

WINNIPEG FOLKIES HAVE A NEW FOLK MUSIC CLUB

by Gregg Brunskill

The Winnipeg Folk Connection Inc. was established in March 1988. It has a mandate to promote live folk arts in the community, with an emphasis on traditional and contemporary folk music. It is a non-profit organization.

The club is reminiscent of the popular coffeehouses during the 1960s. Although the Folk Connection plans to draw on the abundance of local talent in Winnipeg and its surrounding areas, it will also stage well-known acts from across Canada and beyond.

In addition to the main act of the show, each evening will also provide a guest spot for up-and-coming local acts to perform, and one of three host bands will also provide continuity during the evening. There will be occasional folk dance events, with the emphasis being on "audience participation". Plans are also under way for the Winnipeg Folk Connection to link with other folk clubs in Canada to facilitate an exchange of ideas and performers.

Membership to the Folk Connection is available for a nominal fee of \$2.00. As a member, you will be entitled to reduced ticket prices, quarterly newsletters, advance notice of future performances and access to the general meetings. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing your part to support and promote live folk music in Winnipeg.

We hope that you will be able to add your applause regularly, so that the club develops as a social event rather than simply a concert.

The Folk Connection meets every other Tuesday at the West End Cultural Centre, 586 Ellice Avenue. Tickets are available at the door. It has featured a variety of bands and individual performers in the April-June 1988 season: Sneezy Waters, The Original Chicken Flat String Band, Len Udow, Nouveau Station Wagon, Slavic Hanzlik, and Wholesome Bluegrass. The host bands are Meadowlark, The Blarney Band, and No Strings Attached.

The Winnipeg Folk Connection is also the regional chapter of the Canadian Folk Music Society, and as of late May '88 had 53 members. Anyone interested in joining WFC should write to our Secretary, Sheila Brunskill, Box 22, Tourond, Manitoba, R0A 2G0.