

# ROOFERtoROOFER

by International President Kinsey M. Robinson

## Your Pension Dollars at Work

In this issue of *The Journeyman Roofer & Waterproofer*, we will once again focus on how the assets of the National Roofing Industry Pension Plan are used to create good union jobs for roofers and waterproofer and at the same time provide benchmark-beating performance in a well-managed and reliable, solid investment. On the front cover and beginning on page 2 you will see and read about members of Seattle, WA, Local 54 working on an all-union project financed through the AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust, utilizing pension dollars.

Created in 1988, the Building Investment Trust has provided diversified and prudent investment opportunities in commercial real estate for union pension funds, while ensuring competitive low-risk returns. The Trust's current portfolio of diversified holdings includes office complexes, industrial structures, retail facilities, hotels and apartments and condominiums. While the Building Investment Trust's first responsibility is to maximize returns for participating pension funds, it also embraces a unique philosophy built on the principle that union pension investments can create and sustain good union construction jobs. When the Building Investment Trust finances a project or purchases existing commercial real estate, its strong labor policies

ensure that 100% of on-site construction work will be done by responsible contractors using only union building trades workers. The operation, service and maintenance work at buildings held by the Building Investment Trust are also performed by union workers.



Over the course of two decades, the Building Investment Trust has used its pro-union philosophy to generate over 30 million hours of work for roofers, waterproofer and other building trades men and women. The International Union and the National Roofing Industry Pension Plan enjoy a special relationship with the Building Investment Trust. We have confidence that our pension funds are invested with an experienced and professionally managed operation that embraces the same goals and values that our members hold. At the same time we can see that these values translate into solid, steady returns for our retirement funds. The Building Investment Trust continues to demonstrate that pension plans can invest prudently, while supporting union principles and ideals.