A meeting of the Steering Committee to consider the possible founding of a Canadian Association for communication studies was held in Ottawa on November 3, 1978, with Donald Theall, McGill University, in the chair. Discussion centered on a name, areas that would concern the association, and future meetings. The next meeting will be in Saskatoon at the Learned Societies Meetings in May and June where papers in communication may be presented at one or two of the established Societies. Earle Beattie submitted a tentative "Global Chart of Concerns in Communication, Information and Transmission" for discussion. It has since been summarized in a gestalt and perimeter-seeking paragraph as:

"We will be concerned with studying the phenomena, processes and effects of message-making, communication and information-transfer in personal, intermediate and mass mediated forms along with their inter-relations. These may be verbal or non-verbal messages and will include concern with theories, social-cultural contexts and applications of quantitative and qualitative research. Orientations will include disciplines in the sciences and the humanities as well as cross-disciplinary approaches." See p.55 - motion passed by Steering Committee November 3

GLOBAL CHART OF CONCERNS IN COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION AND TRANSMISSION

Continuum Criteria from Close to Distant, Personal to Impersonal
Kinds of Mediation, With or Without Machine

I - Personal & Interpersonal
(Individual & Small Group)

II - Intermediate
(Larger Group)

III - Mediated
(Machine and Mass)

Kinetic, proxemic
Synesthesa
Semiotic
Pre-symbolic
Oral-Aural
Written-letter, diary
Linguistic
Paralinguistic
Telephonic, videophonic
Citizens Band Radio
Braille
Art
Photographic

Manuscript
Public Address
Intercom
Telex
Videotex
Typewriter
Book
Commercial Art
Electronic:
Radio, TV
Computer, Cassette

Print:
Book
Newspaper
Magazine, Journal
Pamphlet

Graphics
Billboard, Showcard

Electric

Subject Areas

THEORY (Conceptual, Descriptive). The study of:
Nature, process, dimension, structure, scope, mode, models, functions, symbolic interactions, images, sources, messages, flow, time, space, audiences, groupings, mass, effects, etc., as related to:

SOCIETY, COMMUNITY, GROUPS
Ideology, development, property, law, ownership, control, decision-making, policy, systems, individuals, organizations, relationships, beliefs, attitudes, values, opinions, expectations, cognitions, environments, goals, media, technology.
The Spring Issue of the CANADIAN JOURNAL OF COMMUNICATION will be devoted to Communication and Technology in the Space Age: SATELLITES, CABLE-TV, LASER BEAMS, FIBRE OPTICS, VIDEOTEX, HOLOGRAPHY, COMPUTERS...but not just the hardware. We are going to look at scenarios for the future. Will they be Orwell's "1984" with its Big Brother thought-control by elites, elected or unelected? Or will they offer a new age of freedom, equality, diversity, social justice and leisure arising from human enlightenment and cooperation? ...Must violence and vicarious violence always be part of man and his images? Will bigness engulf us or can small be beautiful?...Can community replace the faceless and anonymous crowd directed by bureaucracy and power...or can we achieve access, participation and interaction with institutions and media?


Articles by Chris Martin, London, England: War or Dialogue; Indu Singh, Toledo, Ohio: The Politics of Canadian Space Programs; Ronald Ide, Toronto: The Future of Communications with Home Terminals, Fibre Optics and De-Urbanization in the Conserver Society...Peter Bringolf, Montreal: Holography in Film and TV; M.F. Malik, Montreal: Courses in Communication Analysis, Information Complex; Earle Beattie: Jeanne Sauve, High Technology, Harold Innis and Marshall McLuhan; Alan Baker, Alienation or Communication, Fibre Optics, Holography. News on the Videotex System (Telidon) and other material.