

RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
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MR4 CAMPAIGN UPDATE



**Luba
Grigorovitch**
State Secretary

There has been a lot happening in relation to the upcoming decision of the State Government to either retain the services

of Metro & Yarra Trams, open up a competitive tender process or bring public transport back into the hands of the public.

Our Rail & Tram networks were privatized almost 20 years ago under the then Premier Jeff Kennett. Enough is enough. The experiment has failed and consequently the RTBU is calling on this State Government to undo the wrong.

The Government has the opportunity to explore more cost effective options that would protect the public interest while providing a better system for Victoria. Public transport should be controlled by Victorians, not overseas private companies. We are running this campaign because it is not only important to RTBU members, but also to the community.

If you are yet to sign the petition please do so by visiting:

<https://www.publictransportpublichands.com/>

We're calling a public meeting to set out the next steps. If you are booked off on Thursday please make every effort to attend this community meeting.

If we don't speak now collectively we run the risk of the contract being rolled over for another 7 years, now is our opportunity. ■

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary

COMMUNITY MEETING

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

PUBLIC HANDS

Over the past 7 years, **\$10 billion** of Victorian dollars have gone to foreign owned multinational companies Metro Trains and Yarra Trams.

Not only have running costs increased under these operators, hundreds of millions of dollars in profit has been sent offshore, leaving Victorians with cancelled trains, reduced tram services and a rotting network.

Hard earned Victorian taxes should be invested back into our transport system with better governance and greater transparency in the interest of ALL Victorians.

But the State Government seem intent on rolling over the contracts without public scrutiny.

With the contracts set to expire in 2017, now is our chance for change. We need you to join in the discussion.

10:00AM Thursday 2 February
Loading Bay, Victorian Trades Hall
54 Victoria St, Carlton 3053



With support from the
Public Transport Users Association (PTUA)

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DISCIPLINARY MEETINGS



Joe Maisano

Organiser

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back in the New Year. I look forward to working with you all throughout the year.

Towards the end of December 2016 and now as January progresses, Metro have

been increasingly calling members up for disciplinary meetings.

I am not writing this to put fear through the membership, but I want to ensure that everyone has an awareness that they are under observation from the company during all hours of work. Members should always ensure that they are on their best behaviour so there will be no falling outs and hopefully disciplinary meetings can be avoided.

In the event of you being called in for a disciplinary meeting please call myself on 0421 122 437 or the union office on 8630 9100 to ensure you are properly represented.

NEVER go into any meetings alone. You are entitled to representation whether it be your Delegate or a union official. ■

INJURED AT WORK? - GET HELP FROM UNION ASSIST



Jamie Porter

Organiser

INJURED AT WORK? - GET HELP FROM UNION ASSIST

Union Assist has been operating since 1999 and assists the RTBU

to provide expert advice and to help you with your WorkCover claim.

Union Assist is a service provided to RTBU members as part of the benefits of your Union membership.

WHAT CAN UNION ASSIST DO TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR WORKCOVER CLAIM?

- Once Union Assist receives authorisation from the union, it can help you challenge a decision made about your WorkCover claim
- Explain your rights and obligations under WorkCover
- Help and support you with your conciliation from start to finish by:
 - Assisting you complete a request for conciliation
 - Lodging the conciliation request
 - Attend and advise you during and after your conciliation meeting

UNHAPPY WITH A WORKCOVER DECISION?

WorkCover disputes don't have to be a formal dispute with the insurance company nor do they need to be in writing. Types of informal disputes are calculation of wages, non-

payment of medical expenses, refusal by the WorkCover insurer to make a decision about a request for treatment by your doctor, etc.

If you are unhappy with the decision (or non-decision) made about your claim, contact the RTBU for a referral to Union Assist.

IF YOU GET INJURED AT WORK

- Report your injury to your employer in writing, as soon as possible
- See your own doctor to obtain a WorkCover certificate of capacity, for time off work or restricted duties, if needed
- Lodge a WorkCover claim with your employer, along with the WorkCover certificate of capacity. Your employer cannot refuse to receive your claim
- You MUST attend all doctors' appointments arranged by the WorkCover Insurance company
- The Union strongly recommends that you do NOT talk to a WorkCover investigator. There is NO legal requirement to make a statement

HERE SOME EXAMPLES OF DISPUTES WHERE UNION ASSIST HAVE ASSISTED RTBU MEMBERS

- Painter suffered back injury due to poor ergonomics and being in awkward positions.
 - Dispute – non-payment of medical expenses
 - Resolved – expenses will be paid for an agreed period of time
- Warehouse supervisor suffered a stress

related injury due to being threatened by the boss.

- Dispute – rejection of claim and reimbursement of medical expenses
- Resolved – wages to be paid for an agreed period of time & medical expenses as requested paid
- Authorised Officer suffered injury to back, neck, shoulders due to falling off a broken chair
 - Dispute – transport to and from work to remain at work
 - Resolved – travel expenses to be paid for an agreed period of time
- Authorised Officer suffered injury to knee and leg due to walking on platforms, ramps and on and off trains
 - Dispute – termination of claim and medical expenses
 - Resolved – wages and medical expenses for an agreed period. ■



AN RTBU MEETING IS HAPPENING NEAR YOU

In 2017 we have again arranged meetings to occur regularly near your work place. Below is a list for January until March.

If your worksite is not below please notify the office by calling 9600-3030 and we can inform you when your next regular meeting will be.

Delegates Meeting Dates – January, February and March 2017

January

- 17 January - V/Line Northern – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 17 January - Metro Central (Flinders Street) – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 18 January - Metro Northern – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 20 January - V/Line South West – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 24 January – V/Line Southern Cross – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 25 January – Metro Caulfield – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 30 January – V/Line Eastern – 1100 – 1200hrs

February

- 1 February – Metro Burnley – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 7 February – Metro North Melbourne AOs A & B Delegates – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 7 February – Metro TPH AOs A & B Delegates – 1200 – 1300hrs
- 8 February – Metro Clifton Hill – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 10 February – V/Line Western – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 14 February – Metro Central (Melbourne Central) – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 14 February – Metro Hawthorn AOs B & C Delegates – 1200 – 1300hrs
- 14 February – Metro Malvern AOs B & C Delegates – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 15 February - Metro Northern – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 15 February – MMAOs A & C Delegates – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 17 February – Metro NSS / CCTV – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 21 February – V/Line Southern Cross – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 22 February – Pacific National MFT – 1500 – 1600hrs
- 22 February - Metro Caulfield – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 23 February – Drivers Allocation – 1330 – 1500hrs
- 23 February – Metrol, Timetables, Rosters & Signallers – 1000 – 1200hrs
- 24 February – V/Line North East – 1100 – 1200hrs

March

- 1 March – Metro Burnley – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 8 March – Metro Clifton Hill – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 8 March - MMAOs B & D Delegates – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 14 March - Metro Central (Flinders Street) – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 14 March – V/Line Northern – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 14 March – Metro NSS / CCTV – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 15 March - Metro Northern – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 17 March – V/Line South West – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 21 March – V/Line Southern Cross – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 21 March – Metro North Melbourne AOs C & D Delegates – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 21 March – Metro TPH AOs C & D Delegates – 1200 – 1300hrs
- 21 March - Metro North Melbourne AOs C & D Delegates – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 21 March - Metro TPH AOs C & D Delegates – 1200 – 1300hrs
- 22 March - Metro Caulfield – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 23 March - Drivers Allocation – 1330 – 1500hrs
- 27 March – V/Line Eastern – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 28 March - Metro Hawthorn AOs A & D Delegates – 1200 – 1300hrs
- 28 March – Metro Malvern AOs A & D Delegates – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 29 March - Metro Burnley – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 30 March – Metrol, Timetables, Rosters & Signallers – 1000 – 1200hrs

Please note that there will also be meetings for Wilson Security and V/Line Authorised Officers. Dates TBA.



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RTBU
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FRANCHISE Public Transport, MR4 2016 AGREEMENT Public Hands

Early in 2017, the State Government has the rare opportunity to make a move against the damages of Kennett's privatisation and protect the interests of Public Transport workers and Victorian Taxpayers.

The **RTBU** firmly believes that Metro and Yarra Trams are not the best companies to run Victoria's Public Transport – our network would be better off back in the hands of the public, or as a bare minimum with the contracts out to market to ensure Victorians get the best possible deal. **We won't stand by as the bosses do a cozy deal with the Politicians at Spring St.**

We are calling on the State Government to make a bold move and put the **public** back into **public transport**, and return democracy to our transport and our workplaces!

To get involved in the campaign for our chance for change, visit:

www.publictransportpublichands.com

or look us up on Facebook (**RTBU Victoria**).



Health insurance premiums risen? They haven't for RTBU members with rt's Premium Hospital cover

RTBU (Vic) members with rt's Premium Hospital cover won't pay a cent more for their cover this year. And, new Victorian members who join with the same level of cover can take advantage of the price lock benefit, too!

Remember, RTBU Health Plan members also get:**

- ✓ A 5% discount
- ✓ An immediate waiver of all 2 and 3-month waiting periods
- ✓ A \$150 petrol or grocery voucher.

It's your union health plan – developed for you, backed by your union.

LOCK IN THE 2015
RATES FOR PREMIUM
HOSPITAL COVER -
ALL YEAR LONG!

Call us today!
1300 782 810

rtbu@rthealthfund.com.au
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rt health **FUND** **(MEMBERS OWN HEALTH FUND)**

*For Victorian holders of Premium Hospital cover. **Terms and conditions apply. © RT Health Fund 2016. 0316/3087

Contact us

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State Secretary
Luba Grigorovitch

Infrastructure Division
Secretary: Jon Saw

Admin & Salaried Division
Secretary: Steven Kozmevski

Rail Operations Division
Organiser: Darren Galea

Admin & Salaried Division
Organiser: Jamie Porter

Workshops Division
Secretary: Paul Jumpertz

**Infrastructure, Workshops
& Labour Hire**
Organiser: Bryan Evans

Industrial Officer
Jessica Mekhael

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

