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Podcast

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RSS Feed



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Elections

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## Belfast Irish language Sinn Féin Cumann a 'milestone'

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Speaking following the launch of the West Belfast Irish language Sinn Féin cumann Senator Pearse Doherty has welcomed the move and described it as a milestone for the party.

Senator Doherty said,

"Last night almost 200 people packed the Cultúrlann to see the launch of yet another Sinn Féin branch in Belfast.

"The difference is that this cumann shall debate, lobby and campaign while using Irish as their first language.

"I was proud to launch this wonderful venture along with party president Gerry Adams and view it as Sinn Féin's policy to continue to make Irish the daily working language of the party.

"This is a milestone for our party.

"The Belfast cumann was launched in honour of Volunteer Caoimhín Mac Brádaigh who was killed in Milltown Cemetery while heroically attempting to save the lives of others, twenty years ago this week.

"It is apt to name the cumann after Caoimhín Mac Brádaigh as he was a Gaeilgeoir and an inspirational figure who has an immense love for the language.

"Like hundreds of other Sinn Féin cumann throughout the country, the Caoimhín Mac Brádaigh cumann will campaign on local and national issues.

"I would like to commend the chair of the new cumann Éamann Mac Mánaís and also Rosha Mc Givern who both spoke passionately about the plans for the group.

"I believe young people today should become active in the

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language. The launch of these new cumainn is an example of this." Críoch

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