

RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
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Luba Grigorovitch

State Secretary

EA BARGAINING BEGINS WITH METRO



I am pleased to report that after taking some time to get to the table, bargaining is finally underway with the Metro Operations EA. Both Metro and the RTBU have swapped logs of claims and no time was lost before "robust discussions" commenced.

Notably, we sought a commitment from Metro that any vote for a new EA would be via a show of hands as has historically occurred in this industry. Agreement was not made and therefore this will be the first agenda item for the next meeting. We had raised this issue with Metro in good faith, however Metro have made it obvious the way in which they hope to conduct negotiations.

The RTBU is familiar with numerous companies that have used electronic voting to control outcomes and record data on staff voting. Given the presumptive tone of Metro's glossy bargaining pamphlet "Enterprise Bargaining 2019", members should be wary of Metro's posturing or spin.

Numerous members have already raised concerns about the prospect of an electronic

vote. Aside from obvious concerns about the privacy of our members, we are also concerned that many of our members will not be able to participate in an electronic vote in the same way they could a show of hands due to technology barriers.

We put our claim to Metro outlining the improvements we seek on behalf of our members providing some background about the interests behind each claim. In return, Metro provided a one-page double-sided document detailing cuts and "flexibilities" which they will be seeking to achieve through the course of bargaining.

The RTBU is willing to negotiate in good faith, but Metro must be aware that "flexibilities" must not be at the expense of working conditions.

Regular bargaining meetings are now scheduled with Metro to occur across Rail Operations, Infrastructure and Rolling Stock.

The Log of Claims as developed in conjunction with Delegates has been circulated to members. If you have not received a copy and would

like to see the log please contact the office on 8630 9100 or email rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au. We will ensure your details are updated so you receive the most up to date information about your EA.

Members should be aware that monthly delegate meetings are happening to ensure members are kept in the loop.

V/Line, Yarra Trams, Probe and Bombardier EAs also expire on 30 June this year and we will continue to keep members up to date with developments as they occur.

If you have any queries don't hesitate to ask your organiser. With more active members across the network everyone is doing their bit to keep the bosses honest, this is your EA!

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary

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Darren Galea

Organiser

AO'S AND PSO's WORKING TOGETHER

Since 2010 when the Protective Service Officer's (PSOs) were first introduced to the network, there has been ongoing negotiations between the RTBU and The Police Association (TPA) regarding PSO involvement on the rail network.

Moving forward, since September last year PSOs have been introduced on the network and are permitted to travel on some trains. Prior to this, PSOs were not permitted to travel on trains or trams.

There are now 25 roving PSOs who are permitted to travel on trains and trams. Earlier on during the consultation involving all parties, there was an agreement that AO and PSO workshops would be created with RTBU representatives and TPA representatives to engage and build relationships moving forward.

In the last two weeks, we have held two workshops involving the Delegates and officials of the AO grade and PSO grade.



AO and PSO Delegates at the first RTBU / TPA workshop

The workshops have been successful so far with many attendees from both the RTBU

and TPA and we look forward to progressing with a positive working relationship in the future.

The greater we as rail workers can work with the PSOs, the safer our network will be.

ESSO LONGFORD DISPUTE – FOOD DRIVE

For over 600 days, the workers from ESSO who were unfairly sacked have been on a picket line. It is once again time that we show our support for them, which is why the RTBU is arranging a food drive for the ESSO families on the picket.

Not being able to work for 600+ days can cause both emotional and financial stress

STOP ESSO'S



to a family which is why we want to do all that we can by preparing baskets of non-perishable food items to donate to the families on the picket.

If you have items that you wish to donate, please deliver them to the RTBU Office, Level 2 365 Queen Street Melbourne at your earliest convenience.

On Tuesday 2 April, the RTBU team will be heading to Longford for the day to visit the unionists on the picket and take these food baskets to them. If you have the day off and would like to join us on the trip to Longford, please email rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au to book your seat in the cars.

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
Alice Dunn

**Rail Operations /
Administration**
Organiser: Joe Maisano



DELEGATES MEETING DATES – MARCH 2019

- **1 March:** V/Line Western – 1100-1200hrs
- **5 March:** Metro Central – Flinders St 1100-1200hrs
- **8 March:** Probe (PTV Call Centre) – 1000-1100 hrs
- **8 March:** Malvern AOs – B & C Delegates – 1000-1100hrs
- **8 March:** Hawthorn AOs – B & C Delegates – 1200-1300hrs
- **12 March:** Wilson Security – 1300-1400 hrs
- **13 March:** MMAOs – A & C Delegates – 1100-1200hrs
- **14 March:** V/Line Southern Cross – 1000-1100hrs
- **14 March:** Metro Caulfield – 1100-1200hrs
- **15 March:** V/Line Northern – 1100-1200hrs
- **20 March:** Metro Northern/Clifton Hill – 1100-1200hrs
- **20 March:** North Melbourne AOs – A & D Delegates – 1000-1100hrs
- **20 March:** TPH AOs – A & D Delegates – 1200-1300hrs
- **21 March:** Metro Burnley – 1100-1200hrs
- **26 March:** TfV (Transport for Victoria) – 1400-1500hrs
- **27 March:** V/Line Centrol – 1100-1200hrs
- **27 March:** V/Line Shunters – Southern Cross – 1100-1200hrs
- **28 March:** Metrol, Timetables, Rosters & Signallers – 1000-1200hrs



Joe Dennis

Organiser

V/LINE ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

We have recently been contacted by many members at V/Line regarding the upcoming Enterprise Agreement (EA) negotiations and when it will commence.

Being a Government owned corporation, in order to commence bargaining for the V/Line EA, V/Line need approval from the Victorian Government to commence negotiations. The RTBU is well aware that in the 2015 EA bargaining round there was an 18 month delay on sign off of this EA which we are determined to avoid this time around.

Branch Secretary Luba Grigorovitch has written to Treasurer Tim Pallas MP in early January to fast track the process to ensure that bargaining

can begin as soon as possible. We have not received a response from the Treasurer as yet, however we will update members when we have any progress on this.

In the meantime, a Delegate meeting to develop the Log of Claims (LOC) occurred in late 2018 and a further meeting with Delegates to endorse the final LOC will occur in due course once we are closer to commencing bargaining.

If members have any questions regarding the EA, please feel free to contact myself on 0403 863 869 or one of the other Organisers. The RTBU will continue to fight to improve and retain the current conditions.



CONGRATULATIONS TO HRISTOS TSIRKAS

2019 has seen 44 years for Hristos in the railways and it has also seen his retirement.

On Thursday 14 February 2019, Hristos Tsirkas was presented with Life Membership to the RTBU Victorian

Branch, the highest honour of the RTBU. Congratulations to Hristos, we wish you all the best in your retirement and thank you for your years of dedication to the Union. We know you are retired from the job, but never from the struggle.



RTBU WOMEN INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2019

You're invited to celebrate International Women's Day with us in what will be a great week of celebrating the achievements of women.

Join us for four great events spanning from Friday 1 March - Friday 8 March 2019:

Women's Rights at Work (WRAW) Festival Gala – Friday 1 March 2019

- 6:30pm – late
- Central Club Hotel, 246 Victoria Street, North Melbourne
- Celebrate the opening of WRAW Fest with women from across the union movement
- This is a ticketed event, so RSVP is essential

Feminist Movie Night – Tuesday 5 March 2019

- 5pm @ CFMEU Office, 540 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne
- All food and drinks included so RSVP is essential
- Beanbags, choc tops, popcorn and great company
- \$10 entry fee at the door. Drinks are a gold coin donation.

RTBU Annual International Women's Day Conference – Thursday 7 March 2019

- 10am – 2pm @ RTBU Head Office, Level 2, 365 Queen Street, Melbourne
- Join RTBU Women from across the Rail & Tram industries
- CEO Panel including the CEOs from Metro, V/Line, PTV and Yarra Trams
- RSVP is essential. If you have not yet RSVP'd or requested your release, please do so ASAP

IWD Rally & March – Friday 8 March 2019

- Join the RTBU Contingent for the International Women's Day Rally
- Men and Women are encouraged to attend and form the RTBU delegation
- 5:30pm at the State Library
- March as a collective with women from across the Union Movement and wider industries

Attendance for the Gala, movie night and the rally are on a voluntary basis so we will be unable to organise release for you from shift if you are rostered to work.

We hope to see as many members as possible to help us celebrate International Women's Day 2019.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CONFERENCE

RTBU WOMEN - UNITED IN THE FIGHT!

DATE: THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019
TIME: 10AM – 2PM
LOCATION: RTBU HQ LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET MELBOURNE 3000

RTBUWomen

RSVP (FOR RELEASE AND CATERING PURPOSES) ✉ WOMEN@RTBUVIC.COM.AU ☎ 8630 9100

YOU'RE INVITED

TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WITH US



FEMINIST MOVIE NIGHT

[Movie TBA]

TUESDAY 5 MARCH 2019

Drinks & Nibbles: 5:00pm
Movie screening: 6:00pm

Cost: \$10 entry fee
Drinks: gold coin donation

Location: CFMEU Office, Level 7
540 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne
3000

Dinner, popcorn & choc tops all included in the cost.

RSVP is essential for catering purposes.
To RSVP, click on: <https://feministmovienight.rsvpify.com>

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