

COMHAIRLE CONTAE ROS COMAIN

Roscommon County Council



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ROS COMÁIN

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COURTHOUSE
ROSCOMMON

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Ionad Ealaíon - Arts Centre
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Na hEalaíona - Arts Officer
090 - 6637285

Pobal agus Fiontar -
Community & Enterprise
090 - 6637316

Cosaint Shíbhialta -
Civil Defence
090 - 6637206

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha -
Corporate Services
090 - 6637140

Comhshaol - Environment
090 - 6637260

Airgeadas - Finance
090 - 6637187

Seirbhís Dóiteáin -
Fire Services
090 - 6634823

Tithíocht - Housing
090 - 6637230

Acmhainní Daonna -
Human Resources
090 - 6637144

Leabharlann - Library HQ
090 - 6637270

Brúscar - L-I-T-T-E-R
1850 54 88 37

Mótarcháin - Motor Tax
090 - 6637250

Pleanáil - Planning
090 - 6637175

Údaráis um Bóithre Náisiúnta -
Regional Offices NRA
090 - 6627004

Rátaí - Rates
090 - 6637210

Clár na dToghthóirí -
Register of Electors
090 - 6637147

Bóithre - Roads
090 - 6637152

Seirbhísí Uisce -
Water Services
090 - 6637165

Tá fáilte rombat gnó
a dbéanamb as
Gaeilge

11th December, 2012.

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2013

Robin Seymour,
Administrative Assistant,
Roscommon County Board of Commissioners,
500 Lake St.,
Roscommon,
Michigan,
48653,
U.S.A.

Re Sister Cities
County Roscommon, Ireland and Roscommon County, Michigan

Dear Robin,

County Roscommon, Ireland and Roscommon County, Michigan signed a Sister Cities agreement in 1987. The communication with your county at that time was with Ann McDonald, Higgins Lake and the agreement was proposed by Commissioner Patrick Doherty at a meeting of your commission in June 1987 "as a sister county for the purpose of promoting a friendly exchange of congeniality and trade". Roscommon County Council also adopted the agreement at a Council meeting held on 22nd June 1987. The Sister Cities agreement was not developed at the time and Roscommon County Council would like to renew this sister cities arrangement and would like to invite the Mayor/Chairman of the Commission and other representatives to Roscommon in 2013 for a special event on May 24th.

I am writing a similar letter to contacts in all towns or cities that are twinned with towns in County Roscommon to also invite their representatives to attend one large twinning event in Roscommon next year. If you are not the person in charge of your Twinned Town/Sister City committee I would be grateful if you would pass on this correspondence to the appropriate person and if possible let me know the name of the person involved.



Next year has been designated as the year of “The Gathering” which is an initiative of the Irish Government to invite people to Ireland for a yearlong celebration of everything great and unique about the Country. Roscommon County Council is issuing an invitation to everyone who ever felt or wants to feel connected, whether through heritage, business, education, culture, music, friends or family to visit Roscommon in 2013. These invitations are being issued directly by the Council and also by community groups, organisations and individuals within the county. There will never be a better year to visit, reconnect or experience for the first time what is great about Roscommon as the county will be jam packed with events. Full details of these events will be available on www.visitroscommon.com and www.thegatheringireland.com websites.

The council considers that “The Gathering” provides a great opportunity to invite all our international partners to a social function in their honour. This includes representatives of Twinned Towns/Sister Cities from abroad as well as members of the Roscommon Associations worldwide. I am extending an invitation to the Mayor/Chairman of the Commission and other representatives of Roscommon County Commission and members of your sister cities committee to attend this proposed international gathering of all Roscommon Twinned Towns/Sister Cities partners (Roscommon has twinning partners in France, the U.S.A. and the U.K.) that is planned for Friday 24th May 2012 in King House, Boyle together with the 25th Anniversary of the Roscommon International Reunion for Roscommon Associations worldwide. Roscommon has Roscommon Associations in London, Birmingham, Manchester, New York, Chicago and Boston. This is an opportunity to get all our international partners to a single networking event in Roscommon with food, entertainment and music. The event is timed to coincide with the major flagship programme of events which is being organised by Roscommon County Council from 23rd May 2013 to 3rd June 2013, which has a host of events and activities planned.

Boyle has been chosen as the location to capitalise on the many tourist attractions in north Roscommon and the new found fame of Boyle as the location of the Sky TV sitcom Moone Boy starring local Hollywood star Chris O Dowd. The programme will kick off on Thursday 23rd May with the celebration of the 400th year since Boyle was established by Royal Charter. The keynote element of this twelve day festival will be two concerts at Lough Key Boyle, Co. Roscommon on Saturday 25th May 2013 when the headline act will be a spectacular performance featuring the acclaimed Tommy Fleming, backed by a full orchestra, performing outdoors in the Hidden Walled garden at Lough Key followed by a magnificent fireworks display with a further concert (artist to be confirmed) on Sunday 26th May. The King House, will be the venue also on Sunday 26th May which will have events with the Army Band, a reunion of the King Family and a celebration of the Connaught Ranger’s contribution to military history. There are many other fringe events being organised, including an angling competition, salon sessions, a hike through the countryside of North Roscommon with refreshments and entertainment stop along the way, Arigna Mining Museum, family fun days at Lough Key Forest Park and Activity Centre and many others with final details yet to be finalised

Roscommon County Council continues to market the county as a place to “Revive, Refresh and Rewind” and has developed a whole new suite of marketing materials for the County including the newly updated website www.visitroscommon.com which outlines what’s on, what to do and where to go. Brochures, special offers and discount vouchers can be downloaded from this website. It is intended that the range of discount vouchers will be expanded in 2013. It is also intended to expand the website to have an added feature for people of Roscommon heritage, with an affinity for Roscommon or are twinned with Roscommon towns to register and connect directly with Roscommon County Council – thereby furthering the links between us all. This added feature will also include details of all twinned communities and I would appreciate if you could let me have material about your locality to populate this part of the website.

I would appreciate if your twinning organisation could consider making a special effort to visit Roscommon next year for the proposed event. The wide range of events and activities being planned for the twelve day festival will ensure plenty of entertainment for you. Next year will be a fantastic year for visiting Roscommon and it is an ideal time for you to build on, renew or revitalise our twinned town/sister city relationship. I would be grateful if you would let me know if you are prepared to consider visiting Roscommon next year. I can be contacted by post at the Courthouse, by phone at + 353 90 6637141 or by email at tryan@roscommoncoco.ie.

I look forward to further communication with you during the coming months and hopefully to meeting you at next year’s event in Boyle when I can assure you that you will receive a great welcome.

Wishing you a happy Christmas and all the best for 2013

Yours Sincerely



Tommy Ryan
Director of Services