



## **CANCELLED - Saint Patrick's Day Parade Paris, 14th March 2020**

To whom it may concern:

The Irish in France Association has been working diligently over the past seven months in preparation for our third ever Saint Patrick's Day Parade, due to take place on Saturday March 14th in Paris.

The team has been working very closely over the past while with the Police Authorities in Paris to ensure the optimal safety and security for all our Parade participants as well as for the general public attending the Parade, the Kila concert and family day in the Centre Culturel Irlandais.

In light of COVID-19 measures, and as you are probably aware, the French Government has issued a statement on March 8th forbidding to hold any collective group gatherings of 1000 people or more. We therefore wish to inform you that in the interest of everyone's health and safety, **the Saint Patrick's Parade 2020 in Paris is now cancelled**. This decision was made jointly with our partner, the Centre Culturel Irlandais and is in line with their decision to cancel their open air family days on Saturday and Sunday March 14th and 15th.

We take this opportunity to thank the Irish Ambassador to France H.E. Patricia O'Brien and her staff at the Irish Embassy in Paris, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Centre Culturel Irlandais, Tourism Ireland and the Mairie du V for all their support this year. We would also like to thank the Centre Culturel Irlandais for their valued partnership. Our thanks also to our Grand Marshall, Ms. Ruth Algar for honouring us in accepting our invitation. We also would like to thank all our members, participating groups, Head Stewards, Ciara Chapman Illustrations (Ireland), Rebecca Devaney and all who invested time and effort in the Kiddies workshops - everyone who worked so hard and with such enthusiasm to make this year's Parade such a success. Finally, a very special word of gratitude to all those who contributed financially this year during our Crowdfunding campaign. We will contact each of you in due course regarding your very generous and much appreciated donation.

To end on a very positive note, with all the work accomplished together to date, we hope that we can count on you to join us for some festive Saint Patrick's Day fun around March 17th 2021!

Thank you for your understanding.

Kind regards,

Paul LYNCH  
President Irish in France