

CREATIVE IND.

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From: Cameron Taylor [cameron@seabridge.org]
Sent: 28 September 2004 11:44
To: info
Subject: Consultation exercise[Scanned]

Hi

My colleague Alistair Murray and I attended the Inverness consultation meeting as representatives of the Association of Integrated Media in the Highlands and Islands (aimhi).

It was a most thought-provoking event.

With apologies for the delay, please find attached some notes I made on reflecting on the meeting.

We look forward to being involved as the Cultural Commission's work proceeds.

Best wishes

Cameron

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Cultural Commission Seminar: Response.....thoughts

- Statement on **creativity** in the cultural policy statement is a key driver – ‘The creativity of Scots....is the edge we need in a competitive world’. Agree with this 150%
- Audience represented a series of organisational and other interest groups. Organisational and sectoral boundaries get in the way of cross-sectoral, integrative thinking and action
- Could make a good case for changing cultural support structures every two years, simply in order to prevent sectoral/organisational ossification
- At the very least a cultural regulator might help break these barriers down
- Question for the cultural commission – and I don’t know what the answer is – is how to engage the creativity of Scots people in developing the cultural sector(s). If we are as creative as we claim to be, why don’t we apply ourselves to organising, creatively.
- Attached diagram represents ideas emerging from perception of discussion at seminar
- Need to start talking in terms of **investment** to achieve **benefits**. The word ‘grant’ should be struck from the nation’s vocabulary
- We should be creating OPPORTUNITIES for people to engage with culture, not seeking ways to MAKE them engage with it
- Tourism has got itself into difficulties in respect of culture. Defining it as a niche was not helpful. Culture underpins our identity as individuals, as communities and as a nation. Culture isn’t an optional extra. It is a fundamental, inextricable part of the experiential whole.

Cameron
14 September 2004

