

Thank you for your statement of March 31st on behalf of the Directors of the Irish Canoe Union. It is good to finally see a direct statement as due to your six month total vacuum, innuendo and rumour have prevailed to the detriment of all involved.

The issues of corporate governance raised by your Honorary Treasurer would appear in fact to have unearthed a financial net gain to the ICU in excess of a six figure sum .The full picture begs clarification.

Your subsequent plan of action may not only negate that benefit but has actually now exposed the Irish Canoe Union to an extremely precarious financial situation when one considers the **Legal, Investigative and High Court costs.** Our audited accounts for 2008 show legal expenses of €26,000. What do they now stand at for 2011?

In addition, and in the period of the absence of a CEO, the ICU has suffered the following cuts and losses of income;

- High Performance Grant cut from €190,000 in 2010 to €103,000 in 2011. A cut of 46%. This is unprecedented.
- A Capital Equipment grant of €60,000 that had already been granted has been lost due to incomplete application.
- Can you confirm the current status of the European Regional Development Grant which is in excess of €100,000 over 3 years.

In the interest of corporate governance the question has to be asked as to why at this point in time, could such a purported salary increase in 2006 together with the two pensions, of which you don't state the contribution, is only now being raised, four years after the event, when the accounts were both audited and signed off by the directors annually.

The implications of your actions are serious. The reputation of our organisation is compromised and damaged in wider sporting circles. The reputation of a long standing loyal employee who was an avid worker on behalf of the ICU since 1990 is severely tarnished.

Everybody is entitled to fair procedures and natural justice. You have outlined your complaints against Mr Michael Scanlan clearly and emphatically in your statement but you have omitted to include Mr Scanlan's response to these allegations. This is not a balanced statement.

We are appalled that you took this course of action. In this day of modern industrial relations support structures, for such dispute resolution, it must certainly have been possible to have found a mechanism to resolve this matter so much faster than six months, at much lower cost and an awful lot less risk to the Canoe Union.

Concerned clubs have called for an EGM since March 2nd and, despite having acknowledged receipt of same, you have yet failed to set the date. An EGM is the place to discuss and resolve ICU issues within the organisation where **ALL** facts and findings can be presented to the members, who are the Canoe Union, so that they can make informed decisions on the best course of action for the Irish Canoe Union.

Your statement raises more questions than it answers. The urgency of an EGM is increasing daily. Can you please set the date immediately?