

Malaspina leads way in province

Nanaimo's Malaspina College is introducing a new correspondence course for health care workers — and it will be the first of its kind in B.C.

Called the continuing Health Care Administration Program, it is designed for current and prospective management people in the continuing health care field who want to improve their administrative skills.

It's the first complete correspondence program in the province designed for health care administrators, states a college news release.

There are two similar programs elsewhere in Canada. One is in Saskatchewan while the other is run from Ottawa by the Canadian Hospitals Association.

There is also a health care administration program at the B.C. Institute of Technology but it's a full-time course.

Malaspina was approached by

local health care administrators about the possibility of having a program for B.C. Nanaimo's Carol Matthews co-ordinated development of the course.

She met with representatives of five professional organizations in the health care field and designed a survey used to develop the program. Also assisting in designing the two-year program were local health care managers and B.C. Ministry of Health officials.

The program is being offered by the college's business and public administration department.

"At the moment, many continuing health care administrators have little management training," says Rob Jeacock, department chairman. "It's possible that in the future, completion of an administrative program like this will become a requirement for anyone seeking a management position in a public or private health care facility."

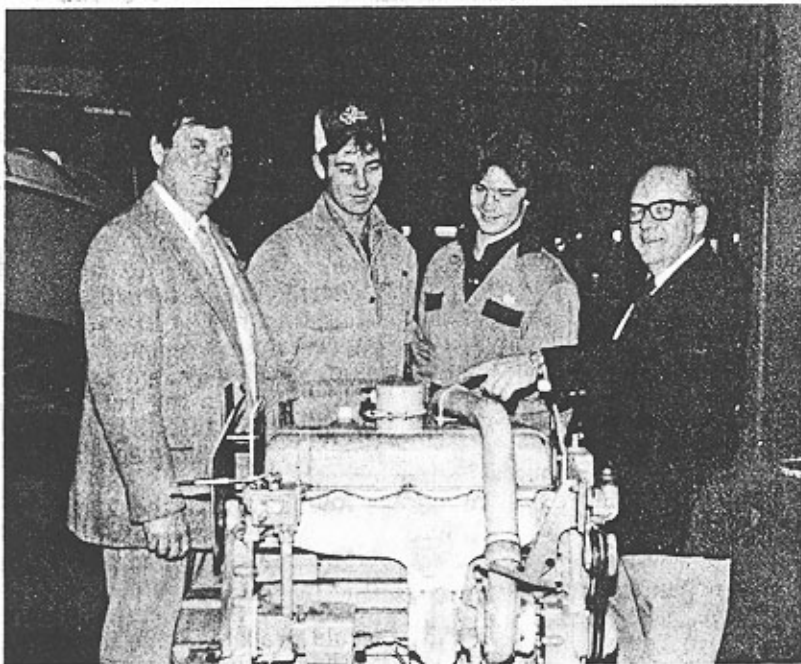


Photo contributed

Examining Malaspina College's newly-donated diesel engine are, from left, Jack Doan, heavy duty mechanics students Al Cooper and Randy Davis, both of Nanaimo, and Eric Erikson, service and operations manager of Nanaimo's Detroit Diesel Allison Ltd.