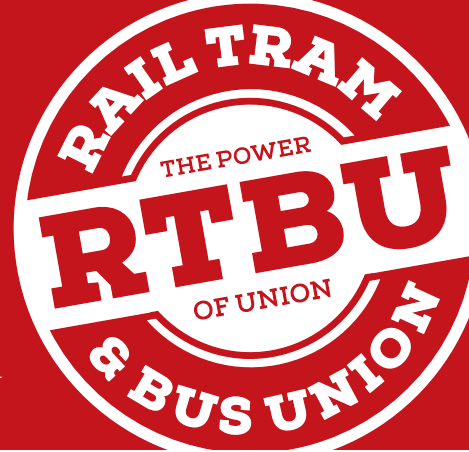
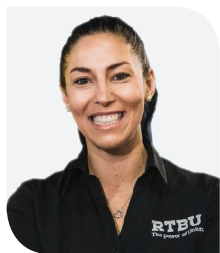


RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
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MAJOR ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT UPDATE: SPECIAL EDITION



Luba Grigorovitch
State Secretary

METRO OPERATIONS EA

RTBU EAs are in full swing with ground being broken. As members are aware, the RTBU notified Metro of work bans on the week of 12 August. Metro members in operational grades whipped into action. In light of mounting pressure, Metro threatened to dock members' pay but this only further incited hard working members as Metro's heavy hand likely overstepped the mark.

The RTBU has sought legal advice on the docking of pay for minor work bans. Should Metro seek to dock members' pay in future instances of Protected Industrial Action, the RTBU will commence legal proceedings to challenge their attacks.

Eager to block members' attempts to take action, Metro moved to have some of your actions blocked through a court injunction.

Metro claimed that leaving barriers open was not a form of industrial action as it was not part of ordinary duties and as a result would not be 'protected' under the legislation. Further, they

claimed that misleading statements had been made about how you were going to take some forms of industrial action. The RTBU told the court that the union had never said that there would be "free travel days" and that the media had done what they do best in sensationalising anything they can get their hands on.

No wonder workers across Australia have continued to grow disillusioned by the industrial relations system! In a matter of hours, the Federal Court awarded Metro with an injunction against planned action of open barriers and issued a court order and the RTBU invested considerable time and effort to ensure compliance. This is 2019 Australia. The rules indeed need to be changed!

With all other forms of industrial action on the table for the week to come, the RTBU responded to Metro's threats to dock members' pay by notifying a 4-hour stoppage scheduled for Tuesday 27 August. Metro's little win in the courts did little to curb members' momentum.

The culmination of threatened industrial action, court battles, and Metro's general confusion, the weekend saw Metro return to the bargaining table looking to put talks back on track, seeking to restore faith in their approach to bargaining.

Following lengthy discussions amongst Officials and key Delegates, the RTBU made the call to capitalise on the opportunity to advance claims and withdrew looming work bans to enter intensive negotiations. These negotiations have proven to be beneficial, and although we are yet to reach an agreement, these talks have proved generally positive, the RTBU continues to push forward and ensure claims are taken seriously.

I have heard from many Members just how keen you are to take protected action if a fair deal isn't forthcoming. Members should know that the period in which Metro members can take protected industrial action presently expires on 28 August. Consequently, Marc Marotta and I have applied to the Fair Work Commission to have our right to take protected action extended by another 30 days.

Although we called off the original stoppage, please be under no illusion that one might not happen. The RTBU is prepared to play the long game.

The RTBU will refuse to sign off on a deal that could compromise the safety and working conditions of members.

Members deserve to be respected at work, and the RTBU will demand it

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary

"MAROONED" IS A PLAY WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RTBU MEMBER MICHAEL GRIFFITH

This play was written to tackle the problem of suicide in our society, with a particular view to the emotional and social challenges in male suicide.

With RTBU members often on the coal face of such emotional trauma, change is critical and this is not to be missed!

The RTBU has a discount code for family and friends of the RTBU wanting to go see the play. The discount code is 'RTBU'.

To purchase tickets, or for more information, visit

<https://urlzs.com/b3BwR>

RTBU
The power of Union

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MAJOR ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT UPDATE: SPECIAL EDITION



Joe Dennis & Darren Galea

Organisers

V/LINE OPERATIONS EA

Negotiations for the V/Line Rail Operations Enterprise Agreement have officially begun with the Log of Claims (LOC) for both the RTBU and V/Line being exchanged at the first meeting.

At a recent meeting of all V/Line Operations

Delegates, further discussion occurred around the LOC and how bargaining will proceed from here onwards. There has now been two bargaining meetings and the next meeting will take place on Thursday 29 August 2019.



V/Line Delegates with Branch Secretary Luba Grigorovitch & Organisers Darren Galea and Joe Dennis

Delegates Meeting Dates – September 2019

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| ■ 2 September: V/Line Eastern Region – 1100 - 1200hrs | ■ 11 September: MMAOs – A & C Delegates – 1100 - 1200hrs | ■ 20 September: V/Line Northern Region – 1100 - 1200hrs |
| ■ 4 September: Wilson Security – 1300-1400hrs | ■ 12 September: Metro NSS / CCTV – 1100 - 1200hrs | ■ 24 September: TfV (Transport for Victoria) – 1400 - 1500hrs |
| ■ 6 September: V/Line Western Region – 1100 - 1200hrs | ■ 13 September: Probe (PTV Call Centre) – 1000 - 1100hrs | ■ 25 September: V/Line Control – 1100 - 1200hrs |
| ■ 9 September: North Melbourne AOs – A & D Delegates – 1000 - 1100hrs | ■ 18 September: Malvern AOs – A & D Delegates – 1000 - 1100hrs | ■ 25 September: V/Line Shunters - Southern Cross – 1100 - 1200hrs |
| ■ 9 September: TPH AOs – A & D Delegates – 1200 - 1300hrs | ■ 18 September: Hawthorn AOs – B & C Dele – 1000 - 1100hrs | ■ 26 September: Metrol, Timetables, Rosters & Signallers - 1000 - 1200hrs |
| ■ 10 September: Metro Central (FSS) – 1100 - 1200 hrs | ■ 18 September: Metro Northern / Clifton Hill – 1100 - 1200hrs | ■ 26 September: Metro Burnley – 1000 - 1100hrs |
| ■ 11 September: Metro Caulfield – 1100 - 1200 hrs | ■ 19 September: V/Line Southern Cross 1000 - 1100hrs | |

Contact us

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State Secretary

Luba Grigorovitch

Infrastructure Division

Secretary: Jon Saw

Admin & Salaried Division

Organiser: Joe Dennis
Secretary: Steven Kozmevski

Rail Operations Division

Organiser: Darren Galea

Workshops Division

Secretary: Paul Jumpertz

Infrastructure, Workshops & Labour Hire

Organiser: Bryan Evans

Industrial Officer

Vik Sharma



MAJOR ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT UPDATE: SPECIAL EDITION



Bryan Evans

Organiser

INFRASTRUCTURE, LABOUR HIRE AND ROLLINGSTOCK EA'S



Metro Infrastructure Members at E-Gate

Metro Infrastructure

Following several mass meetings held on Monday the 12 August, the RTBU is pleased to announce that members have endorsed an in-principle agreement for the Metro Infrastructure EA 2019. In a departure from tradition, the infrastructure agreement has been completed relatively on time and is scheduled to proceed to a formal vote over the coming weeks.

For this EA, the RTBU set out to continue our work creating secure employment in the rail industry, to close loopholes exploited by Metro over the life of current agreement and deliver a fair pay rise.

This has largely been accomplished by placing further restrictions as to when a member can be stood down, greater control over the implementation of new rosters, greater control over the use of supplementary labour, a solid commitment to insourcing over the life of the agreement, the establishment of a safe working

committee, an additional 36 full-time jobs and a 14% pay rise with a 2% sign on bonus.

I thank the hard work of the Delegates and the bargaining team in delivering the proposed agreement.

Metro Rolling Stock

Rolling Stock negotiations have largely been bogged down in exactly how best to deal with what will ultimately be an upcoming period of vast change across rolling stock maintenance. With the company pushing for network wide roster changes, the impacts of HCMT, the Comeng retirement and the need to modernise skill sets to deal with modern fleets, this EA is one of the more complex negotiations in this major EA round.

The RTBU firmly holds the view that any solution to these issues designed and endorsed by the members is going to be vastly superior to any the company intends to jam down our throat, and this EA is the time to deal with it.

V/Line Infrastructure

To date, there have been two bargaining meetings for the V/Line Infrastructure 2019 EA, so in the grand scheme of things, it very early days. V/Line's main focus this agreement appears to be its claims relating to rostering flexibility.

V/Line's explanation would indicate this claim is designed for the transition of work from days to nights on what we assume is the busier corridors of the regional network which has seen, and will continue to see increased services.

The RTBU has requested further information regarding this claim and expect to have more information after the next bargaining meeting on Friday 30 August.



SAVE REGIONAL RAIL JOBS

STARTING WITH ALSTOM BALLARAT

Ballarat Workshops has been open for over 100 years, and inaction from the Government now threatens the closure of the Ballarat Rail Workshops.

We need to put pressure on the Andrews State Labor Government to ensure that rail manufacturing and maintenance stays at Alstom Ballarat.

With the potential loss of 70 regional jobs at Alstom, we need to act now!

RTBU

The power of Union

Calling all off-duty RTBU members to join us and show your support for the Alstom Ballarat crew!

Wednesday 28 August 2019

12pm

**Alstom Ballarat Railway Workshops
600 Creswick Rd, Ballarat Central VIC**