



## THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL Seanascal Shaorstát Éireann

Beannacht, Éire.

Ireland has always been a special community. From our very first incarnation—all the way back in 2013—we led the world as it's first superpower under Mymad. We set a standard for the European community and continued as an active and flourishing democratic state for nearly two full years, a very healthy length for a ro-nation in that era.

I had the privilege to serve as Taoiseach under that Ireland and by all accounts am I incredibly grateful to have been in touch with that part of our history. Though, frankly, I saw then what we've seen day-in and day-out in the years since: petty, tribal sectarians slowly amounted more and more power, looking to pick fights with our neighbours on this island instead of ensuring growth and prosperity at home. Far too many Taoisigh were focused on the counties of Down, Antrim and Fermanagh and not Dublin, Galway and Cork. However, those days are long gone now.

I am beyond grateful to have the opportunity to serve my country as Seanascal, or for those of you of a different tongue, Governor-General. It has been absolutely excellent to serve as Senator for Kerry, Cathaoirleach, Chairman of the Electoral Commission and Lieutenant to His Royal Highness. It was also, previously, by all means an absolute privilege to serve as Taoiseach and President in past incarnations of our community.

While I am determined to look forward to our country's next steps, I wish to reflect on our past for a moment longer. Out of a war-torn, disorderly and toxic Irish community, the Free State answered Ireland's Call and built the most active Irish community in nearly half a decade. If I may elaborate for a moment on the impetus for this: Dan's work and devotion may go unnoticed to some—his activity was strained toward the end—but I saw

first hand the effort he put into our success. Without him, we would be nowhere near the free and active Ireland we have today.

Our growth over the last four months has exceeded expectations. Where groups of our kind typically fall, under less pressure of sectarianism than we are, we grew and we grew fast. We built a community where all Irish people, loyalist and republican, have a home and community. We provided a home for varying and scattered communities, left adrift by factionalism. Éire today has stood the critical test for a community in its early months, a period few groups survive and even fewer thrive in.

Every step we take going forward launches us exponentially further than the last; it has been quite disorienting to see such activity grow and explode, so much so that we're in a very unique position: we have a lot of activity and too many jobs to go around.

Often nations find themselves in this position while they're small and there's no interest in those positions—but many people are interested in all the perspectives and positions Ireland has to offer. That bodes well for our growth going forward.

I wish to conclude and make one last plea to our nation: let us not scatter this growth by reliving our past failures. Let us work and strive for Dublin, Galway and Cork, for this to continue we must ensure activity at home instead of stirring the pot abroad. We must keep the tender balance between loyalist and republican working—we must keep Ireland as a home for everyone.

Tús maith leath na hoibre. A good start is half the work. I can say, proudly, we've got that good start solidly sorted.

Rath Dé ort,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Connor J. Novak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Connor" and last name "Novak" clearly legible.

His Excellency Sir Connor\_Novak CIOM GCI KCMG KBE  
An Seanascal Shaorstát Éireann