



# BUS E-NEWS

## RTBU

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Level 1, 457 Upper Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

Email: [info@rtbu.com.au](mailto:info@rtbu.com.au) • Website: [www.rtbu.com.au](http://www.rtbu.com.au)

Phone: 3839 4988 • Rail: 81 2423

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Dear Member,

## EBA 9 Update and Notice of Meeting

### Council Recognises Validity of Union Claims

The EBA discussions did not proceed yesterday morning due to the Council's ham fisted approach to negotiations. All Unions were united in the view that the continued lockout of members of the ETU is unacceptable and that Council needs to resolve that matter so that discussions could recommence.

As you will know by now the Council had other ideas with a "Final Offer" that they wanted to table that accepts the validity of many of the arguments which we have been patiently putting to them for the last several months.

The RTBU made it clear to the Council that we are happy to continue discussions about the EB now that the ETU members are returned to work.

### The RTBU Correct in its Analysis

At the hearing of the Council's application for conciliation in the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) in early May, the RTBU told the QIRC that discussions should continue and that the services of the QIRC were unnecessary for now. Since then the Council has gradually seen the light on a number of our important issues and the document published today by the Council represents a significant shift in its position for example in relation to medical certificates and flexible rostering.

There are still many important issues that have not been addressed and more troubling is that the Council appears to have walked away from matters it had committed to in discussion about employees' entitlements in the Schedules to the Agreement. Your Union is working through the document to identify all of the changes and discussions with all Unions involved will be held later this week.

The RTBU is currently organising a ballot of all BCC members to determine whether or not they wish to participate in protected industrial action. It appears BCC are seeking to encourage our members to vote "YES" in such a ballot by forwarding a letter to the Union yesterday advising they were walking away from all matters already agreed pertaining specifically to RTBU members.

However, BCC has agreed to meet with the RTBU over this next Tuesday and I will ensure you are all kept advised of developments.

### Unity is Strength

Tom Brown  
**Secretary, Tram & Bus Division,  
RTBU Qld Branch**