

A Call From Canada to Support Friends in Ireland

The reunification of Ireland is an aspiration held dearly by people across Canada, whether Irish-born or of Irish heritage. The Good Friday Agreement placed the future constitutional position in the hands of the people, expressed in Unity Referendums North and South. The Agreement and its provisions were passed by an overwhelming majority of the people across all Ireland.

The Constitution of Ireland was amended following the Agreement to state that it is the “firm will of the Irish Nation” to peacefully unite all people sharing the island of Ireland. Support for Irish unity continues to grow across Ireland. Almost thirty years after the signing of the Agreement, Sinn Féin, the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the Social Democrats, Labour and Fine Gael, civic and labour organisations have recently called on the government to start planning now for reunification.

There is a role for Irish Canada at this historic moment. Canada played an important role in facilitating the landmark GFA peace deal that ended decades of conflict and transformed Ireland. Since 2020, thousands of people from across Canada signed a petition supporting a call by prominent members of our Irish community that the Irish and British governments hold Irish unity referenda in accordance with the GFA within five years.



**IT IS TIME to let the people of Ireland,
NORTH and SOUTH, have their say.**



We the undersigned people of Irish birth or heritage living in Canada, believe it is time to repeat that call and raise our voices in support of those in Ireland calling on the Irish government to plan now for Irish reunification; and for the British and Irish governments to set a date for unity referendums in accordance with the GFA.

We further call on our legislators here in Canada (municipal, provincial, or national, the trade union movement, civil society, members of the Irish community in general, and all true friends of Ireland to voice their support for those in Ireland calling on the Irish government to plan for reunification, and for the British and Irish governments to set a date for unity referendums.

SIGNATORIES

October 2026

All signatories are endorsing our Call in their personal capacities, without any organizational endorsement which is included for ID purposes only

Adam Kiernan: Toronto, ON; LiUNA local 183 Union Representative

Alan McConnell: Toronto, ON; Lawyer, President Friends of Sinn Fein (Canada) Inc.

Anne Carey: Toronto, ON; Member Toronto St. Patrick's Parade Society

Arthur Sandborn: Montréal, QC; Former Pres., 'Conseil Central de Montréal Métropolitain' (CSN); International Observer Portadown & Belfast 1998

Brian MacIsaac: Shuswap, BC; Artist; Co-owner and brewer at Crannóg Ales microbrewery

Barry J. McLaughlin: Ottawa, ON; President TLC Transformational Leadership Consultants Inc.

Brendan Flynn: Vancouver, BC; President, The Ireland Canada Monument

Brian Farmer: Pickering, ON; Former President of the Gaelic Athletic Association Canada

Carolyn Egan: Toronto, ON; President of the United Steelworkers Toronto Area Council

Charlie Angus: Cobalt, Ontario; Former Member of Parliament; singer with Grievous Angels

Chris Deehy: Montreal, QC; Lawyer; Board Member, St. Patrick's Society of Montreal; International Observer Portadown & Belfast 1999

Cindy Stone: Grafton, ON; Registered Psychotherapist; International Observer Portadown & Belfast 1998-1999

Chris Gosse: St. Johns, NFLD; President, Longshoreman's Protective Union (International Longshoreman's Association Local 1953)

Clifford Barry Quinn: Hamilton, ON; Hamilton Irish Person of the Year 2026; Former Justice of the Peace, Ontario Court of Justice; Former Chair, Halton Regional Police Service Board; Former President, Ontario Police Services Boards; Former Councillor Burlington City Council; Former Councillor Halton Regional Council; Member Irish Canadian Club of Hamilton; Member Hamilton Irish Arts (Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann)

Craig Sauvé: Montreal QC; Leader of Transition Montreal, municipal political party

David McCluskey: Toronto, ON; LiUNA local 183 Executive Board member

Darragh Kilkenny-Mondoux: Montréal, QC; Actor, writer, teacher, musician, arts worker; Communications Chair of the Quebec Drama Federation

Prof. Dónal Gill: Montreal, QC; Professor at Dawson College; political commentator; author of "Law, Society & Justice"

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Esmé Cavanagh: Montreal, QC; Singer, Musician with Gráinne

Gabriel McCaffrey: Ottawa, ON; Past President Ireland Canada Chamber of Commerce Ottawa

Gavin McGarrigle: Vancouver BC; Elected Western Regional Director of UNIFOR trade union

Geraldine Browne: Toronto, ON; 2024 Toronto Irish Person of the Year; Theatre Producer

Gerry O'Connor: Toronto, ON; 2020 Toronto Irish Person of the Year; Recipient of the Governor General of Canada Sovereign Medal Volunteers; Founder of Blackrock Corporate Services; Past Director Toronto Region Board of Trade

Hugh Foley: Peterborough, ON; Author of “Tales of a Seanchaí”; host of Foley’s Irish Pub annual gathering

Jackie Gilna: Ottawa, ON; Irish business and diaspora leader

Jaimie McEvoy: New Westminster, BC; New Westminster City Councillor

James McKee: Toronto, ON; Associate Professor, York University

Jan Matthews: Alnwick, ON; Secretary/Treasurer, Alnwick-Haldimand Rate Payers Association

Joe Lonergan: Quebec City, QC; Past President Irish Heritage Quebec; author of “Shamrocks in the Maples”, “A Natural Affair: Poems and Stories”, and “Green Rambles: Prose and Poems”

Jim Corcoran: Grafton, ON; Owner and General Manager, Ste. Anne’s Spa

John O’Flynn: West Vancouver, BC; 2026 West Vancouver School Trustee and Council Candidate; author of “The History of the Gaelic Athletic Association in Canada”

Staff Sgt. Kelly Mason: Grafton, ON; Mason Strategic Security, Resolutions Officer, Security Specialist, Dignitary protection; retired OPP; author “The Difficult People Playbook.”

Kerry Knoll: Toronto, ON; Chairman and Founder of Generation Mining; founder of the charity Agua Por Vida; journalist, editor and author

Kevin Callahan: Montreal, QC; Board member Saint Patrick’s Society of Montreal; Former Senior Program Coordinator School of Continuing Studies, McGill University

Kirsty McLeod: Toronto, ON; Business analyst; Member of Na Piarsaigh camogie team of Toronto Gaelic Athletic Association

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Lily MacLean: Montreal, QC; Lead singer of Gráinne

Marc Dillon Riddell: Nanaimo, BC; Communications professional; former award winning journalist and co-creator of CBC's Power & Politics

Mark Billings: Montreal, QC; CEO Central America Nickel Inc.; member Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce (Montreal)

Mark O'Neill: Montreal, Quebec; Lawyer, consultant; Board member of the Saint Patrick's Society of Montreal

Mary Catherine O'Neill: Alnwick, ON; Councillor, Township of Alnwick-Haldimand

Marion Mulvenna: Montréal, QC; Producer, 'The Irish in Canada' Podcast; Former Manager of Promotion and Community Outreach, School of Irish Studies, Concordia University

Mike Hurley: Burnaby, BC; Mayor of Burnaby

Pat Chessell: Vancouver, BC; Irish Folk Singer/Entertainer

Pat Kelly: Ottawa, ON; Inaugural recipient of The Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad in 2012; Founder member Ottawa Gaels Gaelic Athletic Association

Patrick Short: Montreal, QC; Past Logistics Consultant and Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing.

Dr. Peggy Shaughnessy: Peterborough, ON,; Founder and Director of RedPath Wellness Centre; Inductee in the Peterborough Pathway of Fame

Rosemary Nolan: Montréal, QC: Activist; Former teacher (adult education); Founding member Heritage Women's Centre, Montreal

Samara O'Gorman: Montreal, QC; Poet, actress, singer, public speaker; Author of #1 bestselling poetry collection "What if the Sun Died"

Seán Adams: Peterborough, ON; Irish language teacher

Pat Sheridan: Ajax, ON; 2016 Grand Marshall Toronto St. Patrick's Day Parade; Former Executive Board Member, LIUNA Local 183, Labourers Union

Dr. Shannonbrooke Murphy: Fredericton, NB; Endowed Chair in Human Rights Associate Professor; Human Rights Department Director, Atlantic Human Rights Centre, St Thomas University

Shaun Ruddy: Toronto, ON; Chairperson, St. Patrick's Parade Society, Toronto

Shawn McLaughlin: Ottawa, ON; LIUNA (Labourers) Secretary/Treasurer Local 527/527a Ottawa-Gatineau National Capital Region

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Sid Ryan: Toronto, ON; 2016 Grand Marshall Toronto St. Patrick's Day Parade;
Former President Ontario Federation of Labour; President CUPE Ontario

Siobhán McElduff: Vancouver, BC; Associate Professor of Latin Languages and Literature, University of British Columbia

Tim Burke: Peterborough, ON; Chairperson, Peterborough St. Patrick's Day Parade

Toby Mustill: Vancouver, BC; Board member Local 1301, British Columbia Government Employees Union

Tony O'Loughlin: Kingston, ON: Founder and President of Kingston Irish Folk Club;
Founder and President of Kingston Irish Famine Commemoration Association

Victor Boyle: Montreal, QC; Pres. Ancient Order of Hibernians (Canada)