

out?

Provincial Tour report (Vancouver Island, the Interior)

We have made two tours of Vancouver Island, one in November 1974, another in May 1975, visiting all the major centers and making contact with everyone ^{we could} involved with independent video production. Generally, enthusiasm is high and activity is low.

In Victoria the Victoria Community Video Service is moving along well, after only 2 months operation with their small studio & editing room. Caution is apparent in their manner and their 'screening' process. They have defined themselves as a public service, and a small one, they seem intent on not overextending themselves and also producing tapes of reasonably broad social merit (not just PR tapes for people). I think their hearts and minds are definitely in the right place (see Jim Beaubien, director).

The cable station assists in some creative video production, notably with Goddardmatch, but not very much. And the University, where we conducted showings for all of one day, is supporting very little independent small format production.

Nanaimo

Nanaimo is enthusiastic, the communications society there is optimistic about developing its own video facilities and getting the cable

company to start some local origination programming. Neither has yet happened. ←

^{INDENT}
→ FATHER ~~Richard~~ Bob Kelly has developed the only local community cable programming so far, at his own expense. He also conducts workshops with video with many groups in the city, from teens to Rotarians. His purpose is to raise consciousness by playing back typical televised human interactions and asking questions, and then more questions. His plans to use the cable station are ambitious and exciting.

THE COMMUNICATORS SOCIETY was eager to develop a workshop and exists relationship with us for the future. 2

Malaspina College is extremely cautious about assisting independent production, people at the college seem to be waiting for the cable company and the Communicators Society.

We conducted showings at the College all for one day and at THE FACTORY for one evening.

Courtenay is an active town but their video resources are few, they're waiting for the cable company to open the community channel.

We conducted one day of showings at the Arts Alliance Center, those ~~artists~~ who attended asked very good questions and were angry that they had to beg for help from ^{Campbell River} for their few efforts.

Campbell River T.V., a co-op cable station, maintains excellent production facilities and supports some good production. We exchanged four hours of tapes and had conversations with school officials

and museum people, everyone ~~was~~ ^{was} optimistic.

The only other ^{independent} video activity we found was with native people, they were using video heavily to organize the land claims action. This was province wide activity by the look of it and did not include whites very early. We lent native people equipment on two occasions while we were on the island.

Kamloops activity is very limited and as the largest city in the interior, a real disappointment. John Fave at the ETV installation would like to develop broader based independent video but is strictly curriculum centered.

Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton, where we conducted one evening showing, were not excited by community TV or video, schools ~~were the only resources~~ had all the video hardware and were not doing very much with it. Since our visit people in Vernon have grown more interested and are pressuring the cable company to provide some facilities.

The West Kootenays are the only really active center in the ^{with the cable companies} southern part of the province. Despite difficult times the West Kootenay Cablevision Society has produced a large number of tapes and used the cable system often. Selkirk College, where we

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The northern part of the province was visited this June and ~~was~~ most refreshing. The CPAX ~~video~~ video project, ^{in fact} which is now dormant needs only a little technical support to start moving again. The Writing Center in Prince George is the center of much creative activity in town and has taped a few local and visiting poets. Working with the help of the College of New Caledonia, they wanted technical support and information and criticism of their work. Activity was good in Kitimat-Terrace also, where the school districts were making some of their equipment available to the public.

conducted a showup for one day, was excited by and expanding its video facilities. The College was much more open than most. We exchanged tapes ~~and~~ with those producing and hoped the future brought them good fortune.

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Video activity was low enough to be depressing everywhere else we stopped though people were very ~~excited~~ interested in the Slokan Valley.

In summation, the ~~community media~~ video movement is ~~moving~~ ^{spreading} into out of Vancouver and into rural B.C. slowly. As the schools and other institutions' ~~work up~~ capacities expand and as the demand grows so will community, non-commercial media. At this time rural areas are looking to those of us in the city ~~with~~ ~~some experience~~ for support and suggestions but they are starting to see that they must ~~be a~~ use their own resources.

From our conversations and showings we would to conduct two small follow up tours for 3 or 4 of the centers in Northern B.C.. The first one would be workshops on basic production methods & techniques

and the second on more advanced
production.

To quote our log summary

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GOOD Luck
CHARLIE