

Small market builds character

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Disco.

Putting on a good show is so important to Clockwork, they went to the trouble of writing a song about it.

"It's about bands that suck live, and there are a lot of them," he said, drawing on a cigarette. "You pay \$25 to see them and they can't do it."

Today, Clockwork is on the verge of getting to where it wants to go.

The radio station 102.1 FM is hyping the band, which is currently in conversation with record companies.

But if a record deal doesn't materialize, the band will still be ahead, said Tinman. "It leads to better gigs and radio play," he said. "If they like you, they want to be the one associated with you."

But taking wrong turns is just part of the journey when it comes to the music business.

"There's no school you can go to that teaches you how to be world famous," shrugged Tinman. "You've got to make your own mistakes."

And if Canada's small market makes success a tough slog, it's also responsible for forging some top-

notch musicians, he said.

"I think Canadian musicians have the best music because we have to work so much harder to get a break. We'll kick around for four or five years just maturing."

Today, Clockwork members keep busy just getting on with their lives.

Tinman, for example, is about a year away from earning his electrician's ticket.

"Then I can survive. I can still have a house," he said. "Everyone in the band is focused on doing well in life. I see too many musicians who are poor."

That unwavering grasp on reality is evident in Clockwork's lyrics, which aren't about guns, chicks and gold, said Tinman.

"I'm not going to talk about guns because I'm from Milton," he said with disgust.

Recently, bands like Rage Against the Machine have helped pave the way for Clockwork. But the band still has trouble convincing people that it can attract a post-high school following.

"People don't believe we can get an over 19 crowd," said Tinman. "So I want to get an over 19 crowd."

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Peel, Durham and York couldn't come at a better time.

"905 hospitals are forecasting an operating shortfall of \$65 million," he said.

"This will have a major impact on access to hospital services for the 2.5 million residents who live in the four regions."

The organization has been working with the Ministry of Health to develop a

population needs-based funding formula that recognizes growth permanently.

"Until such time that a growth funding is in place, the Alliance will continue to make our residents' health care needs known to the government," Mr. Armstrong said.

The grant represents the fourth allotment of growth funding for Milton District Hospital. In 1998, it received \$165,000.

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