

RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
VOL 3 | Issue 13 | 06 July 2016



V/LINE EA ENDORSED BY DELEGATES AND NOW READY FOR THE VOTE



**Luba
Grigorovitch**

State Secretary

I am pleased to announce that on Tuesday 21 June, after hours of negotiations we were able to lock down an in principle

agreement for the new 2015 - 2019 V/Line Operations Enterprise Agreement (EA).

Last Tuesday the RTBU held a Delegates meeting with all Delegates from the Operations, Admin, Supervisory, Technical and Professional grades in attendance. At this meeting were RTBU Officials Jamie Porter, Darren Galea, Joe Maisano and I. The delegates voted unanimously to endorse the signing of the final 2015-2019 V/Line Enterprise Agreement.

This has been a long road and one hell of a fight to deliver what I believe to be a fair and good EA for all members. We have had some outstanding wins with very few concessions.

Some of the wins are:

- 14% wage increase over 4 years, 3% project facilitation payment and a 3% incentive payment all calculated at your base rate.
- Public Holiday – All shift workers to be paid ALL holidays if booked off and available.

- Signallers EDO returned.
- Trauma Leave entitlement up to 5 days leave per incident involving a rail vehicle.
- No extra claims clause to apply to both parties.
- Conductor roster code to include - Walk and prep times to be included into rosters, Committee and Rostering consultation and guidelines, jobs before and after job shifts to not exceed 7.5 hours and include 8hr guarantee payment.
- Working parties – RTBU and V/Line to create working parties to review and identify flexible rostering arrangements and vary rosters to accommodate work/life balance.
- Long Service Leave – Ease of access to take leave.
- Family Domestic violence clause strengthened.
- Counselling & Disciplinary – employees can review a final warning after 2 years to remove off file.
- Dispute Settlement Procedure – Allows disputes to arise relating to workplace practices, not just pertaining to the EA.
- Agreed Supplementary Labour clause which ensures job security.

Concessions made by the RTBU –

- Consolidation of Booking Clerks to Station Grade – Current booking clerks will maintain current classification and will be red circled. A commitment from V/Line that the RTBU will be in full consultation during the job evaluation process.

- In service train cleaning for Conductors and Station Staff in regional locations. This will include a surface clean and replacement of rubbish bags if full. A working party will be introduced to ensure appropriate trains, facilities, equipment and time allocation has been established before this can be introduced.

The RTBU remains committed to ensuring that these concessions are implemented in the safest way possible. Nothing will be skipped or overlooked. Already we are in discussions with the company about setting up a working party to ensure any new practices are implemented properly.

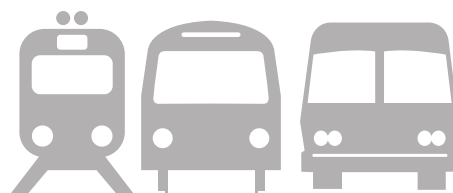
I understand that this EA has taken a long time and once again I apologise for the delay.

The EA vote schedule will be provided by V/Line within the coming weeks.

At every vote, an RTBU official will be present in case members have any questions, however any queries in the meantime please call your Delegate or Organiser.

I look forward to coming out to regional stations to go over the EA with you prior to the vote. ■

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary



STATION BUILDING WORKS



Joe Maisano

On Wednesday 29 June 2016 I attended a tour at the construction of the new stations building being built at the manufacturing

plant in Kilsyth.

The new Stations being built are St Albans and Ginifer Stations as part of the State Governments Level Crossing Removal program.

The stations structure is for the next generation premium stations and unstaffed stations designed to the level of host stations. The stations design is to the standard of DDA compliant, the booking office space allowing for two TOT (Ticket office terminal) Machines and a V/line Vnet computer terminal.

Office work areas allows for two computers and cupboard space for storage, locker(change) rooms and separate unisex toilet/shower rooms. The amenities area is well catered including a full size fridge, a microwave and a dishwasher.

Centralised heating and cooling supported by exhaust fans, storage area for chemicals stored for cleaning, separate PSO'S building and climate controlled waiting room.

On completion of building works the station build will be trucked in sections then joined together onsite at St Albans and the other location at Ginifer. ■



RTBU Women

JULY WOMEN'S MEETING

STOP BREAST INJURY

West Footscray Station Meeting Room
Thursday, 7 July 11:00am – 12:30pm

Special presentation:
All members welcome

Recently, one of our members has sustained a serious breast injury with permanent, irreversible and painful ligament damage. Breast injury at work must stop.

With appropriate PPE and track maintenance, the risk of serious injury to the Cooper's ligament can be avoided. We have the right to a safe workplace!

All women members are invited to attend this important campaign meeting and receive a free bra fitting.

If you have any questions or queries, don't hesitate to contact the union office on **8630 9100**.

SAFETY FOR FRONT LINE MEMBERS



Jamie Porter Organiser

Darren Galea Organiser



As many of you will be aware, there has been numerous incidents recently, involving conductors and our members. This week the RTBU safety email has been flooded with incidents from the past and present, some even happening within the past week.

Dealing with the travelling public is not an easy task, Conductors and station staff are constantly hurled with verbal abuse

for simply asking to check a ticket, yet it hasn't stopped at words. We have now seen members spat on, threatened and even physically abused to the extent to be hospitalised.

The RTBU has launched our RTBU Health and Safety campaign requesting 2 UP conductors and improved CCTV which has now reached the Transport Minister Jacinta Allen. We have been advised that the Minister has requested V/Line to establish a working party with a V/Line Board member and RTBU representatives to start putting safety first and looking out for our front line staff.

Last week, State Secretary Luba Grigorovitch and I caught up with the V/Line acting CEO Gary Liddle and it was confirmed that this working party would be created as a matter of urgency to address 2 UP conductors, as

well as safety for members. The RTBU will keep all members updated on the process of these meetings and the working party.

At this time I urge all members to continue using the RTBU Safety email address safety@rtbuvic.com.au and of course continue to log all Incident Reports if something is to happen whilst on shift.

The RTBU wishes Richard Phillips a speedy recovery and of course will be here beside him with his return to work. ■

JOB SECURITY FOR SAFE WORKERS



Bryan Evans Organiser

The RTBU have fought long and hard for full time jobs in Safe working.

This was enshrined in Sunstone's EA earlier this year, which saw the creation of 40 full time positions that are now being filled in Metro Infrastructure and Projects.

Safe working is critical to the safety of all members on track. Members who undertake safe working duties are required to follow a strict set of rules, act professional and understand the operations of vast areas of the Victorian networks. Most importantly they are

responsible for ensuring that members return home to their loved ones every day. So why is it that the majority of these integral positions remain casual?

If a safe worker runs afoul of a manager, they can be easily replaced by another, or if they are as little as investigated for a suspected incident, they are often stood down for several weeks without pay, regardless of whether the breach was major, minor or didn't occur to begin with.

This is why job security is absolutely critical to the wellbeing of not just safe workers, but the members they protect on track. It allows them to make good strong decisions regarding safety, and the industry needs to recognise this.

Over the next 12 months Skilled, Morsons, GTE and Safeworking Solutions EA's are all up for negotiation, and addressing these issues are becoming more and more critical. These positions are not casual labour hire positions, they are critical to day to day operations and the safety of all who work in the rail industry.

It is time that these members are respected as such, and get the job security that they deserve. ■



WORKERS COMPENSATION 1800 555 777

The compensation meant I wasn't also hurt financially.

Slater Gordon Lawyers



LONG SLEEVE TOPS



\$20

\$20

\$60
MENS

\$30
KIDS
HOODIE

\$50
WOMENS

\$50
POLO

AGES
2 - 4

BUSINESS SHIRTS



Health insurance premiums risen?

They haven't for RTBU members with rt's Premium Hospital cover

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

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.

Call us today!
1300 782 810

rtbu@rthealthfund.com.au
rthealthfund.com.au/rtbu



rt health **(MEMBERS OWN HEALTH FUND)**

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

Contact us

rtbuvic.com.au
(03) 8630 9100

Level 2, 365 Queen Street,
Melbourne, VIC 3000

E rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
F 03 8630 9122

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

