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### 3.24.25 NWUCA President's Message

#### **A Call to Action for 2025!**

As we enter 2025, I urge our NWUCA members to take ACTION! While we've made strides in tackling legislative roadblocks, enhancing safety practices, and educating the next generation of our workforce, there's still more work ahead. Now is the time to step up, get involved, and drive meaningful change in our industry.

#### **Stand with NWUCA Against Project Labor Agreement Mandates**

NWUCA has joined forces with the Associated General Contractors (AGC), Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), and other professional associations to oppose Governor Kotek's Executive Order mandating Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) on construction projects across Oregon. Regardless of union affiliation, these mandates threaten both union and open shop contractors alike.

We must work together to educate legislative leaders on the negative impacts of this order and push for fair, competitive solutions. Our Legislative Committee and Political Action Committee (PAC) need your support—whether through advocacy, attending key events, or simply making your voice heard.

Last spring, our collective efforts helped defeat Senate Bill 850, proving that when we stand together, we can make a real difference. Now, we must keep the momentum going! Our lobbyist, Rich Angstrom, continues to provide critical updates on legislation affecting our industry, but in order for our members to drive change we need to take ACTION!

Join us in ensuring that NWUCA's voice is heard loud and clear in Salem. Together, we can make an impact, but advocacy is just one piece. While we fight for fair policies in Salem, we must also ensure that our workforce is protected—because safety is the foundation of everything we do.

#### **Building a Safer Future Through Education**

At NWUCA, safety is more than a priority—it's a fundamental commitment to our industry and workforce. Our Safety Committee remains dedicated to providing reliable, high-quality training that equips our members with essential skills year after year. Through our valued partnership with the Northwest College of Construction, we offer critical courses such as CPR, First Aid, OSHA 10 and 30-Hour, Confined Space, Trench Safety, and Fall Protection, among others. This collaboration not only strengthens safety



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awareness across our membership but also fosters a highly skilled, safety-conscious workforce. **Now is the time to take ACTION**—invest in safety, protect your teams, and enroll your employees in upcoming training. Need help solving problems or addressing safety questions for your business? Connect with this active group to brainstorm ideas and find solutions as a team. Together, we are shaping a stronger, safer industry for all. By investing in education and training, we're not only improving safety today—we're also paving the way for the next generation of skilled professionals who will shape our industry's future

### **Support Apprenticeship Reciprocity & Workforce Development—Get Involved!**

Our partners at the Northwest College of Construction are working hard to maintain Apprenticeship reciprocity with other states, ensuring that contractors who work across state lines are not burdened by unnecessary restrictions. To protect these opportunities, we need your support in amplifying this message.

Additionally, as we invest in the future of our industry, NWUCA is gearing up for two major workforce development events this spring—**Dozer Day** and **Construction Career Day**. These events play a crucial role in educating and inspiring the next generation of construction professionals, but their success depends on volunteers like you.

It takes tremendous effort to make these events happen, and the need for volunteers continues to grow. **Now is the time to take ACTION!** Get involved, give back, and be part of shaping the future of our workforce while having fun in the process.

### **Together, We Move the Industry Forward**

Your NWUCA Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and Board Members are dedicated to strengthening our industry—meeting with local government agencies, collaborating with partner associations, and driving awareness and solutions that make a real impact. We remain committed to keeping our general meetings relevant and ensuring our board and committee meetings are productive and action-oriented.

Meanwhile, NWUCA's Executive Director, Jenny Dixson, is wearing many hats—coordinating impactful events, keeping our members informed, and supporting the growth and success of our industry.

Our association continues to deliver significant benefits to its members. Through our partnership with BITCO, we offer a competitive General Liability Insurance program with a retro return benefit—returning over \$5 million in premiums to members over the past 12 years. Members also gain access to the Contractors Insurance Exchange, enabling small businesses to participate in large-group employee health and welfare benefit plans.



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Additionally, we invest thousands of dollars in educational scholarships for high school seniors and college students within our membership. Our commitment extends to lobbying and legislative efforts, strengthening our engagement with local government to advocate for our industry.

Now is the time to step up, get involved, and make a difference. Together, we are stronger, together we make change. **Push beyond your comfort zone—because that's where the magic happens and let's take ACTION!**

### **Thank You for Your Commitment**

As we embark on this journey together in 2025, I want to extend my gratitude to each of you for your dedication, passion, and unwavering support of NWUCA. Your involvement—whether through advocacy, safety initiatives, workforce development, or industry collaboration—makes a profound impact on our collective success. It is through your efforts that we continue to strengthen our industry, protect our businesses, and build a brighter future for the next generation of construction professionals.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your President. It is an honor to lead such a dedicated and driven group of professionals who share a common vision for the future of our industry. I appreciate your trust and support, and I am excited for all that we will achieve together in 2025 and beyond.

By standing together in advocacy, investing in safety, and fostering workforce development, we strengthen not just our businesses, but our entire industry. The time for action is now—let's stand together, step up, and make 2025 our most impactful year yet!