

Film on handicapped wins award

Barrier Free Housing, a film produced by the Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation (CHMC), was awarded first place in the film festival at the 1980 World Congress of Rehabilitation International in Winnipeg this summer.

The 28-minute film, selected out of 65 entries from around the world, won in the "Integration into Society" category.



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A group home for handicapped persons.

The scenario for the movie was developed by architect Jean-Rémi Champagne, Adviser in Housing Disabled Persons, from presentations he has made at various awareness development conferences on barrier-free design. After discussing themes for dialogue with architects



CMHC

Special vans for handicapped in Ottawa.

Pamela Cluff and Patricia Falta who are also experts in the field of barrier-free environments, filming was produced and directed by Judith Eglington in CMHC's Information and Communications Division. The film centres around a discussion between Pamela Cluff and Patricia Falta and a third architect, Steven Bleyer, who is also involved in designing buildings that are accessible to disabled persons.

As they discuss physical barriers and solutions, film footage of buildings and disabled persons illustrate their discussion. Also, short segments of disabled persons discussing their problems and desires to become more independent reinforce *Barrier Free Housing's* message.

The film, produced under the leadership of Mr. Champagne is directed towards builders, architects, urban planners, persons involved in housing disabled persons and schools. The film is intended to make people aware of construction barriers, most of which have been part of normal design and construction practices for years, and to show that solutions are not unaesthetic, more costly, or difficult. Through minor adjustments to floor plans and construction practices, new buildings can be accessible to practically everyone.

Since winning the award, CMHC has been receiving requests for copies of the film from all over the world and a French version of the movie has just been released.

A South Korean mission will be translating a copy into Korean in Seoul. Copies are available on loan from CMHC branch offices or from the national office at Montreal Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P7. Prints may also be ordered directly from PFA Laboratories, 330 Adelaide Street West, Toronto Ontario.

New program challenges students

A Calgary high school has become the first Canadian public school to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The Calgary Board of Education implemented the program at Sir Winston Churchill High School this autumn.

Originally devised for the families of mobile diplomats and businessmen, the IB program was intended primarily for international schools such as the British School of Montevideo, the International School of Geneva, and the American School of Frankfurt.

It was designed to lead to some standardization of programs in these

schools and to replace the school leaving certificate required in most countries for admission to universities and colleges.

The two-year International Baccalaureate program offers secondary schools "a thoroughly tested, broad and demanding curriculum in the major academic disciplines. It sets very high standards by means of carefully prepared examinations which are administered externally. Schools offering the IB curriculum increase the challenge to gifted students, enrich their educational programs and facilitate the placement of graduates in colleges and universities in the student's home country and abroad".

The standards of the program are equivalent to or higher than those set for admission by major universities throughout the world. The IB diploma has been accepted for admission to leading universities in most countries, and, often for advanced standing (one year of credit) at some institutions in the U.S. and Canada.

Trade centre fosters business for Canadian companies in Japan

Since opening in January 1979 the Canada Trade Centre (CTC) in Tokyo has generated about \$40 million in new business for Canadian companies.

The centre's aim is to help Canadian companies take advantage of the large Japanese market for manufactured goods. The role of the centre is as a "marriage broker" bringing Canadian companies together with suitable Japanese partners either as agents, wholesalers or distributors.

The centre's basic strategy is the specialized trade show. The aim is to try to keep each show as focused as possible. Trade shows presented this year have included leisure wear, fur garments, jewelry, automotive parts, electronics and interior furnishings. To come are shows promoting floor coverings, aerospace and avionics, musical instruments, ocean-industries equipment, and hospital and medical-care products.

Canadian embassy officials who manage the 300-square-metre centre concluded that, as well as the benefits to individual Canadian companies, the CTC program is beginning to make Japanese business aware that Canada can supply a wide range of manufactured goods.