APPENDIX A

SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
LEARNING ON THE RUN

NOTE: Individual questions were expressed according to whether the respondent was a student, a parent, a home tutor or an itinerant teacher.

1. Background information: name

   age

   number and ages of siblings or children

   length of time on program to date

   previous educational experiences

   where school work and homework are done

   who helps with school work and homework

   favourite and least favourite subjects

   career aspirations

   participation at the show

   recreational activities

   friendships

   where and when holidays are taken

   where is home?

2. What are three words that you would use to describe living and learning on the show circuit?
3. What are three words that you think locals would use to describe living and learning on the show circuit?

4. Which has a greater influence on the type of people show children are — travelling on the show circuit or watching television and videos?

5. Are there enough jobs on the show circuit for all the show children when they grow up?

6. How easily do show people adapt to living in “the outside world”?

7. Tell me about the relationships between show people and locals when the show comes to town.

8. What are the main benefits and drawbacks of living and being educated on the show circuit?

9. How does being educated on the show circuit compare to going to boarding school or doing correspondence lessons?

10. Do show children have special learning needs? If so, how well does this program meet those needs (how well does it break down barriers to learning)? Could the program be improved in any way?

11. How much control have the show people been able to exercise over the program? Have they had any say in curriculum content or assessment?

12. How much do you think that the writers of the program actually know about show people? How much do they need to know?
13. Would this program be better or worse than boarding school or correspondence lessons for high school students on the show circuit?

14. Has your opinion of the program and itinerant teachers/show people changed during your participation in the program?

15. What other questions should I have asked you about living and learning on the show circuit?