# On the Level

Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute





**Supporting Carpenters and Industry Partners** 

## Adapting to Adversity

From the Director, Mike Hawes

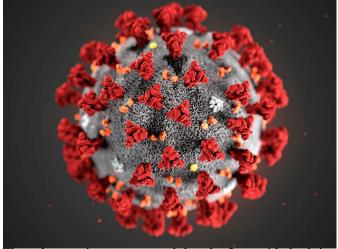
The outbreak of Covid-19 and the interruption of our normal business model our staff was asked to focus on how we have adapted as a team to the pandemic and the many restrictions that have been placed on us as an organization. Like so many of you, we have tried to react as quickly as possible to these changes to help reduce the spread of the Covid-19. It has been an extremely stressful and challenging time for us. I am very proud of the way our staff has reacted. Additionally, I am very impressed with their ability to adapt and continue to move our organization forward in a positive way. Early on in this process, we had no indication of how long the shelter in place mandate from March 23<sup>rd</sup> would last. Throughout all of this mayhem, my foremost goal has been to keep our students and staff safe.

It is our hope we would have more definitive information about when life for us will get back to normal. Unfortunately, even the experts don't know when things will go back to business as usual. The vast majority of job sites in our area have not been shut down. We still have apprentices working and our admin team and coordinators are continuing to support them.

Our admin team is set up to work remotely during the weeks PNCI has been shut down. The team is focusing on their regular JATC based duties with all of the same network and database access. They have been given some additional assignments to do during down times, such as update our training agent list, work on the cancellation project and electronic archiving. Incoming phone calls are going straight to voicemail, which are being emailed to staff and responded to daily. Additionally, staff are taking turns going into PNCI to process both incoming and outgoing mail and stay on top of office paperwork. The team is staying in touch via Microsoft Teams, as well as Zoom meetings

Click here to go to our website

**PNCI.org** 



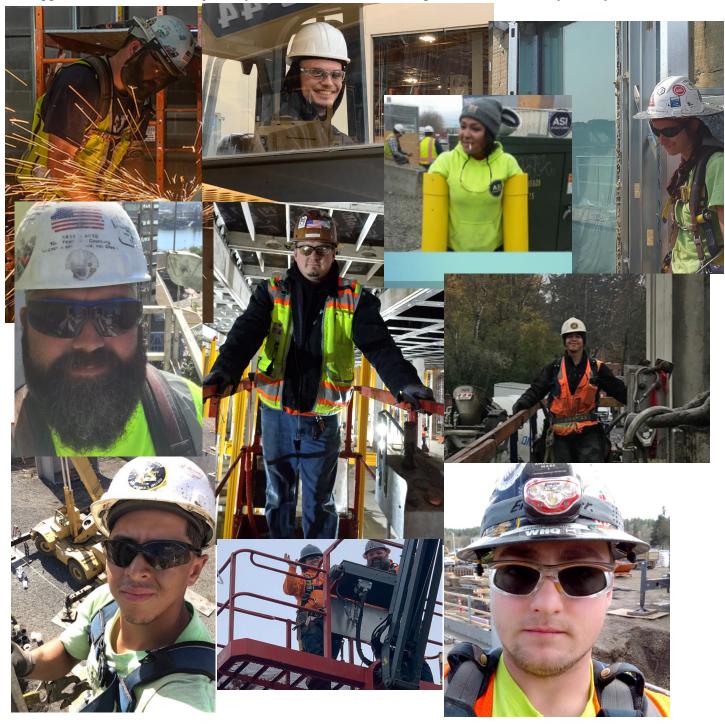
The subcommittees requested that the Statewide look into our ability to keep our apprentice rerates moving forward, as they are unable to get their class hours because of PN-CI's closure. The statewide committee reached out to BOLI and they have approved a temporary standard change, see below:

\* During the Covid-19 pandemic, Pacific NW Carpenters JATC is removing the minimum annual hour requirement, as well as the estimated school hour requirement for rerates, for the duration of the shelter in place order in Oregon. While rerates will continue to progress, apprentices will be required to make up these administratively cancelled classes within six months of the shelter in place order being removed. Apprentices must work with their Coordinators to ensure that make up classes are scheduled and meet their schedules. Apprentices that buck-slip, no-show or fail to complete a make-up class, will be held in place until the class hours are met for the next progression. Pacific NW Carpenters JATC may extend the sixmonth requirement, under extenuating circumstances.

Click on me to see our Covid-19 update video

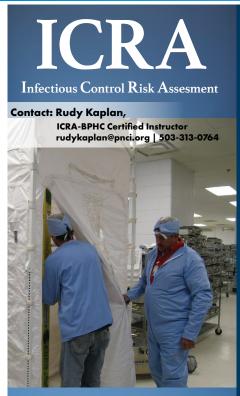
## PNCI Wants to Celebrate New Journey-Level Carpenters

The Governor's Social Distancing Mandate forced PNCI to postpone all group activities. One event we were all looking forward to was the Annual Industry Outreach Event, where we celebrated the accomplishment of our apprentices who achieved journey-level status. We have Postponed this **Tenatively** to July 18th.



We are so proud of each and every one of you!

## PNCI Works with the ITC to Provide Training



Make sure that the construction professionals working within your facility are qualified for infection

\* Responsibility to patients

Site-specific considerations

**TOPICS INCLUDE** 

ICRA 8-HOUR AWARENESS
You can ensure hazard
containment is a priority
throughout your hospital,
with training developed for
personnel and trade workers.

#### TOPICS INCLUDE

- Procedure and communication
- \* Pathogen containment
- \* Airflow control
- Hazardous materials



#### **OUR TRAINING COVERS**

Air pressure

Anteroom construction

Best practices in barrier and containment installation

Controlling contaminants

Establishing and maintaining a negative air pressure environment

Hazardous materials awareness training

Responsibility to at-risk and immuno-compromised patients

Mold in health care facilities

Pre-remediation and reporting

Remediation

Understanding and avoiding biohazard risks

Regulatory agencies
Risk evaluation

Site-specific considerations

Understanding the ICRA process and related permits

Work area classifications

Portable isolation cubes

Collaborating with hospital personnel

PNCI received approval to teach an online Instructor led Infectious Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) class from the Carpenters International Training Center the beginning of April.

The Model for the class is to be instructed using zoom. Preferably, each individual has their own computer. PNCI is using the same curriculum as we would use for classroom instruction.

The class is provided in five increments. Four four-hour sessions during the week at a time that is convenient for the participants and/or the contractor. The class finishes on a Friday or Saturday at PNCI where we provide a hands-on portion to finish the week.

The protocols for the hands-on portion are described to the students in the orientation packet that is sent with the zoom invite. It includes social distancing and use of the entry room upon entering PNCI to don PPE to be used for the class.

If you or your company is interested in taking the ICRA class sign up on our website or

The first ever hybrid ICRA class in the nation was held at PNCI. The bulk of the class is held on-line with the final hands-on portion held at the training center. Strict protocols are kept to ensure the safety of every participant. click on the image below for our video





### **Working Hard for Our Industry**

As Seen in GRIT:

Our JATC worked with BOLI to modify our standards temporarily to help our apprentices with re-rates. Our core instructors are collaborating on curriculum and we are working closely with our facilities manager to ensure that we are meeting the current Covid-19 mandates by the state. Our hands-on classes will be modified to follow strict protocols to keep students and staff safe.

As we move into the summer months we are planning on ramping up the number of classes held in this new hybrid format, combination instructor-led internet-based training and modified hands-on learning.

#### MAY https://www.pnci.org/courses.lasso

- Welding Principals Online instructor-led
- Hybrid Equipment Orientation Class (apprenticeship and continuing education)
- Instructor-led Scaffold User
- Instructor-led Online Fall Protection
- Construction Leadership
- ICRA BPHC 24 and 8-hour Awareness

#### **JUNE**

- Prioritizing roll out of continuing education and apprenticeship classes in hybrid formats.
- Silica Awareness (continuing education)
- Instructor-led Math and Print Reading



To the PNCI Community - We miss you and can't wait to have you back in our Facility

Be Safe - Be Strong