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CALGARY PICKS UP WHERE CANADA FILM YEAR STOPPED

CALGARY - The national organization may have dropped the banner for Canada Film Year but the *Canadian Film Celebration Society of Calgary* has picked it up. The Society applied for CFY money to stage an all-Canadian film Festival next June and they are still going ahead with or without any cash infusion. The same spirit, enthusiasm and expertise that made the 1988 winter Olympics a world class success and great party is going into staging Canadian Film Celebration '90' to be held in Calgary from June 14-18, 1990. **Flemming Nielsen**, owner of the Plaza Theatre (repertoire), is chairman of the Celebration's steering committee. He says the Celebration will be unique among the plethora of Festivals we already have because "the emphasis will be on giving the general public a chance to see homegrown movies." Coming on the heels of Cannes, the CFC hopes to be the first stop for Canadian premieres as well as an annual showcase for new features including co-productions, shorts, experimental and student films, documentaries and animation.

VALUE-ADDED TAX

The value-added tax, which comes into effect January 1991, has everyone in the industry very excited and worried. VAT was the hot topic at *Showwest Canada '89*, the third annual National Motion Picture Industry Convention held May 14-17. The conference brought together some 400 members of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Associations of Canada. The folks who control what we see on Canada's approximately 1700 screens previewed summer reels and peeked at what's coming for Christmas. I wonder how many Canadian features got more than a passing look.

Also on the agenda: trying to forecast public reaction to higher movie prices once the new federal service tax is added on in 1991. The eight-dollar movie isn't far away.

SHORT CLIPS

West Sky Productions moves into the slicker movie market with two shoots slated for the summer. *Double Take* is a \$4.5 million light teenage comedy which could lure **Corey Haim** to Vancouver this month and *Chain Letter* is a \$2.6 million feature to go before the cameras in the Calgary foothills sometime in August.

MULTICULTURAL MADNESS IN EDMONTON

EDMONTON - Producer and writer **Geoff LeBoutillier** and director **Peter Campbell** have begun work on *The Anti-Elope Play*, a half-hour sitcom pilot for CBC Television. *Play*, a multicultural spoof revolving around a Ukrainian family called the Peridichucks, is being produced by Tohaventa Holdings and began shooting in Edmonton at the beginning of last month. The production is scheduled to air in the fall.

The pilot, which LeBoutillier hopes will lead to a series, stars **Michael Leskow**, **Jennifer Lee**, **Aaron Goettel**, **Larry Musser**, **Julie Bond**, **Blair Haynes** and **Lydia Slabyj**. The soundtrack is provided by the zany cultural fusion band, *The Romanians*.

LeBoutillier recently won an AMPLA award for his CBC Family Pictures production *Bordertown Cafe* and was also the writer for *Miss Manitoba*, another in the Family Pictures series.

KICKING HORSE TIES WITH CFRN

Down Came The Rain is the fifth in a series of collaborations between CFRN Television and Kicking Horse Productions. The half-hour drama is adapted from a one-act stage play of the same name written by **Brian Burr Clark**. The play was showcased at the American Place Theatre in New York and, in 1981, won the National Association of Speech and Communication Arts' award for best one-act play.

Producer for the drama is **Fred Vos**, who is currently production supervisor for CFRN. **Arvi Liimatainen** is directing. Award-winning writer **Glynis Whiting** adapted the script for the screen. *Rain* stars **Roger Shank** and **Troy Thomas**.

The drama is billed as a look at what happens when the older of two brothers finally confronts his feelings towards his mentally handicapped sibling.

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