While many of the Hand Eye Society’s models and ideas have inspired other cities, none have caught on as much as the Torontron. The Torontrons are classic ’80s arcade cabinets, retrofitted so they can play games created by today’s local indie. It inspired the like-minded Winnipeg-based Bit Collective to build a Winnitron, which went on to establish an international arcade network. Passionate game enthusiasts all over the globe took it upon themselves to build a local cabinet — and build up their local community in the process.

“Unlike the digital nature of games themselves, the arcade cabinet has weight. It takes up space. It catches the eye from across the room. A Torontron challenges you to stand up and approach it, to engage with it, to do your best in front of friends and strangers: to play in public.”

— Hand Eye Society website