

RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
VOL 2 | Issue 5 | 30 March 2015



Letter from Secretary

SAFETY CAMPAIGN



Luba Grigorovitch
State Secretary

The RTBU is calling on the State Government and the major public transport operators

to initiate a safety campaign, directed at the travelling public, to improve safety for frontline staff on trains, trams and buses.

Our members have been the victims of violent behaviour in their workplace in a number of incidents over the past few months – directed at them by an unruly minority of the travelling public - the most recent of which was an absolute disgrace. The travelling public need to know that RTBU members have a right go to work and return home safe.

The State Government must step in and get the key stakeholders together to initiate an education campaign to promote respect on public transport. The safety of our members and the travelling public is and always has been a top priority.

Last July the RTBU wrote to the 3 major public transport operators and the State Government, requesting that safety be taken more seriously and further that a comprehensive review be undertaken of the training and support provided to all frontline staff.

Disappointingly, the Napthine Government did not see merit in stepping in and acting on this proposal. The RTBU is calling on the new State Government to demonstrate their commitment to safety and to ensure that the public transport operators and PTV firstly come together to work



on an education campaign and secondly to implement the following measures so frontline staff are equipped to handle any situation that they might encounter on the job. These measures include:

- Self-Defence/Conflict Resolution Training - all front line members should have some basic self-defence/conflict resolution training in case they are put in a vulnerable position.
- First Aid Training - Front line staff are constantly dealing with the public and would be better placed if they had first aid training to help them assist.

Our Union is also calling for improved video surveillance across the entire system. Additional cameras would ensure that the travelling public are aware that they are being recorded when doing the wrong thing.

Under no circumstances is acceptable to spit on, abuse or assault Customer Service Officers who are simply doing their job. Whether it is a Station Officer who informs you that the train is late or an Authorised Officer who asks to check your MYKI, these workers MUST be treated with respect.

It's time front-line staff received the training, support and respect they need to do their jobs safely.

Luba Grigorovitch
State Secretary

E-GATE MEMBERS DEMAND ADEQUATE WORKING CONDITIONS

Track members at E-Gate are outraged that they do not have access to the most basic and fundamental of conditions – a lunch room.

After a mass meeting between management and RTBU members on March 10, it was agreed that the old L&D (Learning and Development) site would become the location for a new meal room.

A working party was established to assist in the delivery of the new amenities.

The delegates formed the following list of demands:

- Enough space to allow all track, and contract workers to sit comfortably and eat.
- A kitchen fitted with a fridge, microwave, pie warmer, sink etc.
- A daily cleaning and a re-supply schedule.
- Heating and cooling.
- Adequate locker space.
- Adequate toilets and shower facilities.
- Washing machine and detergents.

Metro are yet to respond to the above requests but have committed to a timeframe of completion of approximately 6 weeks. The Union awaits their answer.

Bryan Evans
Organiser



DRAFT METRO ROSTER ROLLOUT



Grant Wainwright
Organiser

As station staff members would know, Metro recently advised the Rail Operations

Division of their intention to roll out draft rosters to the entire metropolitan network with the aim of having rosters up and running by mid to late April.

The RTBU sub-committee continues to meet with Metro management to endeavour that all concerns raised from the rollout and its impact are addressed as soon as possible.

Members wishing to raise issues regarding rosters should first talk to their local delegate and if possible provide concerns in writing to ensure all issues are raised and can be dealt with.

Further, together with the RTBU sub-committee we have developed a schedule of meetings to be held at strategic times across the network. The sub-committee will visit as many locations as possible. These dates and times will be circulated via a notice as soon as possible.

As always, members wishing to for more information or advice should contact your local delegate, the Union office or myself at anytime.

The following are contact numbers for myself and the sub-committee:

Grant Wainwright: 0421 122 437

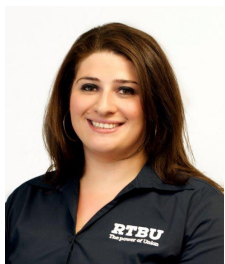
Joe Maisano: 0411 819 267

Kath Larkin: 0420 273 939

Victor Moore: 0400 092 807

John Ashley: 0402 658 156

YOUR EA CAMPAIGN: REPORT BACK



Rima Tawil
Industrial Officer

Preparations are well underway for this round of EA bargaining, with over 25 Enterprise Agreements up

for re-negotiation in 2015. Whilst we are at different stages for each EA, we can report back on the following key updates:

1. OUREA Member Surveys

Thank you to those members who got their survey back to us. As the surveys continue to be received, we have been able to identify a number of common key issues which our members have told us matter most to them in this EA bargaining round.

Your feedback in these surveys will assist the RTBU bargaining team when negotiating your wages and conditions in this bargaining round.

2. EA Delegates Planning Meetings (Metro/V/Line)

We have now held an EA delegates planning meeting for all Divisions across Metro and V/Line. The next scheduled meetings will take

place over the next week. Delegates should have now received their relevant meeting time.

3. Commencement of Bargaining – Majority Support Determination Application Petition

We were overwhelmed with the number of members who have signed and returned the petition saying that they support the immediate commencement of bargaining for a replacement EA for the Metro Operations Division. To date, Metro is continuing to refuse to commence bargaining immediately.

Our Branch Secretary, Luba Grigorovitch, has again written to Metro making it crystal clear that RTBU members want to commence bargaining immediately for a replacement EA and calling on Metro to reconsider its current tactic to deliberately delay and frustrate this process and instead commit to immediately commencing bargaining in good faith, in the interest of our members and the travelling public.

Please continue to circulate and return this petition to the RTBU office or by fax on 9600 3363.

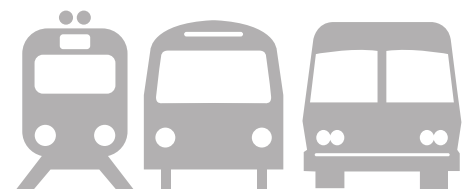
4. EA Review Dispute off to the Fair Work Commission (FWC)

Not only is Metro deliberately delaying the commencement of bargaining, but they are also refusing to meet to review the current EA for the Operations Division in accordance with the EA provision.

As a result of Metro's appalling disregard to this important process, the RTBU has formally lodged a dispute with the FWC to get Metro to commence the EA review process immediately and will attend a hearing at the FWC on Monday 30 March.

Members will be kept updated as the dispute progresses.

If you have any questions please contact your Organiser or the Union Office on 9600 3030.



Contact us

rtbuvic.com.au
(03) 9600 3030

Level 2, 365 Queen Street,
Melbourne, VIC 3000

E rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
F 03 9600 3363

State Secretary
Luba Grigorovitch

Rail Operations / Administration

Organiser: Grant Wainwright

Infrastructure Division
Secretary: Kevin Killender

Admin & Salaried Division
Secretary: Steven Kozmevski

Rail Operations Division
Organiser: Darren Galea

Admin & Salaried Division
Organiser: Jamie Porter

Workshops Division
Secretary: Paul Jumpertz

Industrial Officer
Rima Tawil

Infrastructure, Workshops & Labour Hire

Organiser: Bryan Evans

