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videodisc. Through the new technology, the museum will be able to extend its programs and influence far beyond its walls.

The museum, which provides its own software and page creation for its various services, says NAPLPS videotex is more cost-effective, for many purposes, than other communication vehicles.

In addition, Telidon-NAPLPS – because of the nature of the medium – is a much better vehicle for explaining and demonstrating this wealth of information than print.

In terms of its outreach program, many of these costs can be recovered from a subscriber fee.

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STATISTICS – THE EASY WAY

There are a million and one facts available to the Canadian businessman or citizen from the federal statistics agency, Statistics Canada.

A problem has always been how to find the correct data and then how to interpret it.

Now Statistics Canada has developed a computerized database called CANSIM and a NAPLPS-based system called Telichart, which provides clear, meaningful statistical displays.

Using the 5,000 sets of time-series data in the Canadian Statistical Review, a user can call up a line graph of interest rates over the last few years, a bar graph of housing starts on a national or provincial basis, or both simultaneously, allowing for comparisons.

Telichart was developed for Statistics Canada by Faxtel, a Toronto-based applications and consulting company.

With it, statistics can be shown in full-colour pictures instead of masses of computer print-outs, dramatically easing the chore of interpreting data and allowing instant comparison with earlier data.

The system uses simple interactive commands. As an example, the command PRIME: BAR HSTARTS will display a curve of the chartered bank lending-rate and a bar chart of housing starts in Canada.

With the system, access can be had to population statistics; births; deaths; marriages; national income and gross national product; domestic product by industry; balance of international payments; wages and salaries by province; unemployment rates; consumer and construction price indexes; total inventories; shipments and orders in manufacturing; manufacturing shipments by industry; data on fuel, power and mining sectors; construction starts; farm cash receipts; value of retail trade; merchandise exports by major country and area; transportation operating statistics; and financial data such as the amount on deposit in Canadian chartered banks, currency outside banks, life insurance sales and stock exchange statistics.