For a total of 8 weeks, the cypher was held at the long-standing railway club without an admission fee or any sort of suspicion towards its patrons. Three weeks before the final, the 5$ fee was instituted and a few of its members disappeared. For the finale after the finalists were chosen the railway closed for an undisclosed reason but the Vancouver based hip hop community was not deterred. People who meet up almost twice a week religiously for the sole celebration and love of hip-hop took to Instagram to find a new location. There were two weeks' radio silence with promises and take backs on Instagram and stories.

Finally, the finale occurred with a 20$ fee at the Astoria and there was a good mix of Astoria crowd and hip hop enthusiasts.

When asked why a select few people stopped coming, answers varied from the 5$ fee, the constant location change, some complained about the locations becoming too "hotboxy" (i.e. too much weed smoke in the air), releasing their own albums and even some excuses were as scandalous as the rivalry behind the east coast rappers and west coast rappers.

Icon stands for the international cypher organization nation or something along those lines. After the climax of the finale, the icon movement went back to scavenging for places that can hold approximately 100 people who enjoy the "occasional" marijuana indoor which most establishments aren't up for.

Focusing on the people who were present and their reasons for their constant and undying dedication to the craft. Most said "it's a Tuesday, where else would I be?" Which says a lot based on context? Rappers were happy to express their enjoyment and they were here to challenge themselves. To see and be surrounded by people, to make them feel challenged as an artist. Some patrons even went to extent of calling the cypher "church" and blasphemy aside, it was a wholesome sentiment.

Icon brings the entire community together. The rappers, the singers, the dancers, the skate board tricks people, painters, graffiti artists, producers, film makers, photographers and also people from all economic, racial and cultural differences together.

There is also a Latin community who keep to themselves but support each other and bounce off of each other in many Hispanic languages.


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