

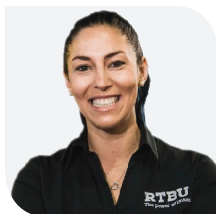
RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
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DELEGATES MEETING DATES – NOVEMBER 2018

- 7 November: **V/Line Central** – 1130 – 1230hrs
- 8 November: **V/Line Shunters Geelong** – 1100–1200hrs
- 8 November: **Metro Central** – Flinders Street – 1100–1200hrs
- 12 November: **North Melbourne AOs – A & B Delegates** – 1000–1100hrs
- 12 November – **TPH AOs – A & B Delegates** – 1200 –1300hrs
- 14 November – **MMAOs – B & D Delegates** – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 14 November – **Metro Clifton Hill** – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 15 November – **Metro Burnley** – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 15 November – **V/Line Northern** – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 19 November – **V/Line AOs** – 0930 – 1030hrs
- 20 November – **Metro NSS / CCTV** – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 21 November – **Metro CEU, CPU & CIU** – 0900 – 1000hrs
- 21 November – **Metro Northern** – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 22 November – **V/Line Southern Cross** – 1000 – 1100hrs
- 28 November – **V/Line Western** – 1100 – 1200hrs
- 28 November – **Metro Caulfield** – 1300 – 1400hrs
- 28 November – **Wilson Security** – 1400 – 1500hrs
- 29 November – **Metrol, Timetables, Rosters & Signallers** – 1000 – 1200hrs
- 29 November – **Metro Drivers Allocation** – 1330 – 1430hrs
- 30 November – **V/Line South West** – 1000 – 1130hrs



Luba Grigorovitch

State Secretary

2019 MAJOR EA BARGAINING ROUND

As many Members are already aware, in 2019 we face our major bargaining round including Enterprise Agreements (EA) for the major operators V/Line, Metro Trains and Yarra Trams.

Some months ago, the RTBU sent out a survey to all members covered by the Metro Trains, V/Line and Yarra Trams agreements. The aim of these EA surveys being to find out what is important to **YOU!**

We received thousands of responses and it was great that members got involved! From these responses I am confident that we can create a strong log of claims and be fully prepared for the upcoming EA round.

The data from the surveys is currently being collated and the top three priorities identified for Metro were:

- ➔ Job security;
- ➔ Leave entitlements; and
- ➔ Flexible working arrangements.

Some of the reoccurring themes in the survey for Metro have been understaffing and rostering issues with some Metro staff having emailed the union office to identify overtime for part-timers as a problem with the current EA.

The top three priorities identified for V/Line were:

- ➔ Job security;
- ➔ Workplace safety / OHS; and
- ➔ Leave entitlements.

Anecdotally, staff at V/Line are telling us that they would like to see an entitlement for all retiring staff of a free travel pass after 20 years of service. Currently this is only available to staff who commenced employment before 29 August 1999.

Over and over members reiterated the need to retain conditions in the upcoming negotiations. A staple for the RTBU that we will fight for. Following from this, Delegate meetings for all Rail Division Delegates for the five EAs up for

negotiation have been arranged at the following times and days:

- **V/Line Rail Operations EA:**
Tuesday 4 December 2018, 11am – 2pm
- **V/Line Infrastructure EA:**
Tuesday 11 December 2018, 10am – 1pm
- **Metro Trains Rail Operations EA:**
Tuesday 27 November 2018, 11am – 2pm
- **Metro Trains Infrastructure EA:**
Monday 10 December 2018, 10am – 1pm
- **Metro Trains Rollingstock EA:**
Monday 10 December 2018, 2pm – 5pm

Delegates will receive a formal invitation to these meetings shortly. If you are a Delegate, please make sure you put this date in your diary as it is imperative that you are there to represent the members in your workplace.

Coming into the major EA bargaining round, we are prepared and ready for the fight to not only retain the conditions that were fought for and won before us, but also achieve a fair wage increase.

This round of EA negotiations is one that will set the industry standard for the future EAs to come which is why we must remain united and strong during the negotiating process.

I look forward to working with you all to achieve the best outcomes for members and set the industry standard for Rail in Victoria.

If you did not receive your survey, or you have something that you wish to add to the log of claims for your EA, please contact the Union Office on 8630 9100 or email us at rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au.

Remember, this is YOUR EA - you need to be involved in this.

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary





Joe Dennis

Organiser

PTV CALL CENTRE

The PTV call centre has unfortunately always been a difficult one to deal with. For those of you that don't know, PTV outsource the PTV call centre to a company called Probe who currently employ 260 people within the PTV call centre.

While Probe has recently swallowed the former call centre, nothing else has changed with morale continuing to be at an all time low.

Staff are struggling to get basic things for their workplace. They are arguing to get anti-bacterial wipes for their shared workplaces (hot desking), they are denied access to union websites, denied access to their union organiser, they don't have a union notice board, they receive eight minutes a day for toilet breaks, they are paid minimum wage, and are subjected to abusive phone calls on an hourly basis.

When an abusive customer calls, the PTV call centre staff are advised to give three (polite) warnings before terminating the call. If the call is terminated earlier than this they are called into a meeting to explain why.

The RTBU, Australian Services Union (ASU) and National Union of Workers (NUW) are working together to address the abusive calls with management, not just for the PTV call centre, but for all the other call centres Probe have that are covered by other unions, such as VicRoads and Kmart.

A "zero tolerance" approach to abusive phone calls needs to be the way forward and the procedures that staff have to abide by during these calls need to be changed.

On a more positive note, in the past week I have met with management at Probe and have had some wins for our members there:

1. Monthly meetings with delegates and management will soon be established. Delegates will be released to attend the meetings monthly, whereas these meetings were previously done in their own time at a coffee shop without a manager present to discuss the outstanding issues.
2. A union board. Well, half a noticeboard, but it's a start.

3. Union organiser now has access to floor to meet with staff. This was taken from us a short while ago.
4. Management have also informed me that a computer will be placed in the general meal area to access union websites during meal breaks.

These wins might seem small to some, but to the staff at Probe they are a major win.

In the coming weeks the safety campaign will be rolled out and monthly meetings will begin. This is a great way forward where staff can get direct access to management and discuss workplace issues and ways to improve their workplace.

I am so proud of our Delegates for the work and support I have received from them. Being a Delegate in a workplace such as Probe is not easy and I commend them all for their hard work. These breakthroughs couldn't have been made without the push from you all and I thank you for all that you do. Keep up the fight, because if you don't fight, you lose.

RTBU Union Summer Applications Now Open!

Know a young worker interested in social justice and workplace issues?

The RTBU is supporting young workers with an internship that aims to provide hands on experience for participants to become more involved in the union movement and contribute to our collective.

www.weareunion.org.au/unionsummer

Applications close 12 November

Please let us know if someone you know has applied!

To find out more contact the office on 8630 9100 or email rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au



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State Secretary
Luba Grigorovitch

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Admin & Salaried Division
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

