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NEWS RELEASE

Welding will join General Mechanics next fall as a full-time vocational program offered by Cariboo College in Williams Lake. Instruction at both the pre-employment and upgrading levels will be offered.

In response to the expressed needs of employers in the Central and Northern Interior, the Welding program will provide for ten months of basic general welding for eight beginners, plus shorter upgrading courses for several journeymen welders at a time, according to College Principal C.W. Brewster.

Welding instruction will be administered along the same lines as the established General Mechanics program, Brewster said. A qualified local instructor will work under the supervision of Chairperson Nick Martin of the Welding Department on the Kamloops campus.

Martin said that equipment from the Kamloops shop, including modified stations for both oxy-acetylene and arc welding, will supplement what equipment is available in Williams Lake. The exact location has not yet been determined, but will be as close as possible to the General Mechanics classroom and shops at the B.C. Railway Industrial Site.

The General Mechanics program will again provide nine months of theory and practice in the repair and maintenance of a variety of gasoline and diesel-powered equipment. The present class instructed by Dave Scholm graduates on May 23. Most of them have jobs already assured, according to Mechanics Chairperson Les Batchelor.

Classes in both programs will start on September 2. Class size is limited.

Minimum admission requirement is completion of Grade 10, plus, for Welding, a chest x-ray and an eye examination.

Some students may be sponsored by Canada Manpower. Interested applicants can explore this possibility with their local Manpower Centre.

Additional information can be obtained from the Registrar in Kamloops (P.O. Box 3010, telephone 374-0123) or from the College centre in Williams Lake, Suite 206-197 2nd Avenue North, telephone 392-6202.

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College Affairs Manager