Welcome members and guests to the Carpenters Local 322
Pin Dinner.

Invite Exec Comm, Bonnie and volunteers assisting with this event to please stand.

Thank you to our catering staff for their work and professionalism.

I am Amanda Phillips, president of Local 322, and on behalf of myself and the executive committee, we are honored to be here today to acknowledge your years of service with the UBC.

Today we are celebrating members who have 25 years with this organization or more, up to 70 years. Many others here tonight will be receiving their 55, 60 and 65 year pins. We are also celebrating with our newest journeymen and women. Regardless of what milestone you are here to celebrate tonight, we are proud to be here to honor all of your work and time as a member. Assembled in this room, we are recognizing 3,683 years of service.

Carpentry is one of the oldest professions in the world. A carpenter is defined as someone who cuts, shapes and installs materials. For me, that stops far short of the reality of what it means to be a carpenter.

The people in this room know that carpentry is multi-faceted. The work is unique, requires problem-solving, is physically and mentally challenging, and oftentimes in an unfriendly, dirty and dangerous environment that we have grown accustomed to. What others would find untenable, we embrace and enjoy. Carpenters are also met with the ongoing demand of keeping up with new technologies and materials and working in an ever-changing, fluid environment. It should make us proud to be part of it.

The work you have done, and some of you will be doing tomorrow, combined with the efforts of other trade workers, is what gets these projects done. Carpenters are on the job from the beginning to the end, and often running the project, understanding the demands of what needs to be done and organizing the other crafts. We work in tight schedules, in good and bad weather, with heights and poor lighting. Yet, our members always find a way to get it done.

We are driven to get it done to find the solutions to finish the job.

Today we also have the honor of considering the significance of what you have built. The people in this room have built

safe places for kids to learn, warehouses that create jobs for others, care facilities for families to help a loved one get better, manufacturing plants where needed parts are made, water treatment facilities where our water is purified, apartments and senior housing where thousands of people sleep, live and navigate life, and the list is endless. We don't truly get to consider that enough, what happens in these spaces when you are done. Even the barrels and the ships that brought early settlers to this continent were carpenters. We are fortunate to be part of the history of this incredible and important craft.

Our members are intelligent, resilient and capable people.

They are tenacious and courageous.

There is no doubt, these projects would not get done without your skills and experience. For the millions of people enjoying the outcome of your labor and will never know you were behind it all, we thank you. Thank you for your skills, your stamina, your strength, finesse and dedication.

This is what we can be proud of. When members talk about being proud to be part of this organization, it's because of people like you. Because if it weren't for what you bring to

the job sites every day, for the hard work and commitment to your crew and your craft, there wouldn't be or have been anything to be proud of.

I hope you are proud of your service and found purpose beyond provisions for yourself and family. What you have done and are doing is not unnoticed. So many people should be here to recognize you, but they are not. What we do have is our fellow brothers and sisters, sitting here with you, who know and understand what it takes to be a UBC carpenter.

For those of you that have retired and completed your service, I can assure you that the next generation of UBC journeymen and women will continue to deliver that pride your legacy deserves. It isn't easy work and it's not a life everyone can live. You were made for this craft and we are all better for it.

I will also not forget to thank and acknowledge whoever may be sitting next to you or was not able to be here, but loved and supported you through it all. Let all of us acknowledge you now.

You have challenged yourselves to be able to provide for the people you love. Personally, I am grateful I had an opportunity to see that commitment from the front row and

now to see it with our newest members and journeymen and women.

When you consider your work, do yourself the honor of remembering that so many lives were affected by your work.

And finally, our honored and cherished UBC emblem, we have all worn. We are bound together by that emblem and all its history. You are all both the history and the future of this organization, and this trade was made better by you being part of it.

We are bound by our passion for carpentry and our dedication.

Bound by our purpose and our presence, our actions and our skills, together, as a Local and as a union.

Thank you for being here today, to receive your pin and to allow us to thank you in person for all that you have done.

We will now begin with the presentation of pins, with the help of Mark Stephens, Matt Sowell, and Ryan Boudreau who will be announcing the names of pin recipients by category, beginning with the 70 yr. pins.

As you step forward to the front, please accept your pin from either side and join us in the middle for a photo at the end of each category. Will also welcome everyone to hold your applause until the end of each category.

After the presentation of the 25-yr pins, I will speak about training and those attending here tonight that have journeyed out in the past year, so that they may step forward for their golden hammer pin, and to give closing comments.

Celebrated those of you well into your journey, it is time to acknowledge our newest journeymen and women. These individuals have dedicated themselves both in training and in the field, to earn this recognition.

Working in training, I have had the opportunity to know each of them and witness their development and personal investment in advancing their skills. These are the people that persevered and committed to completing training.

We are grateful to be able to acknowledge the end of the first chapter as an apprentice, and eager to support you in your next long chapter as a UBC journeyman or journeywoman. We all wish you continued success in your careers.

Please step forward as I read your name to get your hammer pin.