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Chairman/Lord Lloyd of Hampstead
 Director/Keith Lucas
 Deputy Director/Alan Hill

Chairman of Production Board: Michael Relph
 Head of Production: Barrie Gavin

17 April 1975.

Dear William,

I think you will have already heard that the grant application you submitted to the BFI Group Support Fund on behalf of the London Film Maker's Co-operative has been turned down. This is for a number of reasons, the most pertinent of which are these:

1. We have been unable to increase the size of the fund beyond £10,000; half of this amount had to be spent on video, and your application therefore required more than half the available amount for film. The Co-op does, of course, service a number of film makers, but against this was set the consideration that the installation of equipment such as you had budgeted for could not be efficiently utilised without there also being a paid operator/instructor. In other words, the expansion of the Co-op seems to be more expensive than the application envisaged.
2. Between your submission of the application and the time it reached the point of final consideration by us, you told me of the necessity to find new premises. It seems that this might entail increased overheads as well as the cost of moving the existing equipment. The needs of the Co-op are therefore even greater than before; as well as going well beyond the frame of reference of the Production Board, they certainly exceed the immediately available resources.

Although the Group Support Fund will not contribute to the Co-op at this stage, the Institute as a whole does have a concern for the Co-op's future. Peter Gidal has recently written at length to Keith Lucas on the problems involved and Keith is at the moment circulating Peter's letter to those departments of the Institute that might, in one way or another, be able to concern themselves with the matter. The next stage, I imagine, will be a meeting between the Institute and the Co-op which will

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*From a. R. ROBIN
20/6/74*

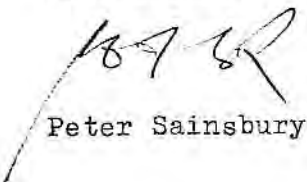
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hopefully clarify the options under which something significant can be done.

In the meantime I' shall be sending you details of the film and video equipment that we can now make available on loan to groups and individuals.

I hope the balance of all this is encouraging rather than otherwise.

Best wishes,



Peter Sainsbury.

William Raban,
London Film Maker's Co-operative,
13a Prince of Wales Crescent
London NW1.

cc Peter Gidal
Malcolm LeGrice.