalach. Tha an obair chruaidh san dealas aig companaidh togail MhicAonghais Earranta gu sònraichte a’ ciallachadh gun deach againn air an talla ùr a chrìochnachadh ann an deagh àm, air buidseat ach cuideachd gu ìre fìor àrd. Tha sibh air sàr obair a dhèanamh.

“Tha Cnoc Soilleir a-nis a seasamh gu pròiseil os cionn Dhalabroig, agus mar a tha an t-ainm a toirt fa near, tha mi an dòchas gum bidh e na lòchran dhan h-uile duine aig a bheil meas air a’ Ghàidhlig, air a ceòl sa cultar - an dà chuid an seo an Uibhist a Deas agus nas fhaide air falbh - airson bliadhnaichean mòra ri thighinn. Mo bheannachd oirbh uile agus tapadh leibh.”

Tha an iomairt gus ionad sònraichte a thogail airson ceòl, dannsa agus cultar na Gàidhlig ann an Uibhist a Deas air a bhith a ruidh fad sia bliadhna fichead, agus tha an togalach ùr a tairgsinn talla cluiche le dà cheud àite suidhe, stiùideo dannsa, seòmraichean deasachaidh agus siostam lèir-chlaistinn a tha suas ris an uair. Tha an leasachadh a’ leudachadh air na goireasan a th’ ann an Cnoc Soilleir mar-thà agus air na cothroman a bhios na luib dha na com-pàirtichean againn, Ceòlas agus UHI a Tuath, an Iar is Innse Gall a thuilleadh air buidhnean is daoine eile a gheibh buannachd an cois a’ ghoireas leudaichte.

Thuirt Daibhidh MacAonghais bho chompanaidh togail Mhic Aonghais Earranta: “Tha sinn gu math moiteil an leasachadh seo a thoirt gu buil agus tha an togalach mar fhianais air dealas is obair chruaidh a h-uile duine a bha na luib. Tha a’ chlach-mhìle seo a’ comharrachadh deireadh slighe gu math fada, bho bhith a togail a’ Chiad Ìre an teas mheadhain COVID agus na duilgheadasan a bha na chois, gu bhith a’ sìneadh an togalach chrìochnaichte a-null gu Cnoc Soilleir air an 9mh latha dhen Òg-mhìos 2026. Bu chòir dhan sgioba gu lèir a bhith gu math moiteil às an obair a rinn iad.”

Tha an ath chaibideil ann an sgeulachd Chnoc Soilleir a-nis a’ tòiseachadh.

Tha Cnoc Soilleir airson ceud taing a thoirt dhan luchd-ùidhe agus an luchd-maoineachaidh againn, a thuilleadh air an sgioba nas fharsainghe sa choimhearsnachd a chuir earbsa anns an lèirsinn againn ’s tha a th’air a bhith cho cudromach ann a bhith a’ toirt a’ phròiseact gu buil. Gu seachd àraid tha sinn airson taing a thoirt do Riaghaltas na h-Alba, HIE, CnES agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig, na h-ailltìrean John Renshaw agus buill coimhearsnachd Uibhist a Deas.

[admin@cnocsoilleir.org](mailto:admin@cnocsoilleir.org)

[www.cnocsoilleir.org](http://www.cnocsoilleir.org)

Cnoc Soilleir Limited is pleased to announce the handover of Phase 2 of its capital project in Daliburgh, South Uist, by main contractor MacInnes Bros Ltd.

Chair of the Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board, Alex O’Henley, said: “On behalf of the Cnoc Soilleir Board, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to every individual who has contributed to Phase 2 of this building project. The hard work and dedication of MacInnes Bros Ltd in particular has ensured that this auditorium has been completed on time, on budget and to an exceptionally high standard. It is a magnificent achievement. Cnoc Soilleir now stands proudly above Daliburgh and, as its name suggests, I hope it will serve as a beacon of light and opportunity for all who cherish the Gaelic language, music and culture—here in South Uist and far beyond—for many years to come. Tapadh leibh uile.”

Bringing to life a 26-year-long vision for a dedicated centre for music, dance and Gaelic culture in South Uist, the new extension includes a bespoke 200-seat performance space, a specialist dance studio, green rooms and rehearsal spaces, all supported by a state-of-the-art audiovisual system. The development significantly expands the potential of Cnoc Soilleir’s existing facilities for its joint venture partners, Ceòlas and UHI North, West and Hebrides, as well as all the others who will benefit from this exemplary space.

David MacInnes of MacInnes Bros Ltd said: “We are extremely proud of the completed development, which stands as a testament to the dedication and hard work of everyone involved. This milestone marks the end of a long journey—from delivering Phase 1 during the constraints of the COVID pandemic to the final handover of the completed building on 9 June 2026. The entire team should take great pride in what has been achieved.”

The next chapter for Cnoc Soilleir begins here.

Cnoc Soilleir also extends its thanks to its stakeholders and funders, and all our other supporters and wider team, who bought into our vision and whose support has been instrumental in bringing the project to completion. Most notably: Scottish Government; Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, and Bòrd na Gàidhlig; John Renshaw Architects; and members of our South Uist Community.

[admin@cnocsoilleir.org](mailto:admin@cnocsoilleir.org)

[www.cnocsoilleir.org](http://www.cnocsoilleir.org)



Photo: Alex O’Henley Chair of Cnoc Soilleir Ltd and David MacInnes of Macinnes Bros Ltd at Practical Completion in new auditorium.



Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board and joint venture executive team site visit on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

From Left to right: Isabell MacInnes Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board and Chair of Ceòlas Uibhist; Joe MacPhee – UHI North, West and Hebrides; Catherine Yeatman Cnoc Soilleir Ltd; Alex O’Henley Chair of Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board and Ceòlas Uibhist board; Michael Foxley Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board, and UHI North, West and Hebrides Board; Rupert Marshall Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board, and UHI North, West and Hebrides Board; Archina MacLellan - UHI North, West and Hebrides; Archie MacLellan - Ceòlas Uibhist board; Peggy Ann Macmillan - Ceòlas Uibhist; Neil MacPherson – Cnoc Soilleir Ltd Board; Lauren Anne MacLean Ceòlas Uibhist; Lydia Rohmer Principal & CEO UHI North, West and Hebrides.

Supporting notes for editor to accompany press release 15 June 2026

### **Notes to editor**

#### **Info about Cnoc Soilleir Ltd:**

Cnoc Soilleir was conceived as an iconic and unique place with local, national, and international significance to and grow the programmes and activities and to provide a bespoke centre for education and learning, Gaelic language and culture, music, dance and performance in Daliburgh, South Uist.

Cnoc Soilleir Ltd is a Joint Venture organisation formed between our partners: Ceòlas Uibhist Ltd and UHI North, West and Hebrides An innovative partnership between a community organisation and a university, to work together to bring their complimentary skills and expertise to make the whole bigger than the sum of the parts.

The First Phase of the building was opened by John Swinney in September 2022, and the completion of this second phase of the capital project is key to bringing the original overall vision to fruition.

#### **Info about Ceòlas:**

Ceòlas Uibhist Ltd (Ceòlas) was established in 1996 and is now one of Scotland's most inspirational and important Gaelic national organisations, deeply rooted within the community of South Uist. Ceòlas promotes the Gaelic language, traditional music and dance, and the local culture and heritage of Uist, and through its community led activity makes a significant contribution to the economy and community of the island, recognised as one of Scotland's Gaelic speaking strongholds.

Ceòlas provides a unique opportunity to experience a living tradition within a vibrant Gaelic landscape, and it is committed to promoting a vibrant Gaelic culture for future generations, supporting the island's social and cultural resurgence, and with the Cnoc Soilleir facility at the heart of its future plans for growth and expansion.

#### **Information about UHI North, West and Hebrides:**

UHI North, West and Hebrides was established on 1 August 2023 through the merger of UHI North Highland, UHI West Highland, and UHI Outer Hebrides. UHI North, West and Hebrides is proudly rooted in the culture, location, and landscapes of the North and West Highlands, Skye, and Outer Hebrides, connecting rural and island communities by delivering relevant and distinctive learning and research shaped by their needs and ambitions.

The college seeks to support and provide the necessary skills base for the Outer Hebrides local economy, both current and future, and to provide a range of flexible learning opportunities at all levels and for all ages to encourage people to live, work and study on the islands.

#### **Info about MacInnes Bros Ltd (MIB):**

Headquartered in Benbecula in the Western Isles, MacInnes Bros Ltd (MIB) has helped shape the Construction and Civil Engineering landscape of the Highland and Islands since the firm was established as a limited company in 1994. The development of the company workforce and the steady expansion of the business has allowed MIB to evolve from its construction-based origins into also undertaking large scale Civil Engineering projects. We believe that our adaptability and commitment to producing high quality projects showcases the talent that the

local island tradesmen and plant operators possess. Our longevity also demonstrates an inert resilience to completing projects of the highest standards, on time and within budget, against the logistically and environmentally challenging conditions of the North West of Scotland.

**Info about John Renshaw Architects:**

*John Renshaw Architects are delighted that Cnoc Soilleir, centre for music, dance and Gaelic culture in South Uist has finally been completed and extend our thanks to everyone involved for their perseverance, dedication and commitment to the design, construction and funding of the building. The project team are all proud and delighted with the building and we hope that Cnoc Soilleir will inspire creativity, excellence, happiness and strengthen the sense of place and community within the Uists.*

John Renshaw Architects is an architectural practice, passionate about designing beautiful places in a sustainable, environment conscious way. We are committed to achieving a more socially and culturally enriched and environmentally and economically sustainable future, for our clients and wider society and in protecting the biodiversity and natural resources of our planet.

Established in 1992 the practice has developed an exceptional range and depth of experience in the conservation, interpretation and presentation of historic buildings, landscapes and artefacts and developing sustainable buildings in sensitive locations.