

UA CANADA FEATURED MEMBER

Raven Hillenbrand is an Instructor with Local 170 in Vancouver BC. She is a Red Seal Plumber with a Gas "B" Fitter certification. She is giving back to future generations and passing on the knowledge she's gained.

Not only has Raven built a successful career for herself through the UA, but she has also set her children on that same path. Her career started with the "WITT" (Women in Trades Training) program that was offered through UAPIC. Her children were young at that time, but she completed her apprenticeship and it brought her to where she is today. Now, she is proud to say that both of her children are members with Local 170. Her family has grown with the great Brothers and Sisters of the UA.

During the early times in her apprenticeship, Raven was able to overcome a few of the challenges in the industry. From learning to adapt to working in various weather conditions and overcoming her fear of failure, she was able to build confidence each time she prevailed over another hurdle. Never being afraid to ask questions is key. Raven had many great mentors through her years. They were helpful and willing to take the time to train, educate and make sure that she was doing things right. Coming from the health-care field, and administration prior to the trades, this was a new environment, and she persevered, showing she has exactly what it takes to make it in the construction industry!

Raven leads by example and is incredibly proud to be able to teach others what a career in the Pipe Trades is all about. She has inspired people within her community to challenge themselves and knowing that it's possible to achieve success if you put the work in. The UA provides training, education, great health care, pensions and benefits. The opportunities are plentiful—you just need to find what fits.

Not only is Raven an instructor at UAPIC, she's also been a charge hand on several large projects downtown Vancouver. She's an active union member when it comes to committee work, and is part of the BC Building Trades Committee, Build Together BC and Local 170's Woman's Committee.

Raven's dedication to her trade and inspiration has not gone unnoticed. She is proof that hard work pays off, and building a career in the Piping Trades can set you up for lifelong success. "I would like to thank my Brothers and Sisters of the United Association and Local 170 for the love and support I have and continue to receive each day. This is the best decision I made in my life for my future and career. I am very proud to be a member of the UA."

- UA Canada



Raven (right) with daughter Jasmine and son Eisley-all three are members of UA Local 170.