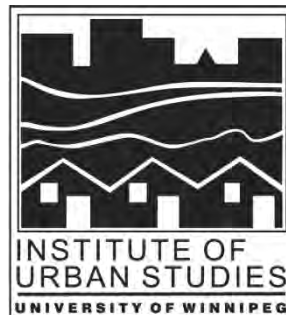
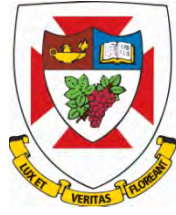
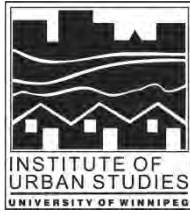


Institute of Urban Studies Report on Community TV in Radical Software

**by Jim Cassidy
1971**

The Institute of Urban Studies





THE UNIVERSITY OF
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INSTITUTE OF URBAN STUDIES REPORT ON COMMUNITY TV IN RADICAL SOFTWARE

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The Institute of Urban Studies is an independent research arm of the University of Winnipeg. Since 1969, the IUS has been both an academic and an applied research centre, committed to examining urban development issues in a broad, non-partisan manner. The Institute examines inner city, environmental, Aboriginal and community development issues. In addition to its ongoing involvement in research, IUS brings in visiting scholars, hosts workshops, seminars and conferences, and acts in partnership with other organizations in the community to effect positive change.

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INSTITUTE OF URBAN STUDIES REPORT ON COMMUNITY TV

in

RADICAL SOFTWARE - NO. 4

Summer 1971

by

Jim Cassidy
Institute of Urban Studies
University of Winnipeg

The Institute of Urban Studies was established in 1969 at the University of Winnipeg—a centrally located, small, Arts and Science University in the heart of Winnipeg. The Institute was created as a university-based centre for research, community action and education in the area of urban issues.

For the past two years the Institute has been working with citizens groups in an effort to develop more effective and democratic methods of reviving communication. Two surveys were done in the central city area—surveys which showed that less than 10% of the population knew what was going on in their area, plans that would effectively change the physical shape and social character of the area.

The Institute initiated the following research projects to explore the possibilities of community-communication:

a) In the summer of 1970 VTR and 16mm film were used to produce films on youth, the aged and the Main Street transient population. These tapes and films became the tools with which to involve a greater number of people in the discussion and elucidation of their respective needs.

b) In the Roosevelt Park area, an urban renewal area, the Institute was instrumental in helping the people set up the People's Committee for a Better Neighbourhood Inc., a neighbourhood development corporation attempting to engage in renewal and rehabilitation in its area. VTR was used by the people to document an analysis of conditions in the area and a record of their meetings amongst themselves and with members of local and provincial governments.

c) TR was also used extensively in the Windsor Park area, a middle-class suburban community. Attempts were made by the residents to identify the unique needs of this type of community. This community was even more interesting because of its bilingual issue in the education system had been creating conflict due to an inadequate understanding of Provincial Bill 113 on French language instruction. The people arranged to tape a series of School Board Seminars on the question using both French and English film crews and ending up with one French and one English tape. Requests to view these tapes have been overwhelming and the availability of a cable channel on which to show these tapes would certainly increase the awareness of a greater number of people.

d) In January 1971 a grant of \$10,000 was given to the Institute by the Winnipeg Foundation to support a pilot program designed to explore the feasibility of a system of television broadcasting or cablecasting to expand the flow of information to and participation of Winnipeg citizens. A large part of the Institute's time at present is taken up in investigating the legal and financial implications of community television. In this work, the National Film Board is associated with the IUS supplying both equipment and technical advice.

e) During the past few weeks the Institute in cooperation with Red River Community College carried out tests with various 1/2" and 1" VTR equipment—tests which were in essence plugging tapes into the CATV system in Winnipeg. From these tests it was indicated that 1/2" VTR could be successfully used as a program vehicle for cablecasting.

f) The Institute is operating with its own equipment, equipment on a loan from MFB, equipment and technical help provided by Red River Community College and equipment from various private sources. The Institute, through the Federal Opportunities for Youth Program is providing 12 summer jobs in our community television project, and six of our full-time staff members are also involved at this time.

At the present, we are in a very exciting stage in the development of our community television program. In the weekend of May 14-16 we held the first of a series of communications workshops attended by some 150 interested Winnipeg people. This workshop resulted in the setting up of a 27 member Ad-hoc committee which will look into ways of setting up a community television system for Greater Winnipeg and to examine questions aired at the weekend workshop.

Le Videographe is a \$100,000 half-inch video project financed by the Federal Government. The money came through Mike McCabe Planning Department, Department of Citizenship, Secretary of State, 130 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario and there is probably money for similar projects in other parts of Canada.

The proposal specifies a paid staff of five and a voluntary committee of five (3 to come from youth groups interested in programming). The committee will decide on productions.

Le Videographe plans to:

1. make available equipment and *expense* money for production
2. catalogue, copy and distribute tapes
3. run a mobile production unit
4. conduct and disseminate up-to-date technical research
5. have a 150 seat video theatre and several small playback areas

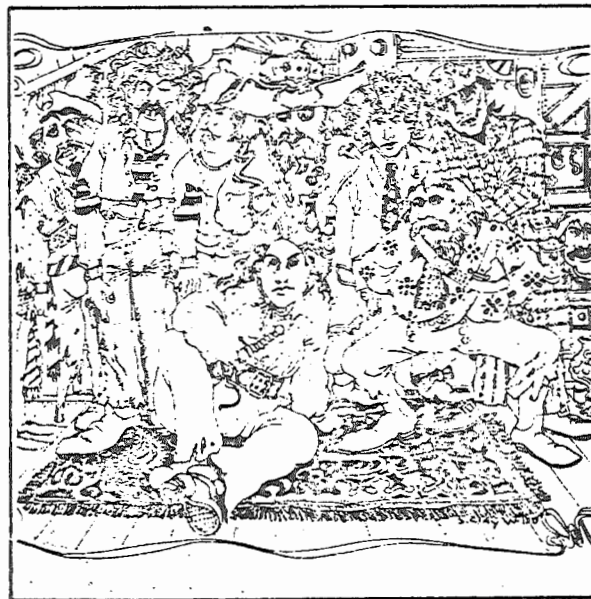
Equipment includes:

- 6 AV 3400
- 6 AV 3650
- 2 AVC 3200
- 1 SEG-J
- 1 EV 320 1"
- 1 sound synthesizer

Le Videographe's initial location will be the National Film Board Building. The project was conceived by people from Société Nouvelle and got the big grant because of its connection to the Film Board (the audio-visual arm of the Federal Government). The latter propose to move near the Carré St. Louis. Let's hope they make it out of those security-manned corridors.

There will be about 50 productions with a possible budget of \$700 each. If you are interested in working in this context, now is the time to contact

Robert Forget
NFB
Box 6100
Montreal 101, Quebec



Videotech

Videotech is a summer project operating on a grant from the Opportunities for Youth program. (For our American friends, Opportunities for Youth is a Federal government scheme to provide funds for students during the summer to carry out projects of their own design).

We plan to survey the extent of community involve-

- We made tapes:
- 1) a Hum Dept meeting ties?" juxtaposed with
 - 2) in New York City w/ Sunday jam.
 - 3) taped the Dawson "S
 - 4) "Gunslinger" taped.
 - 5) taped the Education March, with Gertrude, Sister MacDonald, Ter John Slattery.
 - 6) we did assorted, odd

Ken Cameron went Radio Television Com also went to the public present Montréal's cas Mosaic went en ma Also met the videocers Village, Raindance, Vi Wrote the VIDEO Conrod's package to th project deal.

Submitted briefs to tance on Video in Daw because

No educational ins scale, open access to vi as an innovative, comm might prove an excellen into the 1980's by pro as a regular, natural ex decentralization and di age when you can talk

Further, the conve: talented individuals, a that challenges reality your eyes—this implor concentrating all energ point possible in order of a "James Last: Non

This implosion of Montréal and Québec catalytic instrument a critical mass. Techno washes its tubes clean world without conscie

Video Ensemble

VIDEO ENSEMBLE centering on coming to developing with what n groups, blocks, parks, t

The Secretary of St: Ensemble as an "Oppo now paying fifty french communication to do it

The idea is to give a of a choice of informati can be built upon what of looking at them (us)

"Good afternoon, m And who did you vote f them (people in commu the television eyepiece Build on a positive l on what good is being t healthy television reflect