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20 Bay Street  
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## Prairie Pulse

### GREG KLYMKIW



#### MARRIED-TO-THE-MOB DEPT

**W**e've heard of being married to the job, but this is ridiculous. *Mob Story's* ever-on-top-of-things unit publicist, Sharon Singer, reports that co-producer Tony Kramreither was helping the crew move some equipment. It seems that Tony the Tiger hurt his foot, but rather than dampen the morale of the crew, ole-Tone shoved his bruised tootsie into a bucket of ice and stayed on-set for the entire shoot. A number of crew members attempted to fuss over him and drive him to the hospital, but Krammie'd have none of it. As it turned out, Tony just sprained himself; nothing broken, but lots of respect gained as he presided over the proceedings with monarch-like grandeur. Besides, whoever heard of a producer helping the crew, much less get his hands dirty by moving equipment? No word, however, whether Margot Kidder offered to kiss Tony's tootsie better.

#### MARGOT'S-NOT-KIDDING-THIS-TIME DEPT.

More Mob-gossip from Sharon Singer. When Margot Kidder breezed into Winnipeg to do her *Mob Story* stint, she was loudly proclaiming that this was it - no more acting for this gal. Apparently, Lois Lane decided she was going to be a big-time movie director. However, according to Singer, Lois Lane was "having such a wonderful time" on *Mob Story* that she's changed her tune. Margot's still gonna direct moving pictures, but she confided to Singer that she would also continue acting. Aren't we all just thrilled? As well, Margot also told Singer that the *Mob Story* production team was "the best crew she'd ever worked with." This must certainly please ACFC (Association of Canadian Film Craftspeople) local since *Mob* was the first feature to sign with them in Manitoba. At press-time it was announced that ACFC-Manitoba had signed another collective agreement; this time on the three-million-dollar *Last Winter*.

#### YANKS-LOVE-CANADA DEPT.

We've all heard about the Yanks nipping up here to burn out our craftspeople, use for our wonderful exchange rate and pillage our locations, but we never hear about Red-White-and-Bluers coming to Canuckville because they actually want to make a *Canadian* story. Well, it's finally happened! Spectrum Films, a California-based production company, has secured the movie rights to Howard Norman's acclaimed novel, *The Northern Lights*. The book was a bestseller in Canada and was nominated for The National Book Award in the United States. Set in Northern Manitoba, the pic is scheduled to begin shooting on location this fall. Hooray, as they say, for the Red White and Blue!!!

#### SASKY-CRAFTYS-GET-WORK DEPT.

Once upon a time there was this batch o' film trainees who worked on a lil' flick called *The Great Electrical Revolution*. Way back then, they was doin' sum on-the-job book larnin', as it were. Now, they're actually workin'. The Saskatchewan Film Development Project's Lee-Anne Pattison reports that several recent trainees are workin' on the Manitoba production of *The Last Winter*. Louise Middleton trained under AMPIA-Award-winning art director John Blackie on the former and is now actually set decorating for real on the latter pic. Other former trainees, now working on *Last Winter*, are Louise Tetrault (wardrobe assistant) and Jennifer Young (publicity). Young is assisting unit publicist Sharon (boy-that-gal-gets-around) Singer. Pattison suggested that there may well be a few more similar placements.

#### MANITOBA'S-A-NICE-PLACE-TO-VISIT DEPT.

Canada-Manitoba Cultural Industries Development Office (CIDO) Locations Officer Alana (try saying her full name 10 times in a row) Langelotz reports that a May-June Manitoba shoot is in order for Lauron Productions' new made-for-TV flick, *The Challengers*. This CBC feature-length "family drama" (what else would the CBC produce?) is being helmed by Eric Till. Ralph Endersby is producing. Another Manitoba shoot will be the 10-million-dollar *Mig-Pilot*, looking to go by the end of this year. Langelotz also reported success at this year's Location Expo in La-La-Land. CIDO met with 150 producers and have since received about 10 "serious" enquiries regarding Manitoba locations.