



Queensland Branch

Tram Newsletter

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Dear Members,

KDR Negotiations

Our apologies for this update coming out so late in the piece. It has been a busy week for the Bus & Tram Division with people settling back into work for the 2016 year.

Negotiations were held on Monday 1 February and were attended by a good mix of Employee and Employer representatives.

We are still in the process of going through the log of claims and so far we have made it to item 26.

The response from the company on almost every matter to date has been a flat "**NO**" accompanied by a poor excuse as to why they say no. On one occasion the company even claimed that Yarra Trams and the Gold Coast operations were separate companies! Although the legal distinction can be made for ABN and tax purposes, in reality, the "two companies" report to the same board of directors and have the same strategic framework. Any outside observer only need look at the company's website to see that they're one and the same in all practical aspects.

The Employee negotiating team have put forward a number of clauses pertaining to items 1-18 and we expect that these will be discussed at the next meeting scheduled for 15 February. The next meeting is scheduled for an additional hour and at that meeting, we will be suggesting that the meeting frequency be increased so that we can get your agreement finalised sooner rather than later.

We also held a Drivers' briefing session at the Southport Sharks club after the negotiations where a good number of Drivers turned up and provided the RTBU with some excellent feedback. Thanks again team!

If you have any questions on the process, please feel free to discuss these with your RTBU Delegate, Veli Velimir or catch up with one of the upcoming RTBU sessions (Dates to be advised).

Our organisers have also been spending time out on the tracks catching up with on-board employees to find out what they're wanting. If you see one of them, take a moment to say hi and give them your thoughts on what you consider to be important to you in this negotiation. We love hearing from our members! Remember, we're here to get **YOU** the best deal we can; we can only do this with your support.

YOU are the union.

In solidarity

Tom Brown

Secretary, Tram & Bus Division

RTBU Qld Branch