News of the arts

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Major CBC series

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is producing an ambitious new series over the next two years, with a projected telecast date of January 1988.

The new series, a 13-hour venture entitled *Hello, Suckers!* will be produced by Mark Blandford. Screenwriter Douglas Bowie and the team responsible for the hit CBC mini-series, *Empire Inc.* will also be involved in the production.

The story is about two men who fight in the First World War and then settle in Montreal. The time frame is concentrated during "the Roaring Twenties".

Toronto arts report

A report on the state of the arts in Toronto, that was commissioned by the Toronto Arts Council to help devise an arts and culture policy for the city, has been released and welcomed by both the arts community and government representatives. Prepared by co-founder of Toronto Free Theatre Tom Hendry, *Cultural Capital*, has been described as an important element in the city's current consideration of new cultural guidelines.

"The arts have earned the right to be taken seriously," said Mr. Hendry. "They're no longer a hobby, but a business," he added.

The report outlines the current situation in the arts and cultural community in the city and stresses its importance to the economy of the whole area. It maintains that the arts community is much larger than was previously considered and estimates that some 150 000 people in the metropolitan Toronto area earn their living in the arts and artsrelated industries.

In the year that ended June 30, 1984, total direct spending on arts and culture amounted to more than \$111 million in Toronto and an additional \$139 million was spent on goods and services related to the arts, including bars, restaurants, hotels and public transit. During the period, some six million people were entertained and the report predicts that even with a modest growth rate, total attendance will probably jump to ten million by 1989 and 25 million in 1999.

Despite this, the report maintains that the arts and cultural community is "greatly underfunded" and most artists are living below the poverty line.

The major recommendation of the report is for substantial increases in funding, particularly for smaller groups, from both the government and private sectors.

Photographs capture a day in the life of Canada

A major photographic exhibition reflecting life in Canada on June 8, 1984, will preview at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, Ontario from August 14 to September 2. *A Day in the Life of Canada* will then move to Ottawa, September 24 to January 12, from where it will embark on a three-year tour of Canada with showings in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Windsor, Charlottetown, Halifax and Montreal.

Morris Perlis, president of the sponsoring company, American Express Canada Inc., said that "this exhibit is the most extensive cultural program our company has ever undertaken in Canada. We feel that these extraordinary photographs, which capture the heart and spirit of Canada in a unique 24 hour visual time-capsule should be seen by people across the country".



Mary Martin gets her hair brushed in Elmira, Ontario, site of Canada's oldest and largest Mennonite community.

The exhibition comprises some 250 photographs selected from the photographs which appear in the book, *A Day in the Life of Canada*. It also features unpublished prints chosen from the 100 000 photographs taken on June 8, 1984, the day of the original shoot for the book. Rick Smolan and David Cohen, project directors for the book, created the exhibition.

The photographs were taken by 31 Canadian photo-journalists and 60 leading international photographers. Included among the Canadian photo-journalists were Ottmar Bierwagen, Bill DeKay, Al Harvey, Gail Harvey, Ken Kerr, Douglas Kirkland, Freeman Patterson, Frank Grant, Boris Spremo, Andrew Stawicki and Jim Wiley.



Angela Lowe poses with her brother Trevor and family pet, Dot, prior to her first communion on June 8.

The photographs, in colour and black and white, range in size from 40 by 50 centimetres to large photo murals. Reflecting people and places from every province in the country, they are divided into regional geographic groupings.

In addition to the main exhibition which will be on view in larger centres including art galleries, museums, universities, convention centres and tourist sites, a scaleddown "micro" version is also being prepared for smaller traffic areas such as libraries and bank lobbies.



The Jamieson brothers and David Crane, aged five, raise the Canadian flag in Gaspereaux, Prince Edward Island.