Song Editor, Howard Kaplan

phonemic music, where the only legitimate interpretive options are very subtle, most folk music can be successfully interpreted in widely varying ways. To reduce a song to its underlying melody line and its text, with the understanding that the key can be transposed, that the chord names are only suggestions, and that the accompaniment is entirely up to the performers, is to separate the role of the songwriter from the equally important but different role of the interpreter. Writing out a song also helps some musicians, the less skilled but enthusiastic amateurs, whose ears may not be good enough to pick up the song correctly from recordings or performances, especially when the performers have chosen an arrangement that makes the text difficult to hear accurately.

There are many ways to get good songs into people's hands. Festivals, recordings, radio programs, and coffeehouses are fairly well-established parts of the Canadian folk music experience. What I want to do as Song Editor is to add another route for the sharing of well-written songs."

Temagami Round
[c] 1990 by Marie-Lynn Hammond

If we lose this forest if we savage the land
we might as well be cutting off our own right hand
for we and the earth are one
under the moon under the sun.