

A New Executive Director at the Clan Donald Centre on Skye



The Executive Committee of the Clan Donald Lands Trust has announced the selection of a new Executive Director of the Clan Donald Centre. The current Director, Mrs Rhoda MacGillivray, will be leaving in August 2007 having reached retirement age.

Following an international search, five highly-qualified candidates were interviewed in Edinburgh, Scotland, and it was the unanimous decision of the Search Committee that the person to succeed Rhoda as Executive Director should be David Macdonald of Castlecamus.

David Macdonald has been in retail and property management for over 25-years in many large and small markets in the United States. Three of his assignments included tourist-based markets in Florida and Colorado.

Now residing in Pittsburgh, PA, David brings valuable experience in business, public relations, and development to The Clan Donald Centre.

David has a strong interest in, and a desire to preserve, the rich history of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and especially that of Clan Donald. Although his family has not lived on Skye for many generations, his ancestors lived throughout the Island and his great-great-great-grandmother, Flora MacDonald, was married and lived for a period of time at Armadale. Many generations before that, his forbearers resided at Castle Camus (now Knock Castle).

David is married to Debra and has two children, Maggie aged 14 and James aged 11. He has been a National Officer for Clan Donald USA and sits on several Scottish-related boards and advisory committees. He enjoys music of all kinds and plays guitar and bagpipes and looks forward to the many opportunities available on Skye for this hobby.

David is heavily involved in his church on the Vestry and in music. Maggie enjoys playing the violin and is a lover of books and animals. James is a games player and enjoys football and looks forward to learning shinty. Although Debra has had a career in banking and has also worked in a medical office and in retail, she enjoys being a stay-at-home mother where she is involved as a volunteer in the local community.

Clansfolk attending the Gathering of Clan Donald at Armadale on 8/9 June 2007 will have an opportunity to meet the new Executive Director, David Macdonald of Castlecamus.