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UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

We take a little piece of Ireland with us

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

I do a lot of traveling. It's part of the job and means that I get to see sites and meet people throughout the US and Canada. The work is made easy by the activists I meet along the road.

They come in all ages, colors, and sizes. Some have direct links to Ireland, others may be generations away, and some are just like us. All want what is best for our nation. It is that shared sense of "Irishness" that shortens the miles.

One thing I have never got used to is the jet lag. I have stopped fighting it and just accept that I will be tired until it passes. It also means that I get early starts thanks to calls from party colleagues in Ireland. One once woke me at 4:00 am. I explained where I was and he apologised but added, "Seeing as you are awake could I ask you something!"

The best advice I received was to try and spend as much time outdoors as possible to let your body naturally adjust. After a five-hour flight from Toronto, and an eight-hour time difference with Ireland, I landed in Vancouver. It is a beautiful city, surrounded by water and mountains.

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hurling ball to each other.

Here I was on the other side of the world and suddenly felt at home. I later found out that I had walked to Kitsalano or County Kits as it's known by the Irish.

That's the thing, when we go abroad a bit of Ireland comes with us. This was brought home when I met with a group of activists. There were questions about political developments and the opportunities for Irish Unity and Gaza. Some had newly arrived and others had led down roots and raised their families. There were also Canadians of Irish descent and some who had been lifetime supporters of Irish Unity and campaigners against injustice. All wanted the best for Ireland and how they could play their part in building a new and united Ireland.

These conversations are happening all across North America. This week we have had Sinn Féin speakers at Easter Commemorations across the US and Canada. All of the events were extremely well organized and attended.

I would like to thank Friends of Sinn Féin in the USA and Canada whose work and fundraising make these trips possible.

To all of those supporters who took the time to remember the Irish patriot dead and discuss Irish unity, I thank you. I know that you will continue the journey with us.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Easter 2024 in North America - News & Photos

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For 56 years the Toronto Irish community has commemorated the 1916 Easter Rising. This year's event, held at local 183's LiUNA Hall, featured a large crowd who heard a message of hope from Sinn Féin Representative to North America Ciarán Quinn.

Highlighting the election of Sinn Féin First Minister Michelle O'Neill to the recently restored Stormont Assembly, Ciarán sent a message of hope for the future of a changing Ireland and the crucial role that the Irish community in Canada and the US can play in securing Irish unity referendums.

The commemoration also featured outstanding music from Antonio Rea, and members of Irish4Palestine group who came to remember Ireland's patriot dead.

Rhode Island

On April 1st, Easter Monday, a large group of Rhode Islanders gathered at Patrick's Pub meeting room to commemorate the patriots of 1916. In a show of solidarity, many Irish organizations and the public soaked in the history of 1916 Easter Week. A reading of The 1916 Proclamation began the evening, followed by the story of Moira Regan, a young female rebel who fought in the Rising, drawing on a contemporaneous account of her experiences as described by her in an



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Mavis McGetrick and Marybeth Lynch did an outstanding job capturing the crowd's attention telling the story of Moira Regan. Finbar Doyle performed many songs through out the evening and a beautiful rendition of "Grace," and brought the crowd to its feet with "A Nation Once Again" at the end of the commemoration. - Mike Cannon



San Francisco

150 people marched behind the Pearse and Connolly Band to the grave of Fenian organizers and participant in the Catalpa expedition to free prisoners from Fremantle jail in Australia, "Thomas Desmond." The main oration was given by Linda Dillon MLA. Ciaran Scally conducted the event and Phohblact Na Eireann was read by Ronan Mulholland, Galtee Mountain Boy sung by Ben Hunter, September 1913 was recited by Seamus Canning. There was a large number of young people from the San Francisco Youth GAA in attendance, along with many of the other local Irish organizations.

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Dozens gathered at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Nashville, TN for a presentation on the Easter Rising by historian Conor Doolan and a reading of the proclamation organized by the Nashville Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, led by Chapter President Jim Horton. Local musician Caleb Harper performed Grace, the Irish National Anthem, and other songs, and local poet and gaeilgeoir Bill Clifford recited poetry by Irish poets. The gathered audience had many thoughtful questions and were eager to learn more and grow the local community of support.



What can I do for a United Ireland from America?

At last month's Irish Unity Summit, attendees were asked to submit questions to a panel of speakers that included Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald, Professor Brendan O'Leary, and Ireland's Future founder, Niall Murphy. While questions

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had to say! [WATCH PANEL HERE](#)



Easter Commemoration in Philadelphia - Sunday, April 7 2024

Sinn Féin TD Rose Conway Walsh will be in Philadelphia on Sunday, April 7 for an Easter Commemoration honoring Joseph McGarrity, Danny Cahalane, Luke Dillon, and all deceased who dedicated their lives to Ireland.

Assembly at 12:30 at Holy Cross Cemetery, Baily RD, Yeadon, PA.

For more information call Frances Duffy at (610) 446-1831 or Joe McBlaine at (610) 247-4330.

TAR ANALL AMERICA PRESENTS:
THE 108TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EASTER RISING AND
EASTER COMMEMORATION

JOSEPH MCGARRITY, DANNY CAHALANE & LUKE DILLON
AND ALL DECEASED WHO HAVE DEDICATED THEIR LIVES TO IRELAND

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For world leaders to have any credibility in calls for a ceasefire, they must call Israel's actions out for what they are – Mary Lou McDonald TD

Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald has today reiterated her call for the Irish government and world leaders to use every measure at their disposal to sanction Israel for its barbaric war crimes.

Her call comes following confirmation that seven aid workers were killed by an Israeli air strike.

She criticised European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's response to the killings, and added that for world leaders to have any credibility in calls for a ceasefire, they must call Israel's actions out for what they are.

Teachta McDonald said, "My thoughts are with the friends and families of the seven aid workers who woke up today to the earth-shattering news that their loved ones had been killed in Gaza by an Israeli air strike.

"This is the latest example of the barbaric nature of the Israeli war machine. More than 30,000 Palestinian men, women and children have had their lives taken by Israeli forces in the most brutal way in the past five months.

"Israel has been allowed to kill indiscriminately, committing genocide, as the world watches on.

"Today's pathetic response by Ursula von der Leyen is symptomatic of world leaders looking the other way, and allowing Israel to kill with impunity.

"Her description of aid workers 'who lost their lives' is an insult to those aid workers, and to the tens of thousands of Palestinians who have been killed by Israeli forces.

"None of these people 'lost their lives' – they were murdered.

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“For Ireland’s part, the government can and must do so much more to hold Israel accountable for its crimes.

“They can begin by making a meaningful declaration in the ICJ Genocide case against Israel without further delay, expelling the Israeli ambassador, enacting the Illegal Israeli settlements divestment bill, enacting the Occupied Territories Bill, increasing pressure to suspend the EU-Israel association agreement, and by recognising the state of Palestine.

“For there to be a lasting ceasefire and a chance of building a lasting peace, every diplomatic, economic and political measure at our disposal be utilised without delay to sanction Israel and Benjamin Netanyahu.”



Government must let the people have their say in a general election – Matt Carthy TD

Sinn Féin spokesperson on Foreign Affairs, Matt Carthy TD, has said government must call an election now and ensure the people can have their say.

Teachta Carthy said, “Government must call an election now. It’s time for change. The people must have the opportunity to have their say.

“If Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael and the Greens are confident that the people want Simon Harris as their third Fianna Fáil/ Fine Gael Taoiseach in four years, they should put it to the people in a general election.

“It’s time for change, not more of the same with Simon Harris. He has sat at the cabinet table for 8 years as home ownership collapsed, as rents sky rocketed and as our health system crumbled.

“He is part of a government that is out of touch, out of ideas and out of time.

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worse things are getting.

“This government is trying to limp on, despite the head of government resigning, and they are proposing to anoint Simon Harris as Taoiseach. It is just more of the same at a time when people are demanding change.

“It’s time for new people with new ideas. It’s time for a general election.”

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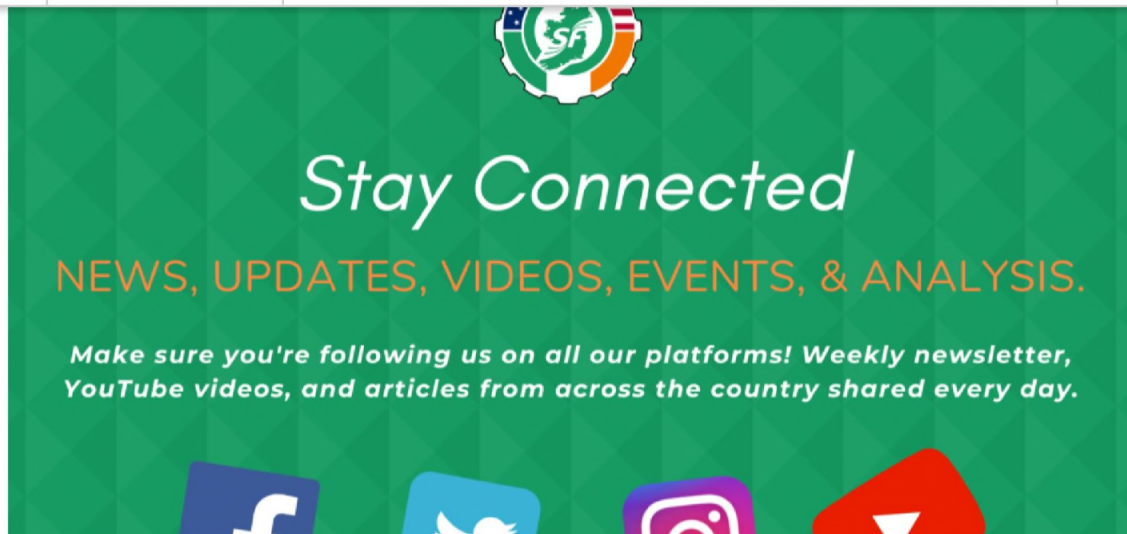
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