



PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

THE SCOTTISH BANNER – 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Since its birth as a bulletin board outside a Toronto pub half a century ago, *The Scottish Banner* has been part of the extraordinary story of the Scots in Australia.

It's a story that runs like a tartan thread through the history of our modern nation, one that even includes two Scottish-born Prime Ministers along the way.

Today, more than two million Australians have Scottish roots. For generations, *The Scottish Banner* has played an important role in nourishing those roots.

From your support of Scottish music and other branches of the arts, to running Scottish Gaelic classes and helping Scottish Australians maintain a sense of connection with the land that's hold their sense of beginning, you have done so much to celebrate and foster the birthright of a rich heritage.

Congratulations to everyone at *The Scottish Banner* on 50 wonderful years. May you continue to delight your readers for the next five decades, and beyond.

Gaun yersel, *Scottish Banner*! Meal do Naidheachd.

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister of Australia

July 2026



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

I would like to convey my warmest greetings to everyone celebrating the 50th anniversary of the *Scottish Banner* Newspaper.

Since it was first published 50 years ago, the *Scottish Banner* Newspaper has been a trusted source of information for the Canadian Scottish community. This anniversary offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the newspaper's many achievements and to set goals for the future.

I would like to thank everyone involved with the *Scottish Banner* Newspaper over the past five decades for their hard work and dedication. You can take pride in your contributions to Canada's cultural heritage.

I wish you a memorable anniversary celebration and continued success.

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., O.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Ottawa
2026



DEPARTMENT OF THE
PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA

I extend my warmest congratulations to *the Scottish Banner* for 50 years of celebrating Scottish culture and heritage.

Since its founding in 1976, *the Scottish Banner* has grown into a trusted source of Scottish news and stories for readers abroad and in here in New Zealand. Many New Zealanders are proud of their Scottish heritage, and Scottish kiwis have made a rich contribution to our country through vibrant music, dance, literature and festivals.

The *Scottish Banner* plays an important role in keeping Kiwis connected to their Scottish roots. As you mark this milestone, I send my best wishes to all those who have supported the publication over the past 50 years.

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister of New Zealand



As Convener, I'm writing on behalf of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs representing over 130 Clans and Families, each embodying the historical significance of Scotland's unique cultural heritage, and each representing a timeline stretching back over many centuries even to the very beginnings of our recorded history.

I just wanted to congratulate you and your team for keeping *the Scottish Banner* flying for 50 years and for providing your readers with such a reliable and credible source of edification- and entertainment- each month.

There is no doubt that your publication has made a huge contribution to connecting and sustaining the myriad kinship networks around the world that together have created a truly Scottish "diaspora".

This is a great achievement and one which we, as Chiefs, recognise and respect. We wish you every success and fulfilment for the next 50 years.

Slainte!
Charles Bruce
Lord Bruce DL
Convenor, Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Rt Hon John Swinney MSP
An Fhìor Urr John Swinney BPA
First Minister of Scotland
Am Prìomh Mhinistear

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
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The Scottish Banner

12 June 2026

Dear Friends

I am honoured to congratulate you on this 50th anniversary edition of *The Scottish Banner*. It is a remarkable achievement that, for half a century, your publication has helped Scots across Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the USA stay connected with the country they love.

Scotland's diaspora is an extension of Scotland itself – our living bridge with people, organisations and communities around the world. My government strongly believes in the power of that connection, and the contribution made to the common good when Scots around the world come together.

Whether you trace your affinity to Scotland through family heritage, our shared culture, or perhaps having chosen Scotland to visit, study, or make your home, we are pleased to count you as one of our own, no matter where you are from.

Thank you all for your continued efforts, and thank you to your readers for making this celebration possible. I wish you all the best for the next fifty years to come, and I hope you will visit Scotland soon.

JOHN SWINNEY MSP



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Tha Ministearan na h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus an Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot