



Minnesota State Building & Construction Trades Council January 2021 Newsletter

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Wishing you a Safe, Happy and Healthy New Year!

2021 Building Trades Legislative Priorities

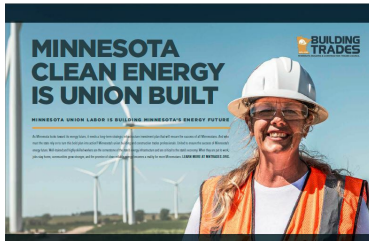
The Building Trades advocates for priorities and policies that support the 70,000 union construction professionals that work and live in Minnesota. Our 2021 legislative agenda supports:



- **Pro-Worker Energy Policy.** Supporting Pro-Worker Pro-Community Energy policies that include investments in current and future energy infrastructure and building efficiency and require prevailing wage, apprenticeship, labor standards, and licensing. [Learn More.](#)
- **Prevailing wages.** Ensuring prevailing wages are required and that prevailing wage requirements are enforced on all construction projects funded or financed by the public including public buildings, infrastructure, clean energy and affordable housing. [Learn More.](#)
- **Registered Apprenticeship.** Supporting Construction Workforce Training through Registered Apprenticeship programs by encouraging registered apprentice utilization in industry, expanding union apprenticeship readiness programs and supporting age-appropriate and safe career exposure and exploration programs for youth including Construction Careers Pathways, Helmets to Hardhats, Construct Tomorrow and Building Strong Communities. [Learn More.](#)
- **COVID Economic Recovery and Infrastructure Investment.** Supporting public investments in water and sewer, transportation and transit, affordable housing, and asset preservation to keep Building Trades members working safely in 2021 and beyond.

To learn more about the Building Trades 2021 Legislative Priorities click [here](#).

Minnesota's Clean Energy Future is Union Built



Minnesota's union building and construction trades workers are building Minnesota's energy future – today. Union construction professionals have the skill, dedication, training and expertise to turn innovation into action. The Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council has laid out our energy investment priorities for 2021 and beyond. Visit: MnTrades.org/energy to learn more.

COVID Testing

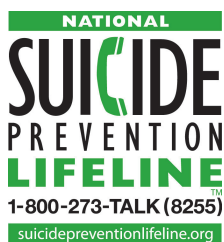
The only way to make sure that Building Trades members can continue to work during the pandemic is if we stay healthy and we keep each other safe. You can help stop the spread of COVID-19 in Minnesota: wear a mask; socially distance; get tested; stay home; stay safe.



Get Tested. The Minnesota Department of Health continues to provide free COVID-19 testing at sites across the state. This testing is available to everyone with or without COVID symptoms. You can also order an in-home saliva testing kit. You can also continue to visit your medical provider or clinic to get tested. For all testing sites throughout the state visit: [COVID-19 Testing - Minnesota Dept. of Health](https://www.health.state.mn.us/covid19/testing).

For more Building Trades COVID resources visit: mntrades.org/covid-19-resources.

Suicide Prevention



In the last month, we have lost three union brothers to suicide. Construction remains the number one industry for death by suicide in the nation. Don't ignore the signs – reach out, respond, connect, prevent suicide.

Suicide Prevention Resources for the Construction industry are available at:

- Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) – [Suicide Prevention](#)
- Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention – [Prevent Construction Suicide](#)

Get Help Now. If you or someone else is thinking about suicide call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline, a free and confidential resource that connects individuals with

trained counselors 24/7. Call 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255). Text HELLO to 741741. Or [CLICK HERE](#).

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