

RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
VOL 3 | Issue 3 | 15 February 2016



Letter from Secretary

A WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENT FOR MEMBERS & THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC



**Luba
Grigorovitch**
State Secretary

The Andrews Labor Government has recently delivered on a \$1.6 billion project that will see improved facilities and working

conditions for members, as well as increased services with forecasted higher reliability for the travelling public.

The recent announcement by the State government on the removal of nine level crossings on the Cranbourne-Pakenham line is a step in the right direction towards a better public transport system for that section of the network.

This announcement will see the creation of 2000 jobs, 10% of which will include apprentices and will also cater for an extra 11,000 passengers annually. Platforms will be lengthened to allow 37 high-capacity metropolitan trains that will greatly increase

the frequency of services and the working condition of existing facilities for members. This will translate to an increase in the capacity of passengers by 42% annually.

Evidently, there will be great benefits for our members in this new project. However, from the perspective of the RTBU this is simply a commitment for the bare minimum requirements of a modern and fully maintained track network along *one* line. While this is a step in the right direction we would like to see the same commitments made across the network, with a special emphasis on track maintenance and safety across the whole network, for all members and the public.

The project is scheduled to start in the second half of this year and to be completed in 2018. The project will see Carnegie, Murrumbeena, Hughesdale, Clayton and Noble Park stations re-built that will include upgrades to signalling and power across the corridor.

We are yet to see the end of the V/Line fiasco – this has set in stone that unreliable and unsafe public transport will not be tolerated by our members or the traveling public, and we are glad to see this Government is staying true to its promise of improving the public transport system through the Melbourne Metro Rail project. The proposed project will largely be completed with trains and roads running

without disruption to each other which will minimise disruptions to services.

While the RTBU is proud to support these announcements, we would also like to stress that continued progress cannot be made without healthy consultation between our Union, the Government and the Operator. The RTBU stands strong on its commitment to guarantee safety and fair working conditions for all members and will continue to push for further development and investment in our industry.

Overall, this proposal leaves us with a sense of optimism for our industry and members in the coming years, through increased investment into the maintenance and provision of services throughout the public transport system.

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary



WORKERS COMPENSATION 1800 555 777

The compensation meant
I wasn't also hurt financially.

Slater Gordon
Lawyers



AROUND THE TRAPS



Darren Galea

Organiser

I hope all RTBU members in Rail Operations are well rested and have had a good new year's break.

As we settle into the New Year, there are a number of outstanding issues carried through from last year that we are continuing to work to resolve.

Since the commencement of Night Network, issues have arisen around the times at which Authorised Officers at Metro are commencing their shifts. These issues have been raised with management and we are organising a process for reviewing the

current times with delegate and HSR involvement.

Negotiations for a new Enterprise Agreement with Wilson Security are ongoing. We hope to get an outcome sooner rather than later, however we are still working through the log of claims tabled by the Union and the Company at bargaining meetings. Wilson Security has also commenced consultation regarding structural changes of the Luggage Hall area at Southern Cross Station, in which delegates and HSRs are involved.

This year we have also been holding discussions with management in relation to putting in place monthly delegates' meetings in a majority of the different

departments across the business.

These meetings will give our delegates an opportunity to liaise with management throughout the year to sort out local issues that may come up in their department.

At Metro and V/Line we are also undertaking delegates' elections in the first half of this year. It would be great to see new delegates elected, so think about nominating if you are keen to step up and represent your workmates.

I am looking forward to working with you all in 2016 in continuing to stand up for your working rights and deliver good outcomes for our members.

V/LINE EA BARGAINING UPDATE



Jamie Porter

Organiser

V/Line's internal issues have seen our Enterprise Agreement negotiations go from minimal progression to a complete stand still.

On the back end of last year we saw no movement from V/Line as they did not want to budge on their idea of being able to increase shift lengths. We have heard the membership loud and clear that "our conditions are not for sale" - we will not simply budge on this. Protecting working conditions has been a high priority heading into negotiations and it will be at the end of these negotiations.

With little progress made last year, 2016 has now seen our negotiations fall at the waist line due to train wheel wear and tear,

timetable delays, coach replacements and the appointment of a new interim CEO.

Mass Meetings for members will be held at a station near you in the upcoming weeks. A schedule of locations and times will be distributed well in advance to ensure everyone has an opportunity to attend a meeting.

These will be rolling mass meetings to ensure we can get as many people down as possible.

If you are unable to attend, please speak to fellow members to ensure information can be relayed back at the meeting or alternatively please contact me anytime on **0403 863 869**.

Southern Cross Station will be first off the rank with a meeting scheduled for:

Thursday 18th February

Time: 12:00pm, 1:00pm, 2:00pm and 3:00pm

Where: Lunch Room (under the pods)

RTBU Women

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL

WOMEN'S DAY CONFERENCE

Thursday 10 March
11:00AM - 3:00PM
RTBU HQ: Level 2, 365 Queen St

**RSVP: women@rtbuvic.com.au
8630 9100**

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

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

