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**From:** Roddy Macleod [rmacleod@thepipingcentre.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 01 October 2004 17:10  
**To:** info  
**Subject:** Consultation Process[Scanned]

To the Cultural Commission.

Please forgive me for submitting this late response to phase 1 of the consultation process and I am aware that there will be future opportunities to comment but I think it is important to register some additional comments on behalf of The National Piping Centre albeit that I have fed thoughts into the response from the Traditional Music Group forum.

Since opening in 1996 the National Piping Centre has striven to develop teaching programmes for pipers throughout every level of education and through other means has promoted and encouraged the enjoyment and study of the music and history of the Highland Bagpipe and its music. Some of our achievements include :

The establishment of a BA ( Scottish Music - Piping ) delivered collaboratively with the RSAMD  
The National Schools Piping Project - a 3 year project reaching 694 students countrywide  
The establishment of the National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland  
Provision of a home for the National Museum of Scotland's piping collection in the Museum of Piping  
A ground breaking Tutor book with CD ROM now on a third print run - 7500 copies sold worldwide  
Development of the Institute of Piping examination system - delivered worldwide.  
A new Glasgow International Piping Festival - year 1 held in August 2004  
Summer schools programme including a USA summer school in Virginia  
Recital series recordings  
Delivery of instruction to over 350 students per week  
Students from over 46 countries  
A schools outreach programme to 80 primary schoolchildren located in the Glasgow area in high ethnic minority schools.

These are just some of our achievements which demonstrate quite clearly the demand and growing interest in piping on a local, national and international level.

The Centre has clearly had a huge impact on the musical education of pipers throughout the country and the world. The Centre is seen as not only a National Centre of Excellence fro Scotland but a World Centre of Excellence, something to be proud of and worthy of strong support.

The Centre delivers **education** at all levels. It fills a gap in the **Educational Infrastructure** at the higher levels. It provides a **cultural facility** for tourists and students through its public music programme, museum, festival and other activities. The Centre **markets** Scotland, piping and traditional music through engaging and interacting with students, tourists, festival organisers at home and abroad, through outreach, demonstrations, summer schools and the provision of a unique educational service delivered by the worlds finest exponents.

The Centre is helping to **maximise creative potential** through all of the activities outlined above and therefore provides a useful model for the Cultural Commission. What is needed from the Cultural

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Commission is a commitment to underpin and support the work of the Centre to secure its future. To recognise the valuable work done and to take the time to understand the place of the Centre not only as a National Centre but as a World Centre.

The Centre strives to be self -funding and continues to increase turnover but development and consolidation funding would help grow new revenue sources.

The Ba ( Scottish Music ) requires funding - not one traditional music place is supported by SHEFC. The National Youth Pipe Band should be afforded the same funding security as other National organisations. Students who wish to learn piping in schools should be allowed to do so. These and other issues need to be addressed and solutions found to continue and support these achievements.

We hope for recommendations from the Cultural commission that will provide a robust framework of support for the work of our organisation and others like it.

I look forward to future consultation.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Roddy MacLeod MBE  
Principal,  
The National Piping Centre  
Tel: 0141 353 0220