

International Brotherhood of

BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS

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February 5, 2021

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23(a-23)-21

RE: Decision on virtual 34th Consolidated Convention

Dear Lodge Leaders, staff, employees, partners and other concerned parties:

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the International Executive Council has made the difficult but necessary decision to host the 34th Consolidated Convention virtually. While we would all, of course, prefer to meet in person, we simply are not confident that we will be in a position in July to responsibly and safely travel or meet in a large-group setting. Additionally, we are concerned that Canadian Boilermakers may still have difficulty entering the United States at that time.

Because of the virtual format of this convention, the event will be abbreviated and will be limited solely to necessary business. As directed in our Constitution, convention committees will still be appointed and will meet as needed to maintain forward progress and address any needed business. In all regards, we will work to the best of our abilities in planning to ensure the convention and committee meetings are substantive, our virtual platform runs as smoothly as possible and that our organization's business needs and expectations are well met.

Again, I want to stress that this decision was necessary for the safety of delegates and their families, as we remain uncertain regarding when vaccines will be widely available and will have no way of ensuring all in attendance will be able to have a vaccine prior to the convention. Further, quarantine requirements across provinces and the U.S./Canadian border may continue to be in place in July, preventing our Canadian brothers and sisters from participating in an in-person event.

Additionally, the decision was fiscally responsible. While the situation with vaccines and quarantine requirements may change in the coming months, in working with Caesars Palace and making the decision *now* to cancel our in-person event and agreeing to hold our 2026 35th Consolidated Convention at their property, the International Executive Council was able to save our organization \$1.6 million.

While we will most certainly miss the opportunity to meet in person to conduct our business and celebrate our organization's history and future, we nonetheless look forward to meeting virtually to keep our organization moving forward and address our Convention business.

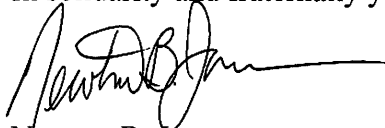
Lodge Leaders, staff, employees, partners and other concerned parties

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Additional information and details will be shared with you as they become available. Please be guided and plan accordingly, I am

In solidarity and fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Newton B. Jones', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Newton B. Jones
International President

NBJ:krs

cc: W. Creeden, IST
International Vice Presidents
T. Brown, COS, ED-ISO
M. Vandiver, ED-CSO